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LO: To understand how meaning is enhanced through choice of language

1. Look at p6, paragraph beginning *‘Across the yard…’*

*‘They stretched their hands out through the bars of their prison.’*

What does this description suggest about the asylum?

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1. *‘Sometimes Mr Sissons read to them while they were eating, always bible stories, and his whistly voice would glide round the echoing room over the clatter of knives and forks’.*

Why does the author use the word ‘glide’ to describe Mr Sisson’s voice?

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1. Can you think of another word to use instead of ‘glide’ in the above sentence?

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1. *‘It was only at night that he let himself imagine escaping, and it was as though he was opening up a box of secret treasure in the dark’.*

Why does the author use this description to describe Jim’s thoughts?

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1. *‘He came gliding down the aisles between the long like a thin black shadow’.*

What impression does this give you about Mr Sissons?

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1. Can you write another simile that could be used to describe Mr Sissons in the same context?

Explain why you have chosen this simile.

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