

'Mysterious Traveller' reading tasks

Section A

Paragraphs 1 and 2

1. How many camels did not have riders?

2. ***Desperately fast.*** (1st line)

What is the effect of this short sentence on the reader?

3. What time of day is it in the opening of the extract? Give evidence from the text to support your answer.

4. What special job did the riderless camel have and why?

Paragraphs 3,4 and 5

5. How did Jin-Jin know there was another danger and how did he warn the travellers?

6. ***Then his face changed because he saw what Jin-Jin had read on the wind.***

Explain what this sentence tells us about the leader's reaction.

7. Copy the phrase that the writer uses to describe the evening sky.

Why is this effective?

8. Can you find a **simile** in the passage?

9. Give two effects of the desert storm's fast arrival.

10. Find three pieces of information about the setting and landscape for this story.

Section B

Find words in the text that mean:

- a) persons following you
- b) of great value
- c) sliding across a surface
- d) moved in a fast or dangerous way
- e) hid or blocked

(The words appear in the same order as the definitions.)

Section C

True or False:

- 1.The travellers were worried that they were about to be caught.
- 2.The camel with no rider was chosen to carry the precious baggage because he had a calm nature.
- 3.The storm built up gradually over a few hours.
- 4.Jin-Jin's leader was angry because the camel suddenly stopped on a slope.
- 5.The riders were travelling along the bottom of a flat valley when Jin-Jin sensed danger.