

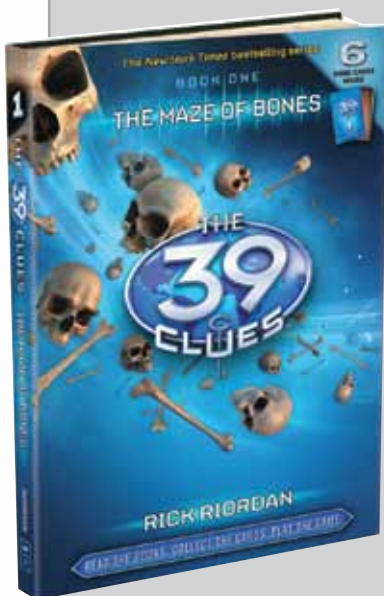
Please photocopy the attached **WORKSHEETS for students to follow along with during the webcast.**

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IDEAS

From Book 1: *The Maze of Bones*, by Rick Riordan, pp. 159-160



“Cemeteries,” Amy said. “Back in the 1700s, the cemeteries were getting overcrowded, so they decided to dig up tons of old bodies—all their bones—and move them into the Catacombs. The thing is . . . look at the dates. See when they started moving bones into the Catacombs?”

Dan squinted at the screen. He didn’t see what she was talking about. “Is it my birthday?”

“No, doofus. Look. 1785. They didn’t officially declare it open until the next year, but they started planning the project, and moving the bones, in 1785. Which was also the last year Benjamin Franklin was in Paris.”

“What. You mean—“

“He hid something down there.”

It got so quiet Dan could hear roaches scuttling in the closet.

“So,” Nellie said, “we have to go underground, into a maze filled with bones, and find...whatever it is.”

Your Turn!

If you could write what happens next, which of these details would you include?

- A.** The smell of old, moldy, wet rocks and dirt
- B.** What it feels like to grab an old bone as you grope your way through the Catacombs
- C.** The last thing you see as your flashlight dims before it goes out

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ORGANIZATION

From Book 6: *In Too Deep*, by Jude Watson, p. 128



With a soft thump, another creature landed in the dust. The snake curled around and raised its head.

They heard Isabel's laugh come down through the shaft. "Yoo-hoo!" she said. "Thought you might be lonesome down there. We sent you some pets!"

Dan swallowed. "Please don't tell me that's what I think it is. . . ."

"Taipan," Shep breathed. "The most . . ."

". . . poisonous snake in the world," Dan finished.

From Book 6: *In Too Deep*, by Jude Watson, p. 206

. . . they made a promise to each other without speaking. A vow. They wouldn't rest until they had exposed who had murdered their parents.

They had started on the hunt for the 39 Clues for Grace's sake. Now they would win it for Arthur and Hope.

"Justice," Amy agreed.

Your Turn!

How did the book ending leave you feeling?

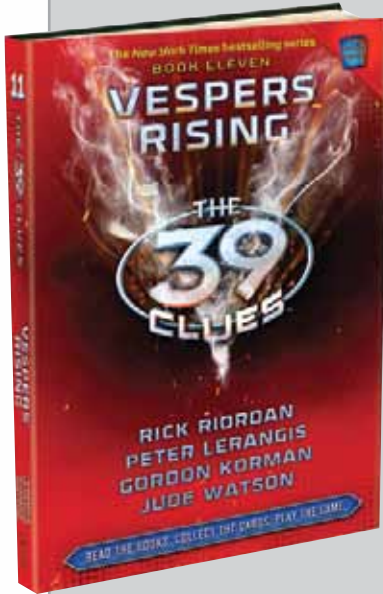
- A.** Frightened for Dan and Amy
- B.** Tingling with anticipation
- C.** Totally satisfied and ready for more

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VOICE

From Book II: *Vespers Rising*, Part 2, by Peter Lerangis, p. r-c (74-75)



“Wicked, wicked, *wicked* child!” said old Williams, dragging Master Cahill by the arm through the Persian rug–covered corridors of King Henry VIII’s Palace of Placentia.

“Last time it was four *wickeds* and one *wretched*,” Master Winthrop chirped. “Incorrigible, too. Whatever that means.”

Williams tut-tutted, yanking the boy around a marble-columned corner. “What on earth have you done to make dear, gentle old Mistress Kletsch resign? The fifth governess in three months! How can we expect to replace her on such short—where is *Hargrove*? Hargrove promised he would meet us with another candidate for the king’s approval!”

“Mistress Kletsch smells like the fart of a dying warthog,” Winthrop replied. “And that’s after she has taken a bath.”

“Dastardly boy—foul, odious boy!” Williams said, looking around frantically for his fellow courtier.

“Odious...” Winthrop said. “I like that.”

Your Turn!

The tone of VOICE in this passage is:

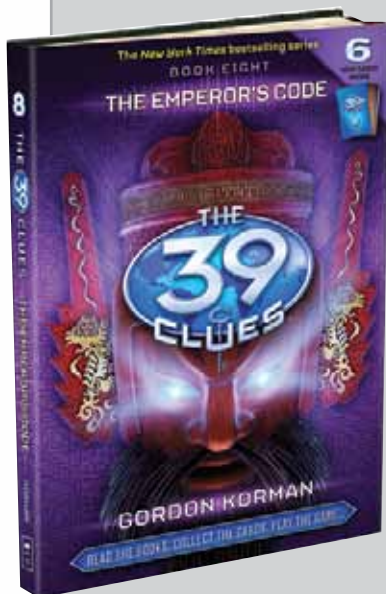
- A.** Wild, wacky, and ridiculous
- B.** Side-splittingly mischievous
- C.** Cool, calm, and casual

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WORD CHOICE

From Book 8: *The Emperor's Code*, by Gordon Korman, pp. 123



He saw the battle mace first—a heavy spiked iron ball attached by a chain to a wooden handle.

Maybe a few of them are still armed...

This thought was quickly replaced by another: *If this is number fifty-three, maybe the weapon is the clue!*

Eagerly, he scrambled toward it. Just as he noticed that this figure was shorter than the others, terracotta warrior number fifty-three moved.

The astonishment paralyzed Dan for an instant. And by the time he came out of it, the mace was hurtling through the air on a collision course with his head. With a gasp, Dan ducked, and the lethal spikes went singing past his ear. A warrior's elbow shattered. The hand and forearm fell to the ground.

No bones, no dead guy inside, Dan thought—when he should have been concentrating on survival.

Your Turn!

If you could choose a title for this passage, which words would be “just right”?

- A.** An A-mace-ing Story
- B.** Duck First—Questions Later
- C.** No Bones, No Dead Guy, No Joke

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SENTENCE FLUENCY

From Book 9: *Storm Warning*, by Linda Sue Park, p. 89



Amy knew what it was as soon as she saw it falling. She knew because it was her secret nightmare: She would recognize it instantly, anywhere.

Sharks, scary. Venomous snakes, scary. Huge spiders, scary. But for Amy, this particular creature was beyond scary. It wasn't just frightening. It was almost...evil.

Amy knew this was irrational. Animals weren't evil. They were what they were, and maybe she should even admire this one. It had been in existence for millions of years, surviving when other species had been unable to adapt. But she couldn't help it. Her fear seemed to come from so deep inside it was part of her DNA—a complete and instinctive kind of fear.

She could hardly have seen more than its color and size—dark and small—as it fell through the air when the word exploded in her mind.

Scorpion!

Your Turn!

Sentence Fluency is the musical side of writing. What kind of music does the passage make you think of?

- A.** Classical
- B.** Hip Hop
- C.** Rock

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BONUS POLL

Dan frowned. The mixer was really close—only a few feet off the bus’s rear bumper.

What’s wrong with that driver? Doesn’t he know how dangerous it is to tailgate?

The thought had barely crossed Dan’s mind when the truck put on a burst of speed and _____ right into the back of the bus.

It was 8:42 a.m. Eastern Standard Time, exactly the same instant as the Cahill kidnappings around the world.

Your Turn!

“The thought had barely crossed Dan’s mind when the truck put on a burst of speed and _____ right into the back of the bus.

- A.** slammed
- B.** careened
- C.** skidded

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