Reading extract and questions:
4
Funfair

For two whole days, Rish had watched the activity at the park with fascination as he walked to and from school. First, he had noticed the lorries and vans arriving with their brightly coloured trailers. Then he had seen the people slowly piecing together all the rides and attractions. Finally, it was ready to open.

In the morning, Rish's dad had promised to take him and his sister, Padma, to the funfair that evening after school, as long as they had finished their homework and weather permitting.

The moment he had put his pencil down, Rish was dancing around the house, wanting to set off.

"Calm down, young man," said his mum, "your father isn't even home from work yet." When, at last, Rish heard the key in the front door, he still had the agony of having to watch his dad have a quick snack before they could set off.



"I'm the bravest," said Rish as they paid their entrance fee. "I'm going to go on all the biggest, fastest and scariest rides." Padma looked up at the big wheel with wide eyes. When she heard the shrieks and screams of the people, she held her father's hand a little tighter.

To ease her in gently, Dad went with her on a very tame merry-go-round. As he was old enough, Rish was allowed to go off on his own for a bit, as long as they met back at the ice cream stall.

He was quite relieved that no one he knew was there to see him emerge from the ghost train. By the time he had staggered off the waltzer, having been tossed around like a sock in a washing machine, he was feeling rather wobbly. He could see that the big wheel was very popular but he was not certain he could cope with such a height. Telling himself that the queue was too long anyway, he decided to look for his dad and sister.



The minutes dragged by as he lingered around the ice cream stall. Where were they? Had they forgotten him? Was he imagining it, or were some people eyeing him in a funny way. He was beginning to feel uncomfortable. Eventually, he slumped on the floor and buried his head in his hands, partly to avoid the stares.

"Rish? Rish? Are you all right?" said dad, running up to him. "I'm sorry, I didn't know there were two ice cream stalls."

"When you didn't turn up, I suggested that we should go on the big wheel to see if we could spot you from up there," said Padma. "It was amazing! But then we saw you down here. Can we have another go, Dad, *Please!*"

"Maybe next time, Pad," smiled Dad has he hugged his shaking son. "I think Rish has been brave enough for one day."

Questions for *Funfair*

Vocabulary:

1. Look at the paragraph beginning "*Calm down, young man*". **Find** and **copy** a word that means *great pain*.

_____

2. Look at the paragraph beginning *He was quite relieved* … What does *emerge* mean?

_____

3. *Eventually, he slumped on the floor* … Which group of words means the same as *slumped* in this sentence? **Tick one**.

crawled about	☐	sat cross-legged	☐
sank down	☐	put his coat down	☐

Retrieval

4. What were all the rides and attractions part of?

_____

5. What was the first ride that Rish went on?

_____

6. Name **two** rides that Padma went on.

a._____ b. _____

Inference

7. What had Rish been doing with his pencil?

_____

8. Look at the paragraph beginning *"I'm the bravest"* … What does this suggest that Padma feels about the rides?

_____

9. Why did Rish feel uncomfortable? **Tick one**.

He was sitting on the floor.	☐	He was cold and bored.	☐
He ate too many ice creams.	☐	People were looking at him.	☐

Summarise

10. Using the whole text, **tick one box** in **each row** to show whether each statement is true or false.

	True	**False**
Padma was excited about the funfair.		
They made a good plan about where they would meet up.		
Rish felt uncomfortable because strangers kept talking to him.		

Authorial intent

11. … *tossed around like a sock in a washing machine* … Explain why the author used this simile.

_____

_____

Compare

12. How does Padma's mood change throughout the story?

_____

_____

_____