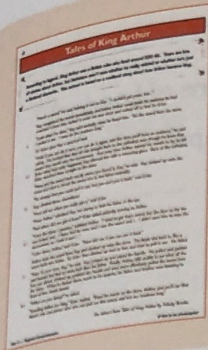


# Tales of King Arthur

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## Question Book:

Year 5, pages 8-9

## Author / Source:

Felicity Brooks

## Genre:

Fiction — legend

## Cross-curricular links:

- History (reliability of sources)

## Introduction

King Arthur is said to have lived around the year 500, but the first detailed narrative account of his life was not written until the 1130s, by the Welsh monk, Geoffrey of Monmouth. As a result, Arthur is a much-debated figure in British history, and historians are still uncertain whether or not the Arthurian legends have any basis in fact. This modern retelling of one of the best-known Arthurian legends is written in an engaging and approachable style. As pupils read the extract, focus their attention on the author's use of direct speech to drive the action.

## Answers

1. E.g. Because he wanted people to think that he was the "trueborn king".
2. E.g. No. Ector made Kay go to the stone with him and try to put the sword back in. This shows that Ector didn't believe Kay and wanted him to prove that he had pulled the sword out himself.
3. E.g. Because his father knew that he had lied about pulling the sword out of the stone. He was embarrassed that his father had found out, and maybe worried that his father would be angry with him.
4. E.g. He uses one long sentence with lots of commas in it, which shows that Arthur is talking quickly. He also uses "...", and repeats the phrase "and I", which shows that Arthur is stuttering and repeating himself.
5. "The blade slid back in, like a warm knife into butter."
6. Any appropriate answer. E.g. I think he felt confused and surprised. He may also have felt excited about the idea of being king and nervous about how difficult it might be.