

The Iron Man by Ted Hughes

Read the fifth chapter of The Iron Man by Ted Hughes. Now answer the following questions using page 50 (Sit up...) until page 53 (And he set off)

1. What does the Iron Man call the space-bat-angel-dragon when he tries to get his attention? **He calls him a great space lizard.**
2. Explain why the space-bat-angel-dragon laughed at the Iron Man's challenge of strength. (2) **He laughs because he sees that the Iron Man is so much smaller than him and he feels that there will be no real contest of strength.**
3. Name three items that the Iron Man ordered the engineers to arrange to carry out his plan. (1) **Iron girders to shape into a bed, a steel lined pit below, filled with fuel oil.**
4. Describe in your own words the challenge the Iron Man has set. (2) **The Iron Man is showing how he can withstand a blazing furnace, which compared to his size is huge, the challenges the creature to do the equivalent, with the size equivalent for it being the scoring furnace of the sun. The one who can withstand the most amount of times in the fire is the winner and the loser becomes the slave.**
5. When the Iron Man insulted him, it says, 'The space-bat-angel-dragon was so astounded that he agreed.' Define the word 'astounded'. (1) **It means shocked.**
6. 'He had never noticed the fussing of the boats and aeroplanes down there on the beach near his neck.' Explain why you think the space-bat-angel-dragon had not noticed them. (2) **He didn't notice them as to him they are small and insignificant, if they don't affect him he does not notice them.**
7. Evaluate the space-bat-angel-dragon's feelings as he watched the Iron Man complete his challenge. (2) **He is shocked and surprised at the strength and determination of the Iron Man, he seems almost impressed by what he is willing to do in order to prove he is strongest.**
8. Identify three different ways the Iron Man has shown that he is brave. (3) **He volunteers himself for a dangerous challenge against a fearful creature. He risks his life for a second time even though he is worried the fire is too hot. He smiles at the creature even though inside, he is filled with dread.**

9. Analyse how Ted Hughes has made the space-bat-angel-dragon sound like a monster. (3) He refers to his immense size many times, as well as how he could squash things with ease, these are things like aircraft, which on Earth seem indestructible to us. Even when the creature returns to Earth, after being damaged by the sun, it still has the ability to 'create tidal waves and knock skyscraper down.'

10. Compare and contrast the Iron Man to the space-bat-angel-dragon, considering both their appearance and their personalities. (3) Both are determined, both have been misunderstood by the humans on Earth, both were initially seen as threatening, even the creature turns out to have a good side. Both have found their place in the world, the Iron man eats the old metal junk and the monster calms the Earth with its song, so both have a positive effect on their environments.

11. Create an inner monologue of the thoughts and feelings of one of the engineers as they assist the Iron Man with his challenge. (3)

Include thoughts of fear for the Iron Man and ultimately, fear that the plan won't work and they will be destroyed by the monster.