**Storm Breaker**

**Reading Activities**

**For the book by Anthony Horrowitz**

**Predicting** (what you think something may be about)

Before reading this book, look at the front cover, the illustrations, scan read through the book and read the blurb on the back cover. Then become a prediction detective:

In your jotter make predictions about the Characters, Events and Settings in your book. Use 3 headings, listed Characters, Events and Settings in your jotter. Then write your predictions under these headings and provide evidence why you have made these predictions (you could use page numbers of things you have linked to your opinion or perhaps connections you have made to other texts or knowledge you have read or learned about.)

**Summarising**

Use a page at the back of your jotter and write and then underline the heading *Summary.*

Use this page to record the main points of each chapter.

**Opinion**

Three times throughout your reading of Stormbreaker, use your ‘hamburger’ sheet, to record your opinion (your thoughts) of what you think about Stormbreaker.

Chapter 1- Funeral Voices

Answer the following questions in sentences in your jotter.

1. The author begins this chapter with “When the doorbell rings at three in the morning, it’s never good news.’

What effect does this have on you? What does it make you think?

2. ‘..watching as the grey light of morning bled slowly through the west London Street’ - What type of figure of speech has the author used here?

3. Who did Alex live with and why?

4. How old is Alex Rider?

5. What was the relationship between Alex and Ian rider?   
  
6. What happened to Alex's parents? How old was he when this happened?   
  
7. Why do you think Alex is really upset by the death of his uncle, more so than any other nephew would be?  
  
8. Why do you think the author has Alex say that his uncle was careful and always wore a seatbelt? What does this make the reader think?   
  
9. Why do you think the author has named a character Mr Blunt? Make a prediction about what this character may be like.

Summarise - Remember to record a summary (the main points) of this chapter at the back of your jotter, on your summary page.

Follow Up Task

Character Profile

Use an A4 sheet of paper and fold it in half landscape. Draw a picture of what you think Alex looks like just now and, as you read on and gather more information about Alex, you will draw another image how you now think Alex looks like. You will be able to use adjectives to describe both how Alex looks and his qualities.

Chapter 2 - Heaven For Cars

1. Make a prediction; where do you think the chapter Heaven For Cars may be set?   
  
2. How many years has Alex owned his bike?  
  
3. Why do you think Ian rider said that a comprehensive school would be more of a challenge than a private school?   
  
4. Why did the J.B Stryker advert catch Alex's attention over any other?   
  
5. Find and copy the personification used on page 24.  
  
6. How did Ian Rider die? Why do you think that? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.  
  
7. What helped Alex when defending himself against the two men?   
  
8. What does the author mean at the end of the chapter when he uses the phrase: 'He could have been looking a lot worse’?

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Follow Up Task

Questioning

Think of five questions you would like to ask Alex Ryder. Write them in your jotter and ask another person in your group to answer them.

Chapter 3 - Royal and General

1.Why was Alex worried that Jack wouldn't be able to stay much longer?   
  
2. What type of equipment on pages 38 and 39 imply that this is not a bank at all?   
  
3. What can you infer about Alex's character when he decides to go through the window, even though the author writes that it was a 'stupid idea'?   
What did Alex see on his uncle’s desk? Why did this surprise him?  
  
4. Why do you think Crawley let Alex go into his uncle's office and look through the folders?

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Follow Up Task

Write a job description for a secret agent based on your reading of the novel so far.

Chapter 4 - ‘So what do you say?’

1. What had Mr. Sayle invented and why were the government so interested in it?
2. Why did the government want to send Alex Ryder into Sayle’s company after they knew that Alex’s uncle had been killed by people from there?
3. What was the plan that would allow Alex Ryder to visit Sayle’s factory without any suspicion?
4. Why had Alex no choice other than to accept the Government’s job as a spy?

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Follow Up Task

Create your own wordsearch, using some of the key features of language in this book. Use the following website.

<http://puzzlemaker.discoveryeducation.com/WordSearch>

Chapter 5- Double O Nothing

1. What adjectives (descriptive words) does the author use to describe the weather on page 64?
2. How does the author infer (hint) that Alex’s training is very exhausting and difficult?
3. Why do you think Alex’s code name was ‘cub’?
4. What did the others in his barrack nick-name him?
5. Why do you think Wolf is always so nasty and mean towards Alex? Give reasons.
6. Describe how Alex managed to get matches to help light the camp fire?

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Follow Up Task

Research Anthony Horrowitz and write bullet pointed facts in your jotter.

Chapter 6 - Toys Aren’t Us

1. Describe how Alex’s uncle had been training Alex all along to become a spy.
2. How does the author infer(hint) that Blunt and Mrs. Jones don’t really care about the safety of Alex?
3. What excellent descriptive language does the author use to describe when the men dive from the aeroplane with their parachute?
4. How did Alex ‘help’ Wolf jump from the plane?
5. Which is your favourite gadget toy that was made for Alex? Give reasons.
6. Describe Yassen Gregorovitch.

Summarise - Remember to record a summary (the main points) of this chapter at the back of your jotter, on your summary page.

Follow Up Task

Using ICT, go onto teh following ‘spy’ website and find lots of hints/challenges to help you become a super spy. Note your favourite activity in your jotter and say why it is your favourite.

Chapter 7 - Physalia Physalis

1. What effect does it have on you how the author describes the car that Alex is picked up with?
2. What adjectives does the author use to describe Port Tallon?
3. Why did Sayle Enterprise Company seem alien to the sloping hills of Port Tallon?
4. How does the author describe the creature Physalia Physalis?
5. What did Alex see out of the bedroom window that would have concerned him?

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Follow Up Task

Inferring – DIRDS (described, illustrated, responded, what they do and say)

Choose a character from the book and answer the following questions using all the inferences(hints) that the author provides us with:

Described- How does the author describe the character?

Illustrated- How do the illustrations represent the character?

Responded to - How do other characters react to this one?

Do- What does the character do to give us clues about their distinguishing traits and qualities?

Say - What does the character actually say to give us clues about their traits?

Chapter 8 - Looking For Trouble

1. What did Alex find hidden in the four poster bed he was sleeping in?
2. Describe Stormbreaker.
3. Predict what you think is behind the locked door at the bottom of the stairs that Alex discovered?
4. Why does Alex suspect Nadia is suspicious of him?

Summarise - Remember to record a summary (the main points) of this chapter at the back of your jotter, on your summary page.

Follow Up Task

Questioning

Use your ‘I Wonder…’ worksheet, think and write eight questions you have about Stormbreaker.

Chapter 9 - Night Visitors

1. How did Alex manage to win £4,100 pounds from Sayle?
2. How did Alex know that Sayle was suspicious of him?
3. As Alex was hiding down near the sea, what did he suddenly see emerge from the sea and who made an appearance?
4. What was passed out from the submarine and loaded up onto the truck?
5. What confirmed to Alex that Yassen was a dangerous and cruel man?

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Follow Up Task

Using your Connecting with Text Frame, make self, text and world connections to Stormbreaker.

Chapter 10 - Death in the Long Grass

1. On page 137, Alex summarises what he saw the previous night. What did he see?
2. What was the first thing that caused Alex to sense that he was in trouble?
3. Describe some of the things Alex had to endure by two men, who were trying to kill Alex.
4. Why does Alex suspect that Mr. Grin had set these machines on him? What evidence does he have?

5. What two thing did Alex think had saved him?  
  
Summarise - Remember to record a summary (the main points) of this chapter at the back of your jotter, on your summary page.

Follow Up Task

Choose a character from this book and use as many adjectives to describe them as you can, both how you think they look and their personality.

Chapter 11- Dozmary Mine

1. List the adjectives the author uses to describe Port Tallon.
2. Describe how Alex managed to piece together some clues about what his uncle was looking for.

3. Why is Alex frustrated that he had left his zit cream back in his room?   
  
4. Is the hole under the trap door deep? How can you tell? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.   
  
5. Why is there a diver's dry suit on the ground?

Summarise - Remember to record a summary (the main points) of this chapter at the back of your jotter, on your summary page.

Follow Up Task

Connecting

Write about an experience you have had where you have felt very frightened and describe what happened and how you managed to deal with the situation.

Chapter 12 - Behind the Door

1. How does Alex know that Ian Rider had been to this place before? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.
2. Look at page 173. Find and copy some clues which suggest that a dangerous chemical is being placed inside the Stormbreaker machines.
3. Using ICT or a dictionary find out the meaning of the word languidly and write the meaning of it in your jotter.
4. On page 175, why did the guard lower his gun?
5. The author has used the metaphor: 'the only duck in the shooting gallery' to describe Alex's situation. What does this mean? Why do you think the author has done this?

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Follow Up Task

Design a new front cover for this book. Don't forget the title and the authors name.

Chapter 13 - The School Bully

1. How does the author infer(hint) that Alex is feeling like he has failed?
2. On page 185, find and copy the simile which has been used to describe the jellyfish.
3. Why does Sayle hate school children so much? Describe what happened to him while he went to school in England?
4. What horrid names was Sayle given by his peers?
5. What is the virus that has been put inside the Stormbreaker?
6. Where is the Stormbreaker going to be unveiled?
7. The chapter is called: 'The School Bully' why is it called this? Is this referring to one person in particular?
8. Describe how you would feel if you were in Alex’s position of being held captive with such horrible people.

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Follow Up Task

Scanning

Scan read through your book and write any WOW words you can find in your jotter. Then using a thesaurus find another word with a similar meaning and write it also in your jotter.

Chapter 14 - Deep Water

1. Describe how had Herod Sayle planned to kill British children on mass.
2. How did Nadia Vole trick Alex?
3. Describe how Alex managed to escape from the fish tank.
4. Make a prediction - what do you think is about to happen? Why do you think that?

5. What happened to Nadia Vole?

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Follow Up Task

Write a new blurb for Stormbreaker.

Chapter 15 - Eleven O’ Clock

1. On page 206, find and copy the phrase which means that Alex has an advantage over Sayle’s henchmen.
2. As the wind was rushing past Alex while he was suspended from the plane: What two things did the wind do to him?
3. Which gadget did Alex use to get him on board the plane? Describe how he used the gadget to help him.
4. Using the following statements, to order/sequence the events from this chapter:
   1. Alex fired the harpoon gun at the plane.
   2. Jeeps crashed below the plane and caused an explosion.
   3. Alex retrieved a harpoon gun.
   4. Alex threatens Mr Grin and orders him to fly him to the Science Museum.

Summarise - Remember to record a summary (the main points) of this chapter at the back of your jotter, on your summary page.

Follow Up Task

Create a wanted poster for Mr. Sayle remember to list why he is wanted and include a phone number for people to call and a reward.

Chapter 16 - Twelve O’ Clock

1. Describe the simile the author uses to describe the millennium wheel.
2. List some of the things Alex saw as he approached London.
3. How did Alex manage to escape from the plane?
4. Describe how Alex managed to stop Mr. Grin.
5. On page 217, find and copy an example of alliteration used by the author.
6. Describe some of the events of how Alex managed to stop Stormbreaker from going on-line.

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Follow Up Task

\*Select 6 of the most important parts of Stormbreaker and draw an image of them in your storyboard worksheet. Then write a sentence below each event to describe what it is.

Chapter 17 – Yassen

1. Why do you think MI6 won’t let the truth be published in the papers? What reasons could they have?
2. Do you think Alex would want to work for MI6 again? Refer to the text in your answer.
3. On page 234, why does Alex assume that the bullets must have hit Sayle in his left arm and shoulder?
4. On page 235, when Sayle uses speech the author has used the word ‘howled’. Why do you think the author has chosen to describe Sayle’s speech in this way?
5. Make a prediction: what do you think Alex will do now? Use evidence from the whole book to support your answer.

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Follow Up Task

Book Review

Write a review of Stormbreaker, using the headings below to guide you.

Who and when

Who wrote the book and when was it first published?

Setting  
Where and when does the story take place?

Plot  
What happens? Was it believable? Was it interesting?

Characters  
Who are the main characters? Who did you like most? Why?

Reading  
Was the book easy to get into? What do you think about the style it is written in? What kind of readers would like this book?

Your opinion  
What did you like or dislike about this book? How would you rate it? Brilliant? Good? Average? Terrible?