

Cogheart by Peter Bunzl – Session Four

Read Chapter 6 & 7



Word analysis

1. At the beginning of chapter 6, when Robert looks at the fox's injury he sees the '...parts had **fused** together in a lump.' What does the word fused mean here?
2. On page 85, Roberts da says if there aren't enough cogs and springs, they can **filch** them from other clocks. Which word has the closest meaning to filch?
 - a) steal
 - b) open
 - c) digest
 - d) upside-down
3. On page 89, Thaddeus ruffles his son's hair with a **calloused** hand. What does this mean and why are his hands calloused?
4. On page 93, what word is used to describe how Mr Wingnut and Miss Tock will have their metal bodies destroyed?
5. What phrase does Professor Silverfish (page 98) use to describe when Lily requires him most?
6. On page 103, Mr Sunder polishes his glasses **vigorously**. What does the word vigorously mean?

Fact retrieval

1. On page 83, Thaddeus suggest two reasons why Lily's father might have sent her to boarding school. What are they?
2. What does Thaddeus say on page 84 is needed to win great battles?
3. On page 86 what does Robert fear?
4. What signal does Madame Verdigris give on page 99 to indicate they are ready to discuss with the lawyer what will happen to Lily?
5. What are mechanicals not allowed to be in charge of according to Mr Sunder the lawyer on page 102?
6. Where does Professor Silverfish live?

Inference

1. In what ways do we find on page 83 that Lily and Robert's upbringing are similar? Can you give two ways with examples?
2. On page 88 Robert's eyes widen after his Father tells him what he did at Brackenbridge Manor. How does Robert feel about what he has just heard?
3. What does the fact that Robert and his father work till 3am mending the fox, mean about how they feel?
4. What does Lily mean on page 95 when she says about Mrs Rust and Madame Verdigris 'if you had to guess which of the two had feelings, Lily knew who she'd choose.'
5. What clues can you give that show Lily is pleased to see her godfather, Professor Silverfish? Pages 97-98
6. On page 100, Mr Sunder gives an embarrassed cough. Can you explain why he might feel this way using evidence from the text?

Deep thought

We meet lots of different characters in the book – including mechanical characters, such as Mr Wingnut and Mrs Rust. Thaddeus explains that: “one thing I do know is this...feelings and intuition, love and compassion, those are the things make a soul, not blood and bones or machine parts.” Thinking about the characters in the book, discuss what you think this quotation means with a friend. Do you think these mechanicals have feelings?

