

# The Paper Bag Prince

## Reading

Week Commencing 4<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Task 1: look at the cover and title of the book and infer what the book might be about.

You will be using at least two of your Super Six 'reading' skills to help you predict what will happen in the story.

Look closely at the front cover and the title page. Where do you think the book is set? *The pictures suggest that the book is set in dumping ground/rubbish tip.* Who do you think the Paperbag Prince is? Is that his real name? How did he get his name? *The Paperbag Prince could be the main character. The name does not sound like a proper name and sounds made up. He could have got this name because he likes paper bags perhaps.*

Who is this person? *He could be the owner of the dump.*

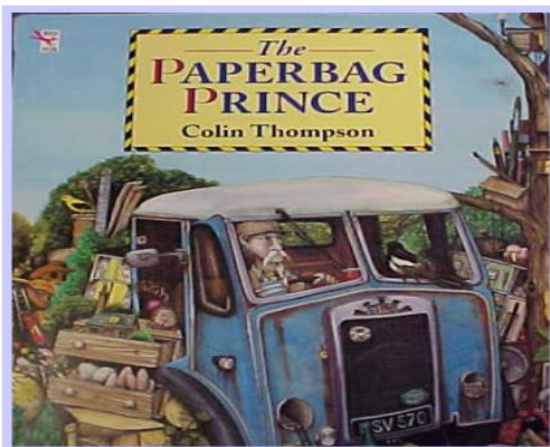
What does he do? *He works as a rubbish man possibly.*

Where is he? *A rubbish dump*

Write down three questions that you may have about the front cover.

*Any relevant questions related to the front cover for example:*


- 1. Why is he in the middle of the dump?*
- 2. Is he the prince?*
- 3. Is there anyone else in the caravan?*



## Task 2. Read a passage from the book and differentiate between Facts and Opinions.


We will begin to read our class text 'The Paperbag Prince' and the focus for the next two tasks is on facts and opinion.

### Fact or Opinion



#### FACT

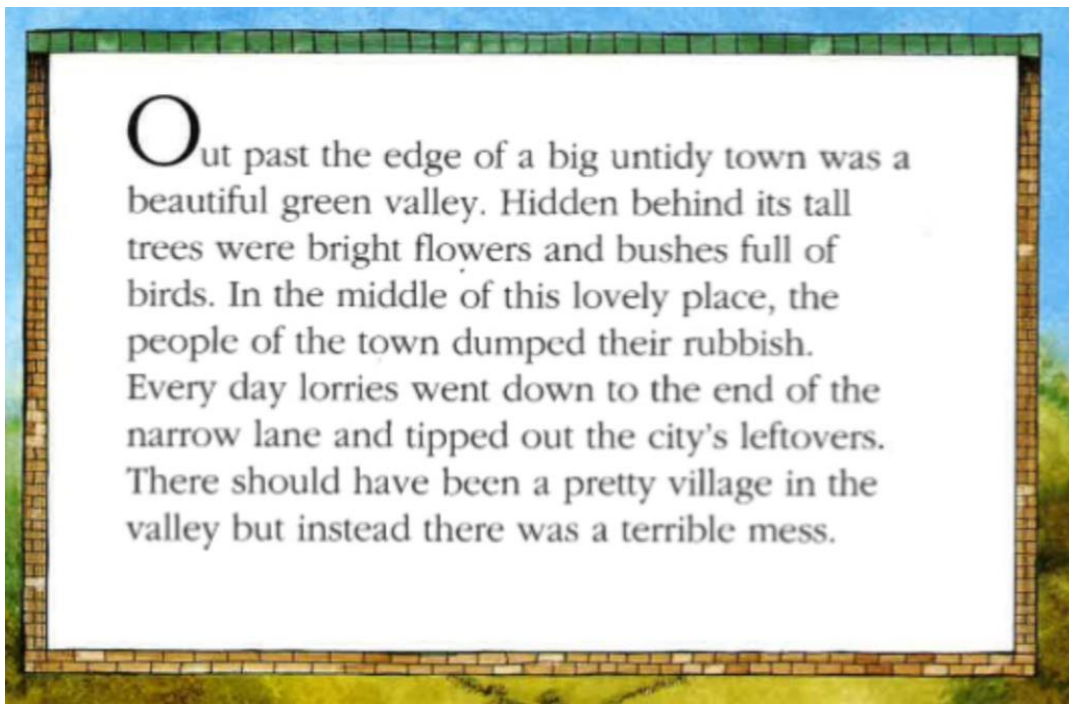
A fact is always supported by one or more shreds of evidence. A fact is true and correct for everyone, no matter what.

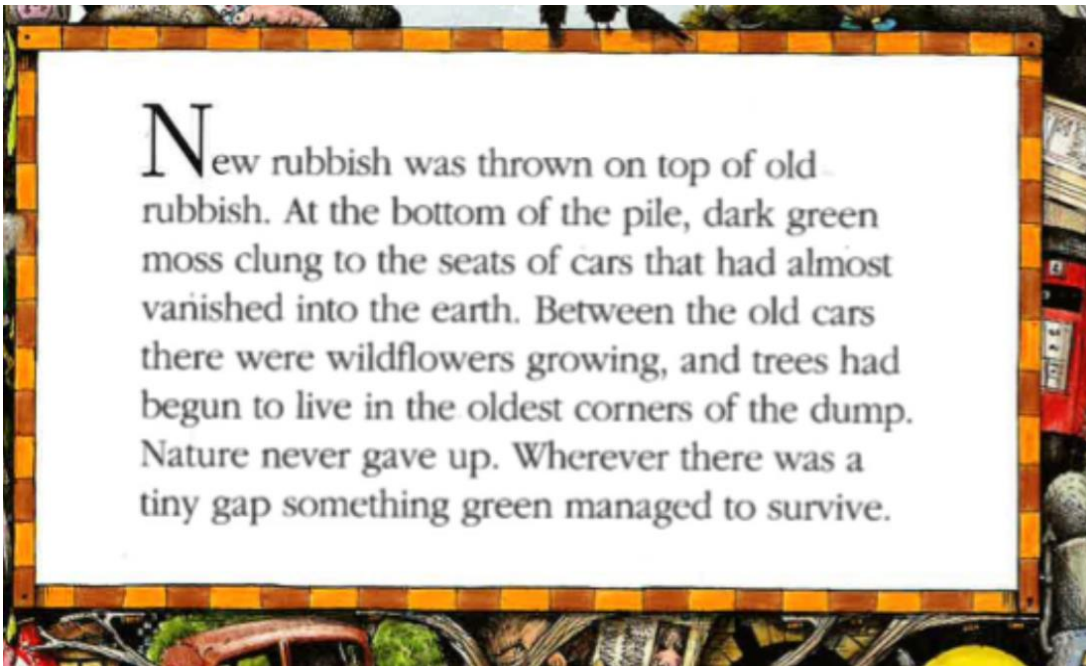


#### OPINION

An opinion holds an element of belief or viewpoint which hasn't been validated or proven yet.

Read the following passages:





Read page 1. Tick (✓) one box for each statement to show whether it is a fact or opinion.

	Fact	Opinion
The valley was beautiful.		✓
The valley was green.	✓	
The town was big.		✓
The town was untidy.		✓
The council dumped its waste in the countryside.	✓	
The council did not care about the countryside.		✓
The people of the city produced a lot of rubbish.	✓	
The people of the city were very wasteful because the lorries had to dump their leftovers every day.		✓

‘Nature never gave up.’ Based on the information on page 2, decide whether this statement is a **fact** or opinion. Explain.

I think this is a fact because plants continued to grow in difficult conditions; they managed to find a way to live. There were trees and wildflowers: this shows that nature had a way of adapting to the conditions. (or something similar in meaning)

Task 3. Give your opinion and explain your reasoning linked to the text.

Continue to read the next few passages from 'The Paperbag Prince'.

**A**nimals lived there too, not just mice and insects but larger creatures like cats and weasels and foxes. For them it was a wonderful place, safe from the attentions of Man. The twisted, torn bodies of refrigerators, pressing into the flattened frames of old beds, made a hundred little corridors and highways. Under an old clock lazy dormice slept. Inside a television a family of sparrows made their home. There was life everywhere. Even in a tiny puddle in a worn-out shoe there were mosquito larvae watching for summer.

**H**umans didn't like to be near the rubbish. For them it was a dangerous place, with rusty metal and broken glass and rotting things that smelt of disease. In a back corner there was the Poison Pool where large metal drums leaked into a brown pond and nothing, not even the smallest plant, could live. The animals were cleverer than Man. They kept away from the Poison Pool and thrived in their man-made environment.



**B**y the entrance to the dump was a tumble-down railway carriage. Once it had been bright and new with red velvet seats and brass lights, and had run through the countryside behind a shiny steam engine. Then the line had closed down and all the carriages were taken away on long low lorries.

Some had gone to cricket fields where they were painted white and fitted with tea machines. Others had gone to the seaside for people to stay in on their holidays, but this carriage had come to the council rubbish dump and now it sat in the grass on piles of broken bricks.

Now answer the following questions:

Read page 3. The author says that for the animals, the rubbish tip was a 'wonderful place, safe from the attentions of Man'.

Convince me that this is just an opinion.

The rubbish was not safe from the attention of man because it was 'man' who created the mess in the first place. In addition, the Paperbag Prince is living amongst the rubbish tip.

Read pages 4 and 5 and write down two opinions and two facts based on them.

Facts:

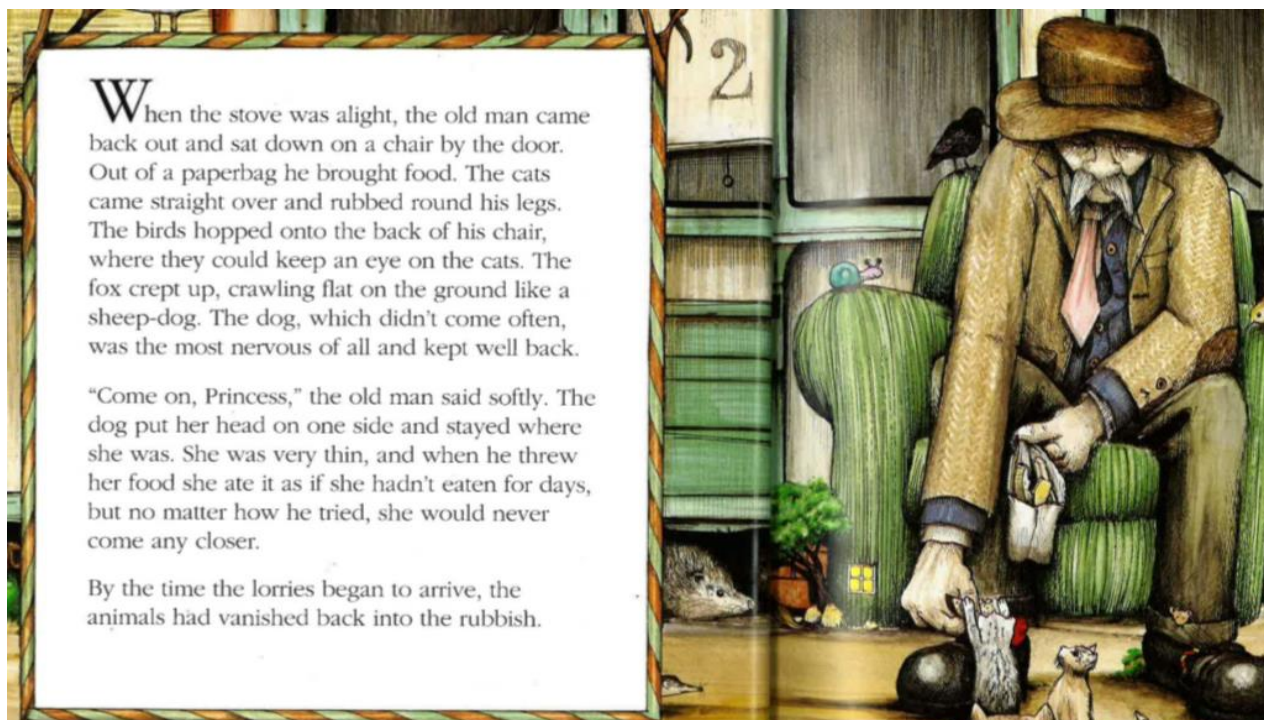
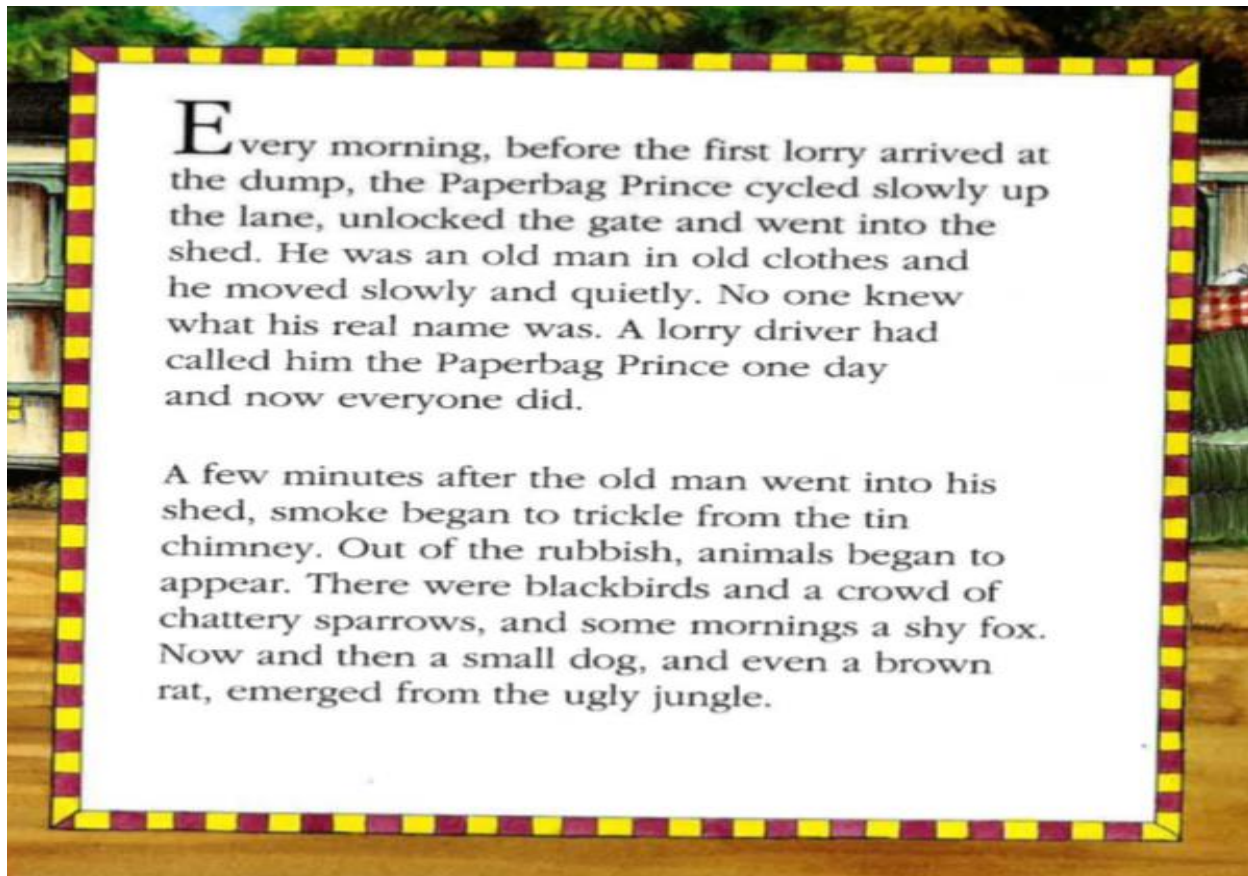
1. In the back corner, there was a poison pool.
2. The line had closed down and all the carriages were taken away on long low lorries.

Opinions:

1. Humans didn't like to be near the rubbish.
2. The animals were cleverer than man.

## Task 4. Continue to read the story and answer comprehension questions.

Continue to read the shared text below.



Answer the questions.

1. A few minutes after the old man went into his shed, smoke began to trickle from the tin chimney.

Circle the word closest in meaning to trickle in this sentence.

dribble    flow    billow    waft

2. Look at the paragraph beginning: When the stove was alight...

List two ways the Paperbag Prince makes himself at home at the dump.

1. Sat down on a chair by the door.

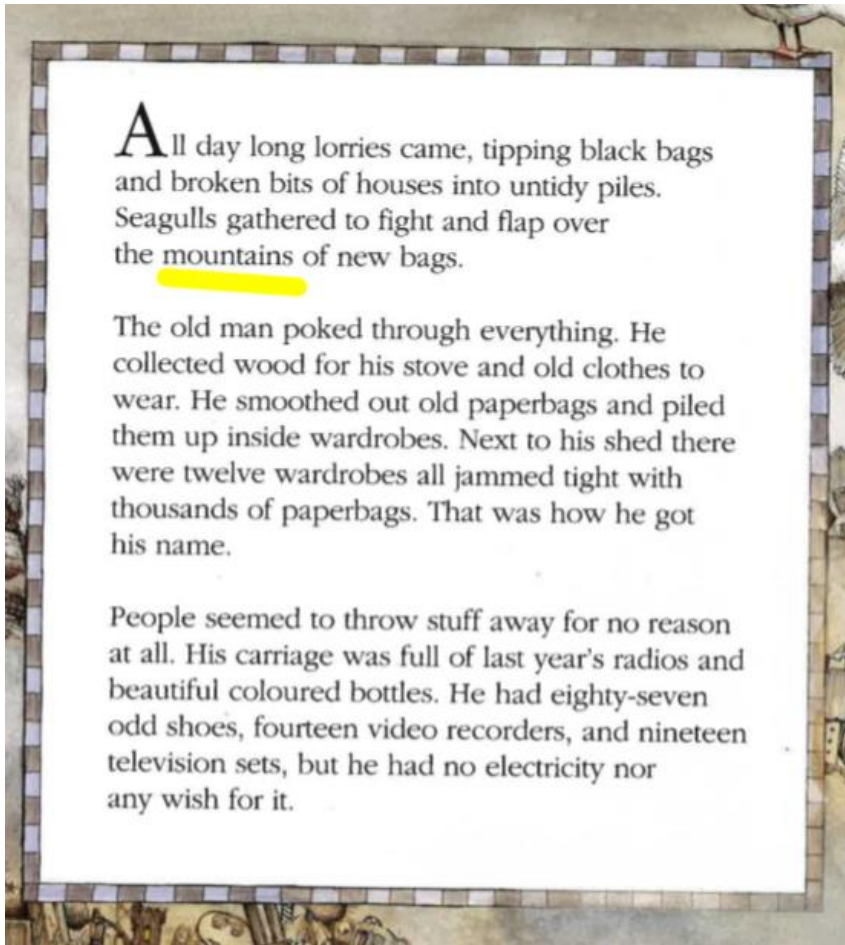
2. Out of a paper bag he brought food

3. What could be the reason the dog does not come close to the Paperbag Prince when he is feeding the animals even though she appears hungry?

The dog doesn't come close because she doesn't trust the Paperbag Prince or she might not want to become too attached to the Paperbag Prince in case he abandons her.

### Task 5. Take a closer look at words in context.

Continue to read the shared text and answer the questions as you go along.

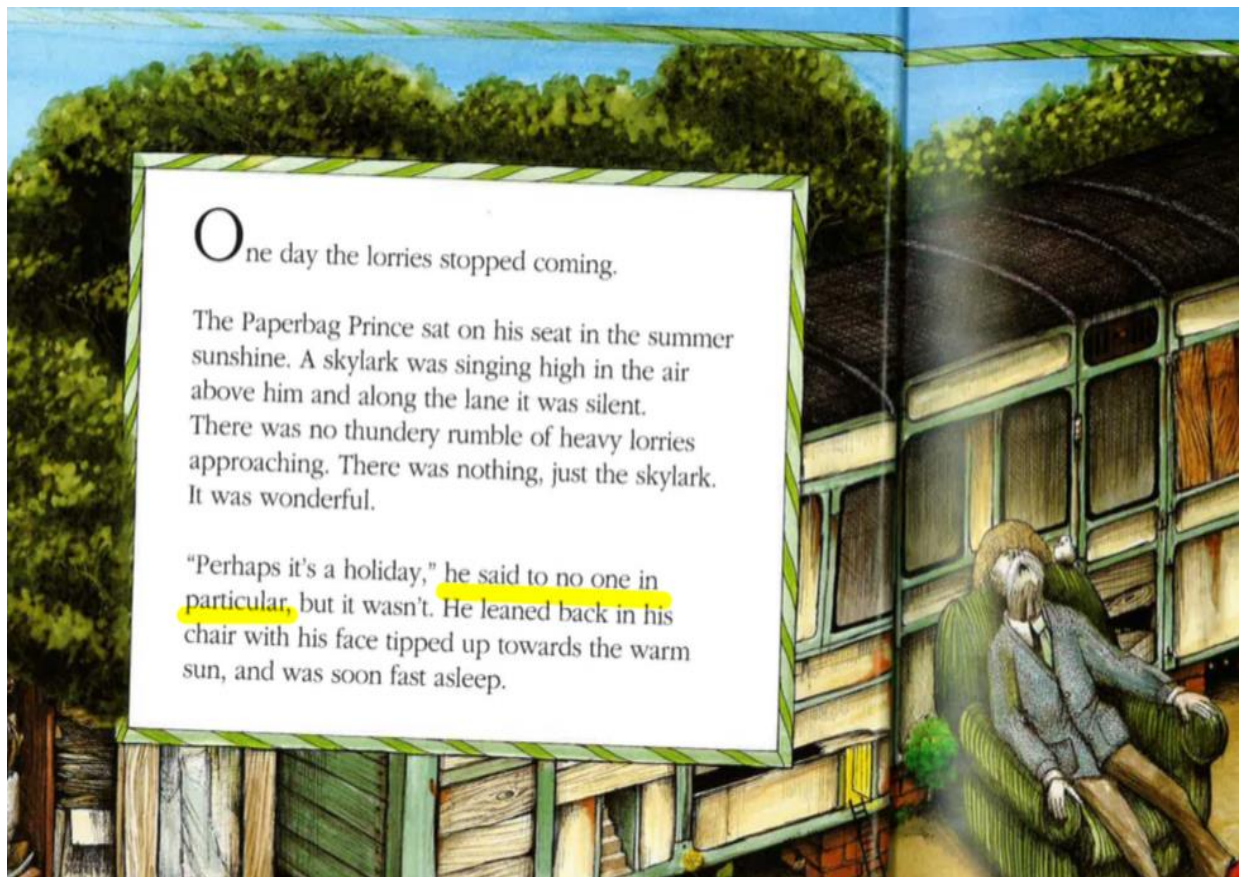


1. How has the word *mountains* been used in this sentence?

The word *mountain* creates an image of vastness and the bags are piled on each other forming the shape of a mountain.

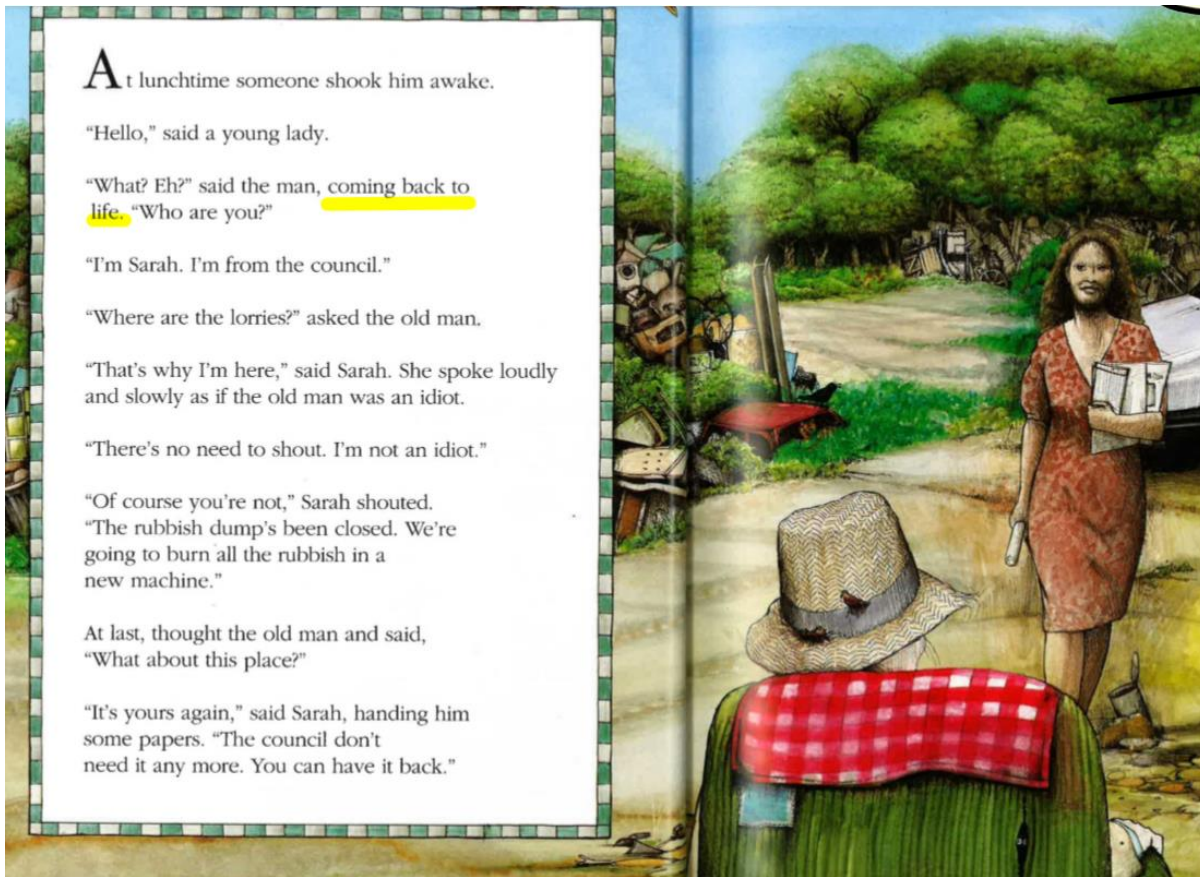
Continue on reading on the next page.





2. What does it mean by no one in particular?

He is talking to himself or thinking out aloud as there is no one else present.



3. Why does the author use this expression 'coming back to life'?

This is a metaphor as the Paperbag Prince was asleep and oblivious to his surroundings, similar to being dead. When he wakes up, he is 'coming back to life'.