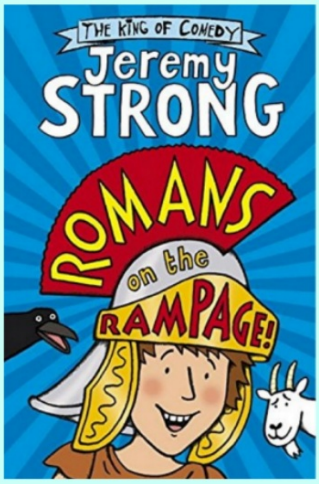
Tuesday



Explain

Activity

I look after this kid, Perilus, right? Nice kid, floppy brown hair, hazel eyes, a few spots and a lot of attitude, but generally OK. He says I'm his pet, but am I kept on a chain like a dog? No. Am I shut

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in a cage? No. I can go wherever I like, whenever I like, whereas HE has to ask his mum or dad for permission to leave the house or walk down the street. So who's the pet, eh? Toasted togas! He even tells his mum and dad when he's going for a wump. That's what you, being a human, call 'going to the loo'. For us ravens it's having a wump. Unlike you humans, we do all that business stuff in one go, so to speak. Bet you didn't know that. See? You're going to learn a lot from me. I am not called *Corvus maximus intelligentissimussimussimuss* for nothing. (It's difficult to get your beak round that word sometimes.) Perilus usually calls me Croakbag for short, which is not very nice, but he is only eleven.

So I am Perilus's pet, he says, and he's teaching me how to speak. Ha ha! What a laugh. I was speaking Latin years before he was even born!

Now then, where was I? Oh yes. *Ahem, ahem.* So

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poor young Scorcha is without a chariot and why is that? I hear you ask. It's because Jellus is jealous. Jealous by name, Jellus by nature. **Kraaarrk!** (Raven joke. If you don't get it, it's because you're human. Sad but true.)

Jellus is captain of the Green Team. In chariot racing there are four teams, right? Greens, Whites, Reds and Blues. The Greens are the best. Oh yes! Come on, the Greens! Jellus chooses the riders for the Greens and he's got his eye on Scorcha. Scorcha's young, Scorcha's eager, Scorcha's good! He's also rather handsome in a Roman kind of way; that is to say he has a large conk. Oh yes, Rome is famous for its noses. Flavia and her daughter Hysteria like Scorcha, especially Hysteria. I might even go so far as to say Hysteria, who is fourteen, has a crush on him. Young love, eh? Everyone give a big sigh – ahhhhh!

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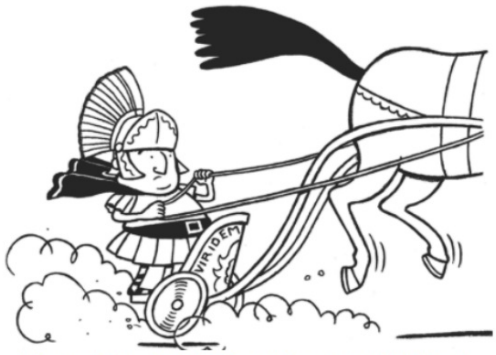

The problem is Jellus is getting on a bit. He's at least forty and that's OLD for a charioteer. By that age, most charioteers have either retired or been run over by another chariot. Jellus shouldn't be racing. He's too old and too fat and that means he's heavy and that means he slows the horses down and that means HE COMES LAST! Like he did

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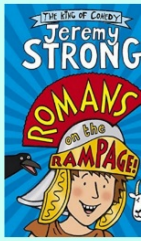
today. I bet Scorcha would have won if he'd been the charioteer. Personally speaking, I don't think Jellus likes Scorcha, probably because Scorcha has a real talent. Oh yes!

So poor Scorcha is standing at the side, looking miserable, while the next race gets under way. Seven laps round the Circus Maximus! The trumpets blare. The Emperor drops the starter's white handkerchief and they're off! You've never heard anything like it. You've never seen anything like it! Come on, you Greens! The crowd yells! 'OOOOOH! AAAAH! OOOHHH!'

KRACKETTY – KRRASHHH!

SHIPWRECK!

Tuesday 19th January 2021



Activity: answer these questions

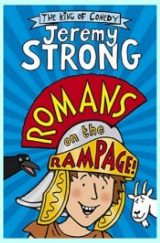
p.4 Tell me how you feel about the character when reading the comparison between the bird and the son.

p.4 Explain what the name 'Corvus maximus intelligentissimussimussimuss' makes you think of the raven. Why do you think this?

p.6 Explain how this information links to the character's name - Jellus: "So poor young Scorcha is without a chariot and why is that? I hear you ask. It's because Jellus is jealous."

Answers on next slide.
Chin to self assess
pink - correct
green - incorrect

Tuesday 19th January 2021



Answers:

p.4 The raven has more freedoms than the son.

p.4 You could have several answers:
The bird is humorous and trying to be funny.
The bird thinks he is very smart.

p.6 The narrator tells us Jellus is jealous. Both of these words sound the same. When we hear the name 'Jellus' we will be reminded he is a jealous character.

Chln to self assess.
pink - correct
green - incorrect