

Monday 29.6 – Reading Answers

1. Can you identify the city? What clues are there to suggest this? Some famous London landmarks are visible e.g. Big Ben, Tower Bridge, The London Eye, The Gherkin and St Paul's Cathedral.
2. Is there anything unusual in the picture that you wouldn't normally expect to see? Answers could include: such high flood waters, polar bears and seals, floating ice, an unusual looking tower.
3. Where would you normally expect to find the animals that are present in the image? The Arctic
4. What do you think has caused the flooding? Children may suggest heavy rain, although the waters may be too high for this. They may make links to increasing global temperatures causing ice from both polar regions to melt; this results in rising sea levels and flooding.
5. Do you think this is a real picture of possible future events? Why/why not? It would be very unlikely that the polar bears and seals would have travelled that far from the Arctic. The ice they are floating on would probably have melted as it's warmer in the UK than in the Arctic. Flood defences are already in place on the River Thames so this level of flooding may not be possible. In the future, steps may have been taken to prevent further melting of the polar ice caps. This is an artistic impression of a possible future.
6. What do you notice about the unusual tower? Why do you think it was built? It appears to have been built for people to live in. It looks like it has been designed specifically for this purpose as it is water-tight and has a power supply. The city is in ruins, so the people of London would be homeless without it. Or, it may be just a tourist attraction and everyone has long since been evacuated to other areas.
7. Do you think the tower is large enough to provide sanctuary for the whole population of London? If not, what has happened to the rest of the people? Over 8 million people live in London, so it would be impossible for them all to live here. Perhaps more of these towers have been built. Perhaps some people have been evacuated.
8. Do you think that people would be able to live in a tower like this indefinitely? Pupils will need to consider where fresh food and water is going to come from. They would also need to consider where the power supply for lighting, heating and cooking is coming from.
9. Would you like to live in a tower like this? Explain your answer with reference to the text. Various responses.
10. Do you think the rest of the UK is flooded too? Low lying areas would probably be in the same state, but parts of the UK are much higher above sea level and might have escaped the floods.
11. How would you describe the body language of the polar bears and seals? They appear to be watching each other cautiously. The seals will see the polar bears as a threat and the polar bears will see the seals as a potential meal. Currently, they look too relaxed to be of any threat.
12. Identify ONE question you would like to ask about this scene. Various responses.
13. Summarise this image in a few, well chosen sentences. Various responses.

Write the definitions for each of these words.

apocalyptic	describing the complete destruction of the world
catastrophe	an event causing great and often sudden damage or suffering
derelict	in a very poor condition as a result of disuse and neglect
devastation	great destruction or damage
dystopia	an imagined place or state in which everything is unpleasant or bad
evacuate	remove someone from a place of danger to a safe place
futuristic	having or involving very modern technology or design
indefinitely	for an unlimited or unspecified period of time
glacier	a slowly moving mass of ice
global warming	a gradual increase in overall temperature of the Earth's atmosphere
ice cap	a covering of ice over a large area, especially on the polar region of a planet
precipitation	rain, snow, sleet or hail that falls to the ground
sanctuary	a place of refuge or safety
submerged	cause to be underwater
sustainable	able to be maintained at a certain rate or level