

THE IRON MAN

Super Similes

In Chapter 1, Ted Hughes describes how the Iron Man's '...eyes, like headlamps, glowed white, then red, then infrared, searching the sea.'

Can you write 5 super similes of your own to describe the Iron Man?



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THE IRON MAN

In Chapter 1, the Iron Man steps forwards off the cliff into 'nothingness'. His metal body breaks up and is 'scattered far and wide, silent and unmoving'.

Write your own short description of a robot falling from a great height and breaking up into its different parts.

This could be an imaginary robot or one you are familiar with from TV, film or reading, e.g. C-3PO, R2-D2, WALL-E, Transformers

Your description should begin with:
CRRRAAAASSSSSH!

Scattered!



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THE IRON MAN Trip Trap

'...they dug a deep, enormous hole. A hole wider than a house, and as deep as three trees one on top of the other.

It was a colossal hole.

A stupendous hole!

In Chapter 2, Hogarth and the farmers make a trap for the 'Iron Monster'.

Make a list of 5 different traps that might capture the Iron Man.

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THE IRON MAN Viewpoints

When the farmers learn about the Iron Man, they feel *'puzzled and afraid'* (Chapter 2). They want to capture and control him.



We read this chapter from Hogarth's point of view. He feels frightened at the beginning, triumphant when he traps the Iron Man, and guilty at the end.

Imagine you are the Iron Man. How do you feel about what is happening?

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THE IRON MAN

Amazing Adjectives

'He glared up towards them, his eyes burned from red to purple , from purple to white, from white to fiery whirling black and red, and the cogs inside him ground and screeched, but he could not climb out...' (Chapter 2)

Can you rewrite this sentence using your own adjectives to describe the deafening sound of the Iron Man trying to escape?



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Curious Questions

Can you put speech marks back into this passage from
The Iron Man (Chapter 3)?

Suddenly the father said: That's funny
What is? Asked the mother.

I felt the ground shake, the father said. Here, right beneath us.

Probably an earthquake in Japan, said the mother.

An earthquake in Japan? cried the little boy. How could that be?

Remember, speech marks mark the beginning and end of somebody's speech.



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Powerful Verbs

The description of the battle between the Iron Man and the space-bat-angel-dragon in Chapter 5 is full of powerful verbs.

For example:

'...a blazing shape tearing itself off the sun...It was writhing and growing larger.'

Can you think of 5 powerful verbs and use each one in a sentence?

Try using more than one powerful verb in a sentence!



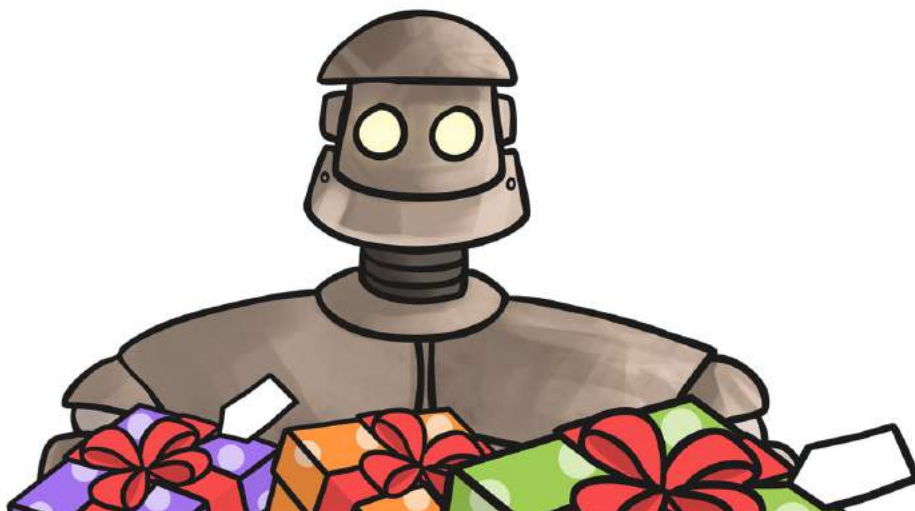
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The Perfect Gift

After his heroic battle with the space-bat-angel-dragon, the Iron Man was the 'world's hero'. Everybody in the world sent him a present. (Chapter 5)

Make a list of 5 countries and decide on the present that each country might send to the Iron Man. Try to make it relevant to that country.



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THE IRON MAN

Location, Location, Location

Ted Hughes uses a variety of interesting locations or settings in his story.

Think about the Iron Man's journey from 'the top of the cliff' (Ch. 1) to the 'Australian desert' (Ch. 5)

Collect words and phrases used to describe the places in the story.



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THE IRON MAN Cover Story

There have been many published editions of Ted Hughes's story.



Can you design your own cover for the book?

Tip: Think about the parts of the story that you most enjoyed.

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