

What to expect

- 1. In the first paragraph, the writer describes the time of the hurricane. Pick three words you think help to make the description so vivid. Explain why you have chosen each word. (2g)**

Children working towards the expected standard may choose effective words but could find it difficult to explain why they are effective. They may need some prompting on which words to think about. Children working at greater depth within the expected standard should be able to select effective words, and may go beyond stating that they are powerful words to give further explanation, e.g. *"'whipping' makes you think of the heavy rain looking like a lash from a whip or the way the sugar cane moves in the wind and rain"*.

- 2. In the first paragraph, the writer uses very long sentences. Why? (2g)**

Children working towards the expected standard may comment on the fact that this is a descriptive section, and long sentences are appropriate here. Those working at greater depth within the expected standard should be able to explain that this helps reinforce that the hurricane was relentless, and seemed to last for a long time.

- 3. The hurricane was a very bad time. Choose *three* bad things that happened to the land. (2c)**

Children working towards the expected standard may refer to specific things like the bananas being blown down. Children working at the expected standard should cite the wind, the rain and flooding.

- 4. What effect did the hurricane have on the creatures of the valley? (2b)**

Children working towards the expected standard may refer to specific things, e.g. the birds went hungry. Children working at the expected standard should be able to explain clearly that the hurricane had destroyed all the food.

- 5. Why was Anansi surprised that Blackbird's feathers were glossy? (2f)**

Those children working towards the expected standard may comment on the physical condition of Blackbird, e.g. *"her feathers were glossy"*, without explaining why Anansi thought this was strange. Children working at the expected standard should be able to explain that Blackbird was obviously eating even though most animals were starving.

- 6. Why is Blackbird surprised when Anansi flies at the end? Use evidence from the text to support your answer. (2d)**

Children working towards the expected standard should understand that this is because he has no feathers. Children working at greater depth within the expected standard may also point out that on the first attempt to fly he falls to the ground.