

The life of Adrian Henri

These questions will help you practise:

- ★ identifying key details
- ★ identifying how language choices enhance meaning
- ★ identifying how narrative content is related
- ★ explaining how narrative content contributes to meaning as a whole
- ★ making and explaining inferences.

Carrying my gas mask to school every day
 buying saving stamps
 Remembering my National Registration Number
 ZMGM/136/3 (see I can still remember it)
 avoiding Careless Talk
 Digging for Victory
 looking for German spies everywhere
 Oh yes, I did my bit for my country that long dark winter,
 me and Winston and one or two others,
 wearing my tin hat whenever possible
 singing 'Hang out the washing on the Siegfried Line'
 aircraft-recognition charts pinned to my bedroom wall
 the smell of paint on toy soldiers
 doing paintings of Spitfires and Hurricanes, Lancasters
 and Halifaxes
 always with a Heinkel or a Messerschmitt plunging
 helplessly into the sea in the background
 pink light in the sky from Liverpool burning 50 miles away
 the thunder of daylight flying fortresses high overhead
 shaking the elderberry tree
 bright barrage-balloons flying over the docks
 morning curve of the bay seen from the park on the hill
 after coming out of the air-raid shelter
 listening for the all clear siren
 listening to Vera Lynn, Dorothy Lamour, Allen Jones
 and The Andrew Sisters
 clutching my father's hand tripping over the unfamiliar kerb
 I walk over every day
 in the black-out.



Autobiography by Adrian Henri

1 In this text, the writer is remembering his childhood.
Give **two** details from his memory that are given in the text.

1
(2 marks)

- 1. _____
- 2. _____

2 *the thunder of daylight flying fortresses high overhead*
What might *daylight flying fortresses* be?

2
(1 mark)

3 The writer uses senses such as sight in the poem.
Which other senses does the writer use?
Give evidence from the text to support your answer.

3
(1 mark)

4 The writer uses several examples of present tense verbs such as *shaking, remembering, singing, wearing*.
What is the purpose of using these verbs?

4
(1 mark)

5 What impression does the text give you about the writer's safety during the war?
Refer to the text in your answer.

5
(3 marks)

6 What do you think the writer is trying to explain by saying '*tripping over the unfamiliar kerb I walk over every day*'?

6
(1 mark)

/ 9

Total for this text