

The Iron Man by Ted Hughes

Read the first three pages of *The Iron Man* by Ted Hughes. Now try to answer the following questions.

1. Where did the Iron Man first appear?
2. Find a simile on page 1 used to describe the Iron Man.
3. What had the Iron Man never seen before?
4. Look at page 2. Why did the Iron Man fall?
5. Look at page 3. What do you imagine the sea gull saw?
6. Identify the features used in this opening passage that make a good beginning to a book. Explain why they are effective.
7. On page 3, why does the author use the words '*Chewing away at the edge of the rocky beach*'?
8. How does Ted Hughes describe the Iron Man after his fall?
9. Find a simile to describe the Iron Man after he fell. Explain why it was used.
10. Look at page 3, paragraph 3 '*While the stars...*' Read this passage carefully. Is the description here effective? What is the author trying to infer? Could you add a phrase to the sentence in the style of the author?
11. Look at page 3. Find two phrases which indicate the passing of time.
12. Find a variety of authorial techniques used on these first three pages and explain why they are effective.

For example: *Capitalisation on page 2 has the effect of ...*

