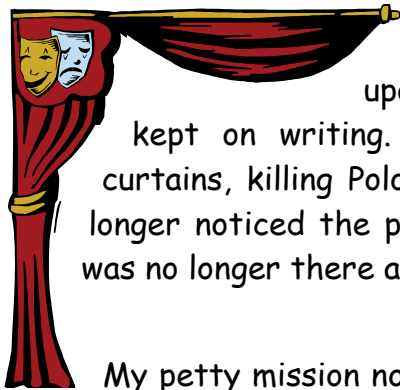


6th class: Unit used in the Main Study

It is the 1600s. The writer is sent on a mission by his master, Falconer. He goes to the Globe Theatre in London to secretly copy Hamlet, a play by William Shakespeare, but finds some unforeseen problems...

Theatre Trip

I had been informed that, because many people considered acting to be an unsuitable occupation for women, they were forbidden by law to act upon the stage. All women's roles were played by men and boys. That fact did not occur to me now. I was totally convinced that the Queen and Ophelia were what they seemed to be. So drawn in was I by the events on the stage that it seemed less important to me to copy down the lines than to find out what these people would say or do next.



When the ghost of Hamlet's father appeared upon the balcony and called to him, I gasped but kept on writing. When Hamlet thrust his sword through the curtains, killing Polonius, who was concealed there, I was lost. I no longer noticed the press of the crowd, nor its unwashed smell for I was no longer there among them, but in Hamlet's castle in Denmark.

My petty mission no longer seemed to matter. All that mattered was whether or not Hamlet would take action to avenge his father. Every now and again, there was a passage of much talk and very little action, and I came to myself and quickly began to write. But eventually, I was drawn into the world of the play again, forgetting the world about me and the world outside, where Falconer waited.

From the start of the fencing match between Hamlet and Laertes until Hamlet's death, I believe I did not write down more than ten lines. I did get down every word of the last few speeches, but that was small comfort.



I had gone into the theatre fearful of being discovered and punished for writing down the play. I left with a dread of being punished for not having written it down. I need not have worried about being found out; no one in the audience or on the stage had paid the least attention to my writing.

6th class: Unit used in the Main Study

1. Why were women forbidden to act in plays?

Q157R

64% of pupils answered this item correctly

2. The author forgot the uncomfortable conditions in the theatre because

Q158F

- a) he was too busy writing down the words of the play.
- b) he was too interested in the events of the play.
- c) he was too afraid of being caught.
- d) he was too tired and hungry.

54% of pupils answered this item correctly

3. 'I was totally convinced that the Queen and Ophelia were what they appeared to be.' What does the writer mean by this?

Q159F

26% of pupils answered this item correctly

4. Which two characters had a fencing match on stage?

Q160R

77% of pupils answered this item correctly

6th class: Unit used in the Main Study

5. Which part of the play was the author most successful in writing out? Q161R
- a) The part where a ghost appears.
 - b) The part where two men fence.
 - c) The speeches towards the end.
 - d) Ophelia's entrance onto the stage.

37% of pupils answered this item correctly

6. Why do you think members of the audience paid no attention to the writer copying down parts of the play? Q162I

72% of pupils answered this item correctly

7. Why do you think the writer's master wanted a copy of the play in writing? Q163I

21% of pupils answered this item correctly

Medal Winners!

The European Track and Field Athletics Championships takes place every 4 years. The following is a list of winners in the women's long-distance track events from 1990-2002. In 1998, a 5000 metres race was added, and the 3000 metres race was discontinued.

Athletes' times are given in minutes and seconds.



Event/Year	Medal	Name	Country	Time
3000 Metres:				
1990	Gold	Yvonne Murray	Great Britain	8 mins 43 secs
	Silver	Elena Romanova	Russia	8 mins 44 secs
	Bronze	Roberta Brunet	Italy	8 mins 46 secs
1994	Gold	Sonia O'Sullivan	Ireland	8 mins 31 secs
	Silver	Yvonne Murray	Great Britain	8 mins 36 secs
	Bronze	Gabriela Szabo	Romania	8 mins 40 secs
5000 Metres:				
1998	Gold	Sonia O'Sullivan	Ireland	15 mins 06 secs
	Silver	Gabriela Szabo	Romania	15 mins 08 secs
	Bronze	Marta Dominguez	Spain	15 mins 10 secs
2002	Gold	Marta Dominguez	Spain	15 mins 14 secs
	Silver	Sonia O'Sullivan	Ireland	15 mins 15 secs
	Bronze	Yelena Zadorozhnaya	Russia	15 mins 16 secs
10 000 Metres:				
1990	Gold	Elena Romanova	Russia	31 mins 46 secs
	Silver	Kathryn Ullrich	Germany	31 mins 47 secs
	Bronze	Annette Sargent	France	31 mins 51 secs
1994	Gold	Fernanda Ribiero	Portugal	31 mins 08 secs
	Silver	Conceicao Ferreira	Portugal	31 mins 32 secs
	Bronze	Daria Nauer	Switzerland	31 mins 35 secs
1998	Gold	Sonia O'Sullivan	Ireland	31 mins 29 secs
	Silver	Fernanda Ribiero	Portugal	31 mins 32 secs
	Bronze	Lidia Simon	Romania	31 mins 34 secs
2002	Gold	Paula Radcliffe	Great Britain	30 mins 01 secs
	Silver	Sonia O'Sullivan	Ireland	30 mins 47 secs
	Bronze	Lidia Biktasheva	Russia	31 mins 04 secs

6th class: Unit used in the Field Trial only

1. In 2002, Paula Radcliffe won the 10 000m race in a time of 30 minutes, 1 second. About how much time was she ahead of the silver medal winner?
 - a) 30 seconds.
 - b) 45 seconds.
 - c) 60 seconds.
 - d) 90 seconds.

2. In what year was the 10 000m race won in the slowest time?
 - a) 1990
 - b) 1994
 - c) 1998
 - d) 2002

3. Which athlete has won both gold and silver medals for the 3000m event?
 - a) Sonia O'Sullivan
 - b) Elena Romanova
 - c) Yvonne Murray
 - d) Roberta Brunet

4. According to the table, one country provided both first and second places in the same race in the same year. Write the country, the year, and the race distance below.

Country: _____

Year: _____

Race distance: _____

6th class: Unit used in the Field Trial only

5. In different years, Sonia O'Sullivan won both gold and silver medals in the 10 000m race. Which other athlete won both medals in this race?
- a) Marta Dominguez
 - b) Elena Romanova
 - c) Fernanda Ribiero
 - d) Paula Radcliffe

6. According to the chart, how many medals did Sonia O'Sullivan win altogether?

7. In what year were the best times recorded in the 10 000m race?

6th class: Unit used in the Field Trial only

Use this webpage to answer the questions that follow. All the links are underlined.

Explorer4kids.ie

<http://www.explorer4kids.ie>

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6th class: Unit used in the Field Trial only

1. You have a new cat and need advice about how to look after it. Which link would you click?

2. You want to find out more about Egypt in 2000 BC. Which one of these would **not** be useful?

- a) History.
- b) Features.
- c) Experiments.
- d) Thesaurus.

3. You just read a great book. What would be the best link to click if you wanted to find another book by the same author?

4. If you want information on how to look after your teeth and gums, which link would provide you with **most** information on the subject?

- a) Features.
- b) Sports.
- c) Experiments.
- d) Biography.

6th class: Unit used in the Field Trial only

5. Write down two things that the website shows you how to make.

6. Do you think someone your age would like this website? Explain your answer.
