

- Look at the story you read before. **Ember City** (in Easter activity pack). Answer the questions:

RECALL

What is happening in the main part of the story?

Is the main part of the story linked with the opening?

Why do you think the main part of the story is longer than the opening?

LO: I KNOW HOW TO WRITE A GOOD SHORT STORY.

Some will even write what diamond moments they spotted in different stories they read.

Some will explain why they think it is a diamond moment.

Most will spot a diamond moment in each story.

All will know what a diamond moment of the story is.

GUIDED PRACTICE –

In most stories, the main part of the story is longer than the opening. It also has a DIAMOND moment, which is the most exciting part of the story. Look at this story and circle the part with the DIAMOND moment.

One evening, Robert looked in Granny Matilda's window to say good night. He saw a strange sight. She was talking to her porridge pot! He heard her say, "Cook, pot, cook!"

To his amazement the pot was suddenly filled with lovely hot porridge. Then she said, "Thank you, little pot."

"I will remember that!" thought Robert happily. Some time after this, Granny Matilda asked Robert to look after her house while she went to visit her sister. She told him, "Lock the door at night, and whatever you do don't touch the porridge pot."

GUIDED PRACTICE –

The part I circled is the DIAMOND moment because it is showing something unusual. The fact that the porridge pot filled itself with porridge made Robert very excited. This moment is magical and very surprising for a reader.

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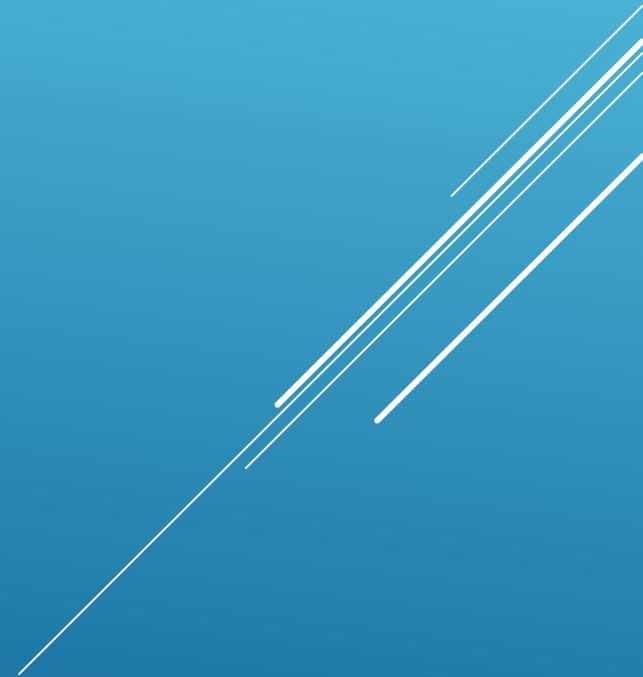


INTELLIGENT PRACTICE—



Answer the questions.

1. What is a diamond moment of a story?
2. Why does a story need a diamond moment?



INTELLIGENT PRACTICE– ANSWERS



Answer the questions

1. What is a diamond moment of the story? **It is the most exciting part of the story.**
2. Why does a story need a diamond moment? **Each story needs a diamond moment to be interesting and exciting for a reader. Without that element, the story would be boring.**

INTELLIGENT PRACTICE



Read a part of each story and circle diamond moments.

1. Out of nowhere, the sea bounded over the defence wall like a dog off its lead. It startled him. It made him feel uneasy. He clutched at a nearby bench, eased himself down and tried to look out at the sea. The sun was too bright though and instead he looked down at his shoes. They were covered in splatters of salty chalk. It was almost like his black polished shoes had been coated in fireworks. It was then that his eyes widened. Squinting, he looked up to see a hologram of his younger self in the haze of the sun. He remembered why he used to come here. In that glare of split rainbows he licked the salt from his lips and watched his memories unfold.

2. He sighed again, loudly. Hopefully Mum and Dad would hear now how bored he was and hurry up. Ha! No chance! Oh well, only one thing to do. He plugged his headphones into the socket on his phone and turned up the volume...

"Bruno!" What on earth...? It was Dad. "Come on. I've been shouting at you for ages. You need to see this!" I went downstairs, Mum and Dad were in shock. They didn't know what to say...

INTELLIGENT PRACTICE ANSWERS



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INTELLIGENT PRACTICE



Explain why the highlighted parts are diamond moments.

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DIVE DEEPER

Think of the stories we read this year. “Kensuke’s Kingdom” and “Sleeping sword”. What were the diamond moments in these stories?

