



Comprehension: Khwezi and the waves

Read the following passage, and then answer the questions which follow:

Khwezi and the waves

Khwezi loved going to the beach with his friends. They couldn't swim well yet, so they played on the sand and in the shallow water between the lifeguard flags. Khwezi wished that he was a good swimmer. He wanted to swim out to where the cool surfers waited on their boards for waves.

One day, Khwezi was playing at the water's edge. He sat with his back to the sea waiting for the tiny waves to fill the hole he had dug. Suddenly a huge wave came and knocked Khwezi over. He tried to get up, but the waves pulled him under. Water filled his nose and mouth and he couldn't see. Even when he got his head above the water he still couldn't stand. He felt frightened and cold.

"Help!" he shouted. He waved his arm. "Help!"

A surfer saw Khwezi. He pulled him onto his board and they paddled back to the beach. Khwezi told him what had happened.

"You need to be careful of the sea, little brother. If you want to be cool like us, you must always watch the waves," the surfer said.

Khwezi nodded. "I won't forget," he said.

Life Skills Learner's book, 2012, Cambridge University Press

Comprehension: Answer in full sentences.

1. Who is this story about (the **main character**)? (1)

2. Where is this story taking place (the **setting**)? (1)

3. Why did Khwezi and his friends play in the sand and not in the sea? (2)

4. What was Khwezi's wish? (2)

5. Why did Khwezi not see the big wave? (2)

6. How did Khwezi feel when he couldn't stand and water filled his mouth and nose? (2)

7. Who saved Khwezi's life? How did he do it? (3)

8. What advice did the surfer give Khwezi? (1)

9. What lesson did Khwezi learn from this experience? (2)

10. Are you scared of the water? What would you do if you are ever in trouble in a swimming pool or in the sea? (2)

Language in Context:

1. Find **synonyms** (words with similar meaning) for the following underlined words in the passage:

tiny - _____

huge - _____

frightened - _____

2. Find **antonyms** (words with opposite meaning) for the following underlined words in the passage:

loved - _____

shallow - _____

3. "Khwezi wished that he was a good swimmer."

In this sentence, identify the **parts of speech** of each of the following words:

Khwezi - _____

wished - _____

good - _____

swimmer - _____

Creative writing:

1. Make a sentence of your own with the following words:

Swim _____

Frightened _____

Careful _____

Forget _____

MEMO:**Comprehension:**

1. Who is this story about (the main character)?

This story is about Khwezi, a little boy.

2. Where is this story taking place (the setting)?

This story is taking place by the beach.

3. Why did Khwezi and his friends play in the sand and not in the sea?

Khwezi and his friends cannot swim and were scared of the sea. They rather played on the sand.

4. What was Khwezi's wish?

Khwezi wished to be a good swimmer so that he could swim with all the cool surfers deep in the sea.

5. Why did Khwezi not see the big wave?

Khwezi was sitting with his back to the sea, playing in the sand.

6. How did Khwezi feel when he couldn't stand and water filled his mouth and nose?

Khwezi felt frightened and cold.

7. Who saved Khwezi's life? How did he do it?

A surfer saw that Khwezi was in trouble and pulled him onto his surf board and then paddled him back to the beach.

8. What advice did the surfer give Khwezi?

He said that if he wanted to be a cool surfer, he had to be careful and watch the waves.

9. What lesson did Khwezi learn from this experience?

You cannot sit close to the sea, with your back turned to the sea. Always watch the waves.

10. Are you scared of the water? What would you do if you are ever in trouble in a swimming pool or in the sea?

Discuss with children how to be safe in the sea and in swimming pools.

Language in Context:

4. Find synonyms (words with similar meaning) for the following underlined words in the passage:

tiny - **small**

huge - big

frightened - scared

5. Find antonyms (words with opposite meaning) for the following underlined words in the passage:

loved - hated (*remember to keep the word in the correct tense given*)

shallow - deep

6. Khwezi wished that he was a good swimmer.

In this sentence, identify the parts of speech of each of the following words:

Khwezi - proper noun

wished - verb

good - adjective (*describing the noun*)

swimmer - common noun

Creative writing:

1. Make a sentence of your own with the following words:

swim

frightened

careful

forget

(*Help students to make sentences with at least one adjective or adverb.*)