



The Iron Woman

By Ted Hughes

Lesson 3

RECALL:

Can you summarise the story so far?

Can you do it in exactly ten words?

Can you do it in just five words?

Example summaries:

Summary:

A girl who lives in a village notices strange things happening to the wildlife. A photographer encounters a strange giant, who destroys his car. The girl is woken in the night by the giant.

10 word summary:

Mysterious giant appears in a village, causing fear and confusion.

5 word summary:

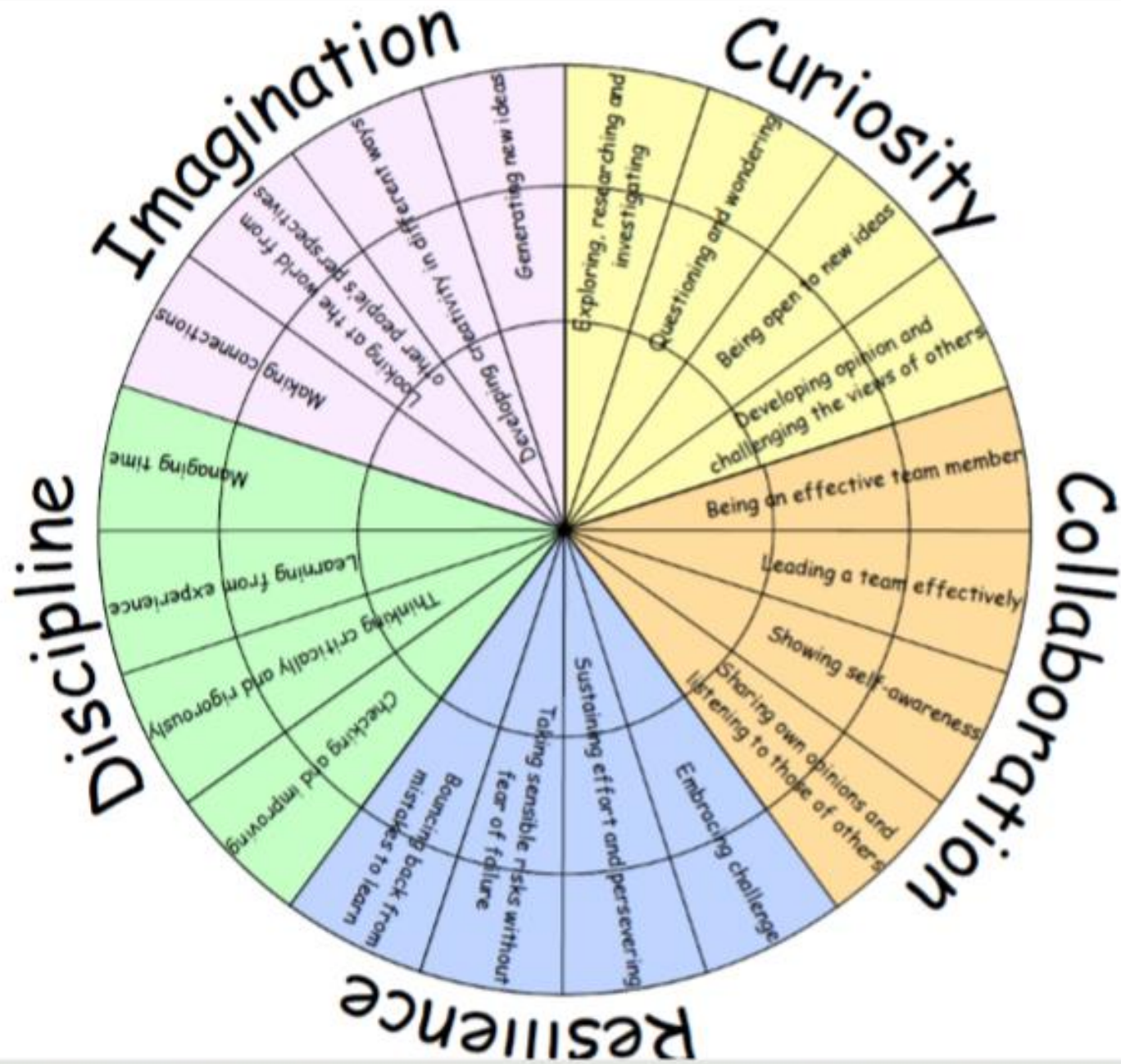
Mysterious giant shocks village residents

SKILLS:

Today we will be focusing on two reading skills:

Questioning

Sequencing



LEARNING HABITS:

Which learning habits do you think we will need to use today?

Questioning:

Imagine you were Lucy. What questions would be racing through your mind as you heard the voice and began cleaning the Iron Woman?

Write a list of questions from Lucy's point of view.

Some example answers are on the next page.

Questioning: **example answers**

Am I dreaming?

What is this thing?

Why has it come to me?

What does it want?

Am I in danger?

Why is it covered in oil?

Will Mum and Dad wake up? What will they say?

Is this connected to the strange things that happened earlier today?

Sequencing:

Ted Hughes has a quite unusual way of describing things. To identify his technique, make a list of the **subject** of each sentence in this text extract:

It was then she thought she heard another voice, a soft, rumbling voice. Like far-off thunder. She could not be sure where it came from. A strange voice. At least, it had a strange effect on Lucy. It made her feel safe and bold.

Do you notice how he splits his descriptions over different sentences?

Sequencing: **example answer**

- 1: It was then she thought she heard another voice, a soft, rumbling voice.
- 2: Like far-off thunder.
- 3: She could not be sure where it came from.
- 4: A strange voice.
- 5: At least, it had a strange effect on Lucy.
- 6: It made her feel safe and bold.

- 1: Lucy heard a voice
- 2: Description of the voice
- 3: Lucy's reaction
- 4: Description of the voice
- 5: The voice's effect
- 6: Description of the voice

The author, Ted Hughes, describes something, then in the next sentence, describes a reaction. Then he goes back to describing the voice. This adds variety and makes the writing seem suspenseful and mysterious.