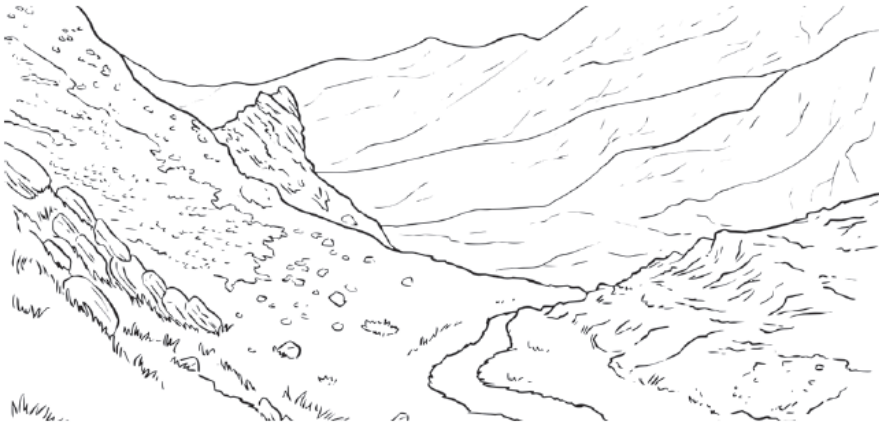


The Final Challenge

10 So far today, Maeve had chased away three dragons and
20 one troll who had wandered too far from the mountain.
30 She dragged the sword behind her and sighed. It wasn't
40 that she disliked her job – being protector of the realm
50 was an incredible honour – it was just a little boring
52 at times.

65 She looked down at her list of things to do. A farmer had
74 complained that something was scaring the sheep. 'It was
81 probably another dragon,' thought Maeve. 'Simple enough
84 to chase away.'

92 Arriving at the field, Maeve immediately felt that
99 something was wrong. Suddenly, an enormous shadow
108 appeared and a deep, slow voice said: "Welcome, Maeve,
112 to the final challenge."



Answers



1. What is Maeve's job?

Maeve's job is to be the protector of the realm.



2. Compare how Maeve is feeling in the first paragraph to how she is feeling in the last paragraph.

Accept any sensible comparison, such as: In the first paragraph, Maeve is feeling bored of chasing off dragons because it's too easy. In the last paragraph, Maeve is feeling worried because something felt wrong and a giant shadow had appeared.



3. Summarise the events in the story using 20 words or fewer.

Accept any sensible summary, such as: Maeve went to see what was chasing a farmer's sheep away when a shadow appeared and a voice challenged her.



4. What do you think will happen next?

Accept any sensible answer, such as: I think that Maeve will have to fight a giant dragon and, when she wins, she won't think that her job is boring any more.