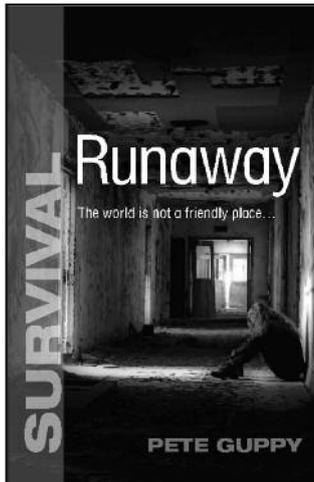


## RUNAWAY



### Summary of the story

Joe's father works on the ships but no one has heard from him since he left for Hong Kong two years earlier. Joe's mother died when he was young and he is cared for by the Barkers. The Barkers are annoyed with Joe as the money his father used to send has stopped so Joe decides he's had enough. He packs a bag with the intention of running away to Liverpool to begin his search for his dad. But there are many challenges to be faced as a young boy on the run.

### Key words to define and explore

Page 3	nagging
Page 6	present
Page 8	drunk
Page 9	tramp
Page 13	stiles
Page 16	ghostly
Page 20	risk
Page 22	panic
Page 41	gang
Page 45	sarled

### The copymaster sheets

#### PCM 1 Emotions

**AF5 Reading: explain the author's use of language**

Pupils are to look at the language used by the author in Chapter 1 and find quotes that show the main characters getting angry. Then they should explain the emotions felt by Joe when certain quotes are being used. This shows an appreciation of the language used by the author to convey a certain point. To finish, pupils should list all the words they can think of that relate to emotions.

#### PCM 2 The Liverpool chapter

**AF7 Writing: select appropriate and effective vocabulary**

Pupils are to produce sentences that would help to set a particular scene. They are to imagine they are helping to write a 'final chapter' for the book. Then they must create a series of sentences to show the emotions being felt by Joe at a particular time. This is furthered by pupils selecting up to five words they could use if they were trying to set a particular atmosphere.

#### PCM 3 Missing

**AF2 and AF5 Writing: produce text that is appropriate for purpose and effect**

The pupils are to complete their own 'missing' poster that describes Joe and discusses where he was last seen. They would be expected to include the opinions of the Barkers as well as thinking about the ideal places to put up a 'missing' poster.

#### Other cross-curricular links

There are a lots of social points to consider. You can touch upon the role of families as well as opening up discussions about alcoholism, domestic abuse and smacking. This would compliment RE and Life Skills.

## Discussion points

1 What is your first impression of Joe? (Page 3)	2 Why is Joe upset? (Page 5)
3 Do you agree with Joe's decision that he should run away and find his dad? (Page 7)	4 Do you think Mr Barker was right to slap Joe across the face? Why or why not? (Page 9)
5 Look at the list of things Joe packs in his bag. What do you think he would use each item for? Has he packed everything he needs? What else do you think he should take with him? (Page 10)	6 Joe decides he is going to get from Liverpool to Hong Kong. Why is planning to do this? How do you know? (Page 13)
7 What should Mr Morgan do? He knows Joe is unhappy. Should he call Mr and Mrs Barker and tell them what has happened? (Page 18)	8 Does lying help Joe? How do you know? (Page 23)
9 Joe is planning to stay in a cave overnight. Is that the right thing to do? What would you do if you were in his position? (Page 25)	10 Joe finds himself getting ready to spend the night sleeping in a cave. Do you think it is all worth it? Why? (Page 27)
11 Joe has a horrible dream. What is the term we give to dreams that scare us? (Page 28)	12 Joe has a dream where he swims towards a lifeboat. Why do you think he dreams that the hand pushes him away? (Page 30)
13 Why does Joe offer to cook beans for the boy who has just stolen from him? (Page 38)	14 Based on what you have read so far, what five words would you use to describe Joe? (Page 40)
15 Why should Joe be worried about a gang of lads? (Page 44)	16 Why is Joe more worried about the bottle with the boat than the money? (Page 48)
17 Do you have anything that is valuable to you and nobody else? For example, Joe has the gift from his dad. (Page 48)	18 Should Joe just give up and go back to live with the Barkers? Why or why not? (Page 53)
19 Is Joe right? Is he free? Why? (Page 59)	20 Is it time for Joe to take a risk? Explain why you think this. (Page 60)

# Emotions

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

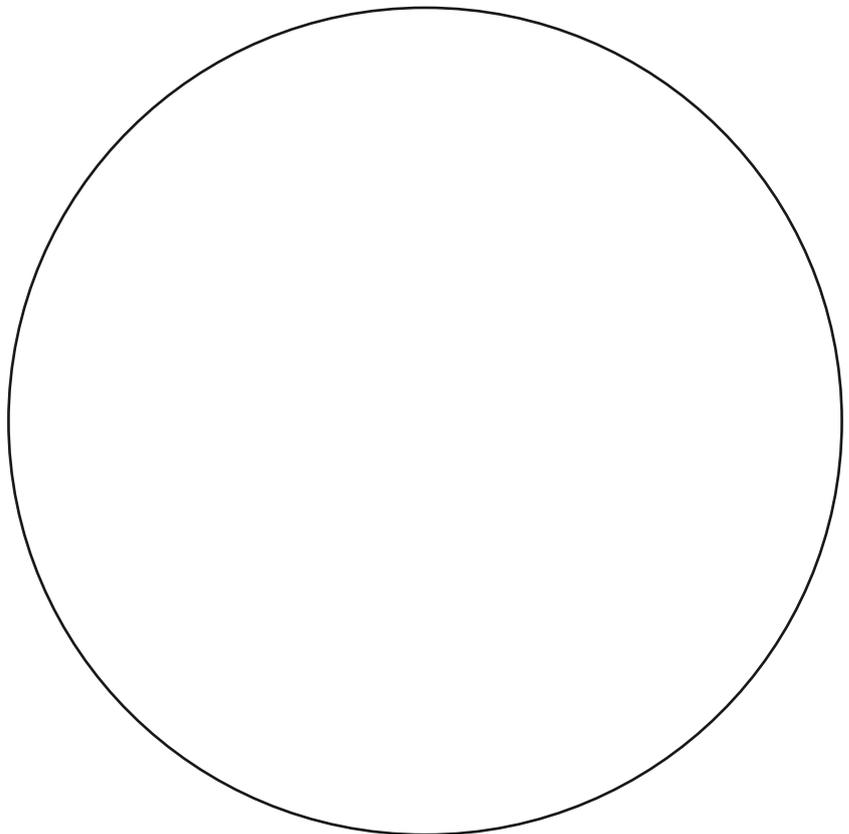
Using Chapter 1, find three quotes that show the characters getting angry.

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_

How do we know what people are feeling in a book? Next to each word or phrase, explain what emotion(s) Joe was feeling when the word or phrase was used.

- Nagging (*page 3*) \_\_\_\_\_
- Leave me alone (*page 4*) \_\_\_\_\_
- Slammed the door (*page 4*) \_\_\_\_\_
- But he hadn't come home (*page 6*) \_\_\_\_\_
- Sometimes slapped him (*page 7*) \_\_\_\_\_
- Where was his dad? (*page 7*) \_\_\_\_\_

In the circle, write down as many words you can think of that relate to people's emotions.



# The Liverpool chapter

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Imagine you are helping to write the book's ending. Create sentences to set the scene for each idea. Think about the type of language you would use to help build an atmosphere.

Example:

Joe is scared of something at the train station.

*Something catches the corner of Joe's eye, and he slowly starts to tremble.*

1 Joe realises the police are chasing him.

\_\_\_\_\_

2 Joe finds his ship in a bottle.

\_\_\_\_\_

3 Joe finds out that he can't get on a boat in Liverpool.

\_\_\_\_\_

4 Joe finally meets up with his dad.

\_\_\_\_\_

## SET THE SCENE

What words would you use to help you create the following atmospheres?

• Frightening \_\_\_\_\_

• Happy \_\_\_\_\_

• Sad \_\_\_\_\_

• Heroic \_\_\_\_\_

• Crazy \_\_\_\_\_

# Missing

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Create your own 'missing' poster.

Joe has gone missing. Draw a picture of Joe based on what you know about him.

Write a description of Joe that would help people to recognise him.

Where was Joe last seen?

Create your own statement from Mr and Mrs Barker. How do you think they would feel?

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Write down three places where you would put your 'missing' poster to make sure people see it.

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