

Improving Your Reading with Inference Iggy: The Magic City



Philip stood in the shadow of the dark arch and looked out. In front of himself he could see a great square surrounded by tall buildings. In the middle of the square was a fountain. The water looked silver in the moonlight and it rose and fell with a gentle splashing sound. A tall tree, close to the archway, cast the shadow of its trunk across the path. Philip listened but there was nothing to listen to except the soft sound of the fountain.

Philip's eyes got used to the dark and he could now see that he was under a heavy domed roof. There were large square pillars around him and some dark doors behind him. The doors were firmly locked. Philip did not feel frightened but he did not feel brave either.



1. Why did Philip '*not feel frightened*'?

2. Why did Philip '*not feel brave either*'?

3. What impression are you given about the setting? Discuss **two** things you know, using evidence to support your answer.

4. Do you think that Philip will choose to explore the setting?

Yes

No

Explain your choice.



Answers

1. Why did Philip *'not feel frightened'*?

Pupils' own responses, such as: Philip did not feel frightened because nothing had happened to make him feel worried.

2. Why did Philip *'not feel brave either'*?

Pupils' own responses, such as: Philip did not feel brave because it was night and he was intimidated being alone in the dark amongst the shadowy buildings.

3. What impression are you given about the setting? Discuss **two** things you know, using evidence to support your answer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that the setting is a very quiet place because the author says that Philip had nothing to listen to. I also think that it is a little intimidating because there are lots of shadows and dark areas which Philip can't see properly.

4. Do you think that Philip will choose to explore the setting? Explain your choice.

Pupils' responses can be either 'yes' or 'no' providing that a relevant explanation is given in support of their choice, such as: No, because he did not feel confident and might have wanted to wait until it was light.