

Improving Your Reading Skills with...

# Cassie the Commentator



# What Does **Cassie the Commentator** Do?

Cassie the Commentator helps with content domains **2f** and **2h**:

**2f:** Identify/explain how information/narrative content is related and contributes to meaning as a whole.

**2h:** Make comparisons within the text.

This means that she is there to help you to do two things:  
Explain how certain parts of a text build or change an overall message or meaning.

Say how characters or events within the story are similar to or different from each other or how a single character changes over the course of a story.



# When Have We Seen Cassie the Commentator?

There have only been three questions that Cassie the Commentator can help you with in the past three SATs papers. Here are those examples:

28 Draw lines to match each section to its main content.

One has been done for you.

Section	Content
<i>The first Channel swimmer</i>	summarises key information about swimming the Channel
<i>Frequently asked questions</i>	shows contrasting viewpoints about swimming the Channel
<i>Safe to swim?</i>	gives information about the origins of swimming the Channel
<i>Celebrity swimmer</i>	highlights the continuing attractions of swimming the Channel

1 mark

22 Draw lines to match each part of the story with the correct quotation from the text.

setting	<i>For a while Martine had defied her</i>
past events	<i>In the instant before her body parted company</i>
action	<i>Dawn was casting spun-gold threads</i>
lesson	<i>That would teach her to show off</i>

1 mark

35 The mood of the characters changes throughout the extract.

- (a) **Find** and **copy** the group of words on page 9 where Lord John's mood changes.

\_\_\_\_\_

1 mark

- (b) How does Lord John's mood change?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

1 mark

# What Might **Cassie the Commentator** Ask?

Cassie the Commentator might ask questions like these:

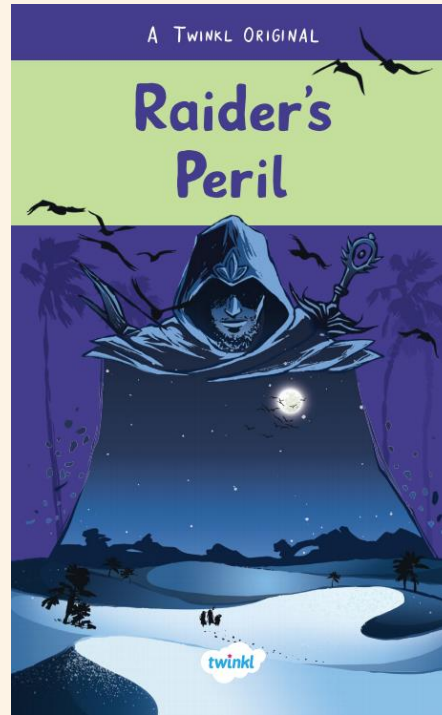
- Compare one character to another. How are they different or similar?
  - How are the settings within the story similar or different?
    - Who has the author written this text for? Why?
    - How has this character changed during the text?
    - Compare how the characters react to this situation.  
Who deals with it best?
  - What is the most thought-provoking moment of the story?



# Let's Explore **Cassie the Commentator** Questions Together

Read the extract from Raider's Peril and answer the questions as a class.

Click on the image to read the text.



Read the rest of the Raider's Peril story [here](#).

# Let's Explore **Cassie the Commentator** Questions Together

Read the extract from *Raider's Peril* and answer the questions as a class.

Look at the front cover of this book. What sort of content do you expect to find inside?

Who do you think the author has written this text for?

How does the character of Catanna remind you of another character or person you know?

Draw lines to match each part of the story with the correct quotation from the text.

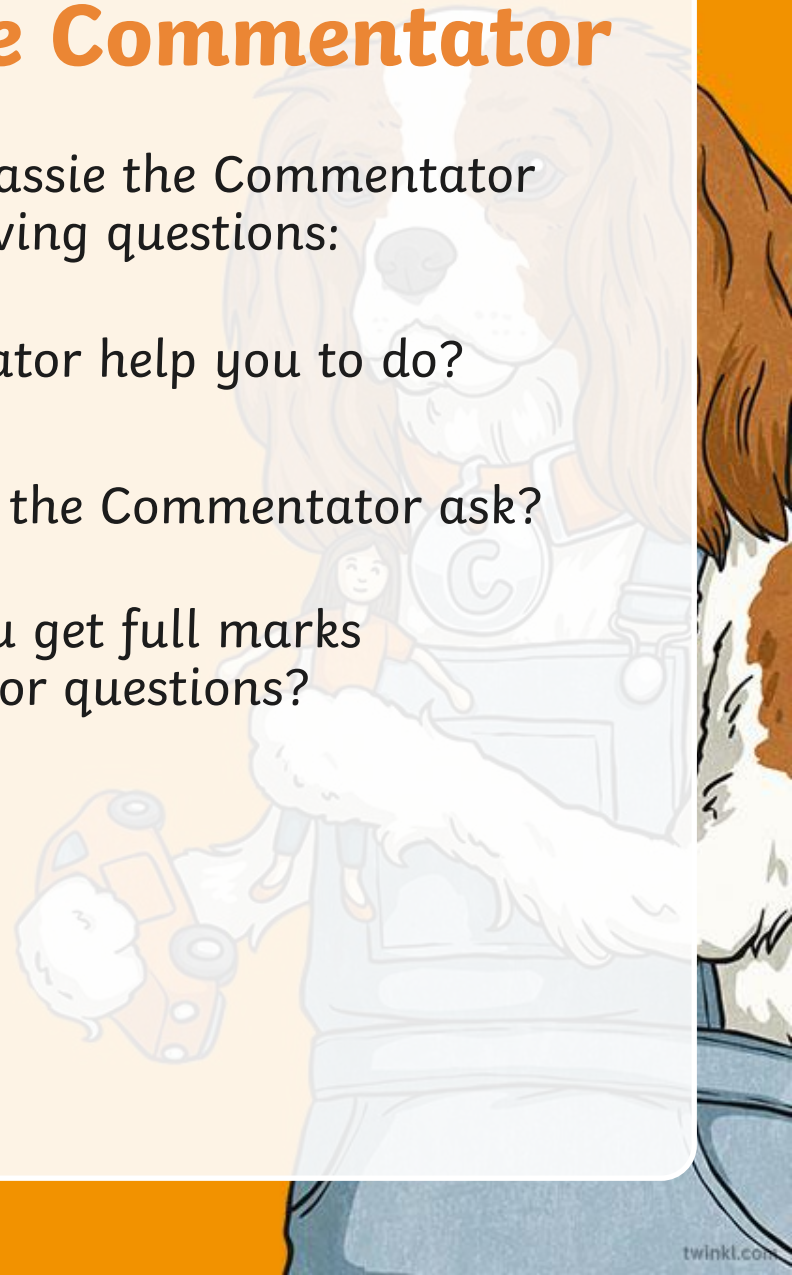
props	•
past events	•
action	•
intention	•

•	She pounded the pestle into the bowl beneath...
•	She has scooped them into her sack...
•	What she wouldn't give to be that leader.
•	The workstation wasn't special either...

# Summing Up **Cassie the Commentator**

Prove your understanding of what Cassie the Commentator does by answering the following questions:

- What does Cassie the Commentator help you to do?
- What sort of question might Cassie the Commentator ask?
  - How can you make sure you get full marks on Cassie the Commentator questions?



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