

R3: Retrieve and record information/identify key details from fiction and non-fiction

R3a: Can retrieve key details and quotations to demonstrate understanding of character, events and information.

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When we read, it is important that we are able to find key information and direct quotations from the text to show our understanding of things like characters, events and information.

We need to use our retrieval skills in order to do this.

Retrieval means we can get (retrieve) the information or quotations straight from the text. It is there for us to find.



Character

When we **retrieve** key information and quotations to show our understanding of character, we have to remember that key information about characters will not only be about how they **look**, but also about how they **speak** and **react to others**. Their **behaviour** and the **choices** they make in the story identify the kind of person they are.

Read the text on the next slide.
Discuss the character Lisa Martin.
What key information is there about her in the text?



Amanda entered the silent classroom with trepidation. She didn't recognise anyone. Everyone appeared to pause what they were doing and observe her as she picked her way between the old fashioned desks to her seat. Her heart was pounding inside her school sweatshirt and her legs felt like they could no longer hold her weight. Could she calm the rising anxiety enough to arrive at her allocated seat, or would she spin around and sprint away from the situation, like she had done in her last school? Could she make it work this time?

"What's yer name, skinny girl?" came a rasping voice from behind her. Lisa Martin leaned forward, just as Amanda found the courage to take her seat.

"You won't fit in here, skinny girl," she hissed under her breath.

"Leave her be, she doesn't know anyone," growled Josef but he knew that she wouldn't – Lisa Martin couldn't resist! Josef would have to be vigilant during breaks if he was to protect this girl from falling foul of the wrath of Lisa and her doting gang of spiteful girls.

Just then a small ball of scrunched up jotter paper bounced off Amanda's head and a cruel giggle followed.

"That's just for starters," whispered Lisa menacingly.

Josef smiled broadly at Amanda, whose eyes were brimming with tears, hoping she might realise that not all of the students in Bright Street Primary were unfriendly and unwelcoming.

Character

In the text we can retrieve the following information about Lisa Martin.

Character	Key Information	Quotations
Lisa Martin	Immediately insults Amanda	“What’s yer name, skinny girl?”
	Threatening/intimidating	“You won’t fit in here skinny girl.” Just then a small ball of scrunched up jotter paper bounced off Amanda’s head and a cruel giggle followed. “That’s just for starters,” whispered Lisa menacingly.
	Has a gang/is known for being mean	falling foul of the wrath of Lisa and her doting gang of spiteful girls.

From this key information we can summarise that Lisa Martin is not a very pleasant person.



Your turn

What can you retrieve from the text about Amanda's character?

Character	Key Information	Quotations
Amanda		

Find key information and quotations in the text as **evidence**.



Events

When we retrieve key information and quotations about events, we have to remember that this might not just be about current (happening now) events in the story, but may also be about events that have happened in the past which have changed the character. For example, in the extract we have just read, Amanda may be nervous/anxious about school because of *past events* – she may have had a bad experience in another school, which has made her worried about starting a new school.

Read the text on the next slide and consider what is taking place.

What key events are there in the text?

Luke departed down the road with Sally trotting excitedly along at the end of her lead, tail wagging to and fro. She paused at every possible point to sniff and relieve herself. Luke had to give her the usual reminder to keep her on track on their walk. Ever since she was a puppy, her curiosity had got the better of her when out and about.

As they reached the local shop, Luke's heart sank and he froze to the spot. There, filling the shop doorway with his imposing stance, stood Ralph, the school bully, lying in wait to intimidate those who came near into relinquishing their pocket money.



Luke gradually began to edge backwards, wishing he had the power to become invisible, when, suddenly, he noticed that Ralph was wearing his large, hobnail boots. He recalled, with growing excitement and relief, that Sally loathed boots, one look at any pair and she would snarl and growl menacingly, attempting to snap at them whenever she could. He quickly dragged Sally around next to him and remained where he was. Ralph stepped forward threateningly when he observed Luke approaching.

“Oh! Look!” he sneered, poking a bony finger at him. “It’s that little squirt from Year Four. You’d better have some pocket money for me or you’re in for it, do you hear me?” Just at that moment...



Events

In the text we can retrieve the following information about current events.

	Key Information	Quotations
Walking the dog	Luke is taking Sally for a walk, she is on the lead, stopping and sniffing.	Sally trotting excitedly along at the end of her lead, tail wagging to and fro. She paused at every possible point to sniff and relieve herself.
Luke arrives at the shop and sees Ralph	Ralph the school bully is in the shop doorway waiting to take money from people.	There, filling the shop doorway with his imposing stance, stood Ralph, the school bully, lying in wait

What other key events are there? Discuss.



Your turn

What other events take place that you can retrieve key information and quotations for?

	Key Information	Quotations
Luke spots Ralphs boots		
Ralph threatens Luke		

What event do you think is going to happen next?



Information

When we **retrieve key information** and **quotations** from a **non-fiction text**, we must be **accurate** and **precise**. This is important as non-fiction text is **factual** and if we do not **retrieve accurately** we could end up recording the wrong fact/an inaccurate fact.

Read the text on the next slide and consider what the *key information* is.

Chimpanzees

Chimpanzees are rapidly disappearing in the wild due to their habitats being removed by humans. Forests are being cut down for farming, settlements and other activities.

Chimpanzees live in social communities of several dozen animals, and can be found in African rainforests, woodlands and grasslands (from Southern Senegal across the forested belt north of the Congo River to Western Uganda and Western Tanzania). Their groups are called communities.

Chimps are generally fruit and plant eaters (leaves and leaf buds, seeds, blossoms, stems, pith, bark and resin), but they also consume insects, eggs and meat, including carrion (already dead animals). They have a tremendously varied diet that includes hundreds of known foods.



Information

We can retrieve the following information from the text.

Key Information	Quotations
Chimpanzees are disappearing from the wild	Chimpanzees are rapidly disappearing in the wild due to their habitats being removed by humans.

What other key information is there?
Discuss.



Your turn

What key information can you retrieve?

Key Information	Quotations

Is it easy or difficult to pick out **key** information?

Now complete the independent task and send it back to your teacher for the attention of Miss Fraher.

