

Understanding the text

- 1 What was in the huge block of stone?
- 2 What did the knights try to do?
- 3 What was going to happen on New Year's Day?
- 4 What had Sir Kay forgotten?
- 5 From where did Arthur get the sword?

Looking at language

- 6 Explain these phrases in your own words.

a in olden times **b** try their luck **c** straight away
d without effort **e** ran his eye down **f** Sir Kay's face fell

- 7 Explain the meaning of these words as they are used in the story.
Use a dictionary to help you.

a rightful **b** appoint **c** adopted
d squire **e** deserted **f** jousting

Exploring the story

- 8 Why do you think all the knights tried to pull the sword from the stone?
- 9 Why do you think it was necessary to guard the sword?
- 10 Why do you think 'No knight should ever be without his sword'?
- 11 Why do you think the sword felt odd in Sir Kay's hand?
- 12 What impression do you get of Sir Kay?
- 13 Do you think Arthur will turn out to be the hero or the villain in this story?
Explain your reasons.

Taking it further

▶ RB, Unit 10, Extension

- 14 In the next part of the story, Sir Ector tells the Archbishop and the knights what Arthur has done. How do you think they react?