

DREAM MASTER GLADIATOR by Theresa Breslin
 (Corgi 0 440 86501 8)

Word Search

The following **place names and character names** are in the story.
 See if you can find them all in the **Word Search** below.
 The words may be horizontal, vertical or diagonal.

Place Names	Character Names
Etna	Dream Master
	Cyrus
Krakatoa	Mrs Chalmers
	Lauren
Vesuvius	Linus
	Rhea Silvia
Pompeii	Eddie
	Chloe

D	B	R	H	E	A	S	I	L	V	I	A
A	C	D	F	T	L	K	P	Y	F	D	R
R	A	L	M	N	L	A	U	R	E	N	E
I	O	B	G	A	I	G	D	G	B	S	T
U	T	C	J	K	N	X	V	H	S	T	S
S	A	C	Y	R	U	S	C	G	Q	E	A
F	K	M	K	Y	S	P	P	K	G	B	M
I	A	C	P	O	M	P	E	I	I	O	M
P	R	H	V	S	R	T	Y	A	Z	J	A
Y	K	L	W	F	G	T	E	I	D	D	E
H	K	O	V	E	S	U	V	I	U	S	R
S	R	E	M	L	A	H	C	S	R	M	D

Did you find them all? Well done!

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The Setting of the Story

Many of the events in the story take place in Pompeii.

Can you rearrange the following muddled up place names?

NEODO



TAOPR NARIAM

LPEMET FO IISS



AVI LLED ZNADAABONB

OPRTA SIOVVUE



IVA ANITSBAA

PMTREEAHAIHT



OPTRA BASTIA

ILSABCIA

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‘Alliteration is good,’ said the Dream Master.

‘It is imaginative use of language.’

The Dream Master tells Cyrus that one of the ‘tools’ in a writer’s toolbox is
ALLITERATION

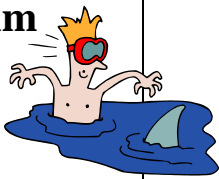
ALLITERATION is where words in a sentence begin with the same letter.

Join together the alliterations by using a line to match the left and right hand columns.
Read the story again if you need any help.

Blithering	an Understatement of an Utterance
Idiotic	Bumbling Bungling Boy
Dimwitted	Stromboli
Vacant	Doughnut
Volatile	Imbecilic Ignoramus
Suffering	Vagrant
Undeniably	Vulcan

Now here is your chance to be creative!

Can you make up a suitable alliteration for these characters?

Steven who loves to swim 	
Rebecca who can run fast	
Hamud who is good-natured and helps people	

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The Writer's use of Similes

Another very valuable 'tool' in the writer's toolbox is the

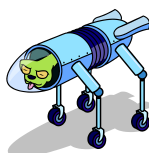
SIMILE

A simile is a comparison that helps the reader visualise the person, or scene, or object, more vividly.

MIX AND MATCH

See if you can find the appropriate ending to each of the following similes used by the writer. Draw a line to join the boxes together.

The cloak would thrum	like quicksilver
Inside his head he heard gears clinking, grinding together	like clear glass
Sometimes the Dreamcloak could move	like telephone wires
Lauren stood up and marched	Like an old car with a clapped-out engine
The younger boy had pulled his head and neck down into his shoulders, curled	like a gigantic rubber band
TimeSpace expanded and contracted	like waves on flat sand
Parts of the dream cloak	like a snail in its shell
He held up the Dreamcloak, and watched it ripple	like a robot



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Words the writer uses instead of 'SAID'

Good writers are always able to describe for their readers **HOW** their characters speak.

For example, we soon know that the Dream Master is very irritable and quick-tempered, by the words the writer uses. (Words like 'snapped' and 'yelled')

Try to match the words in the first column with the appropriate explanation in the second column. Draw a line between the boxes.

WORD	EXPLANATION
pleaded	The words come out so quickly that they are not distinct
interrupted	The person speaking is upset or in some pain
whispered	The person speaking is very angry
screeched	The person speaking is in charge and wants something
fumed	The person speaking speaks very softly
babbled	The speaker speaks very loudly, almost in a screaming tone
wailed	The speaker is begging for something or to someone
demanded	The person has cut in when someone else is speaking



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An ADVERB helps your verb and can make your verb stronger

‘When used properly in the context of the story,’ says Cy,
‘adverbs contribute positively to the verb.’

In the story Chloe says: ‘But we should listen,’ said Chloe **sarcastically**. ‘This is Cy’s wonderful imagination that Mrs. Chalmers always goes on about.’

In the left hand column you will find a list of adverbs.
In the right hand column make up a sentence using the adverb.

Adverb	Your own sentence
grumpily	
rudely	
impatiently	
firmly	

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Volcanoes of the World

At the beginning of the book the Dream Master mentions some famous volcanoes.



Match the volcano with its location



Volcano	Location
Etna	Washington, USA
Krakatoa	Pompeii, Italy
Vesuvius	Indonesian Islands
Mount St. Helens	Planet of Mars
Olympus Mons	Sicily, Italy

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Verbs and Adjectives

‘Do you choose any verb, or the easiest, or the first one that pops into your head?’ The Dream Master asked Cy.

‘My adjectives are good,’ said Cy. ‘Mrs Chalmers told me that they were very expressive.’



YOUR CHALLENGE!



Improve the following extract by changing the verbs and adjectives into more effective and expressive ones.

Cy looked out the window. It was dark and wet outside. He heard the wind blowing and the rain hitting the window panes. He could also hear the sound of the traffic outside, and see the headlights of the cars. He closed the curtains, and walked over to the sofa. He sat down and opened a book.

A bit dull, isn't it?

Can you write a more interesting and exciting start to this story?

