

## Toland's Diary – Oral Teacher Questions

What year is Toland writing his diary? **867 A.D.**

Why does the author use italics in this text? **To emphasise moments where Toland feels strongly about something.**

Why is it more effective for the author to have written 'something *worse*' instead of listing more things which could have been in the water? **It leaves the question 'what could be more disgusting?' open to a reader's own imagination.**

Who is the 'hunter' who will become the 'hunted'? **Ulf.**

Why has the author chosen to call them the 'hunter'? **Ulf means 'wolf', a predatory animal; Ulf hunts for ways to bully Toland and Viggo.**

Why is there no entry for the 10<sup>th</sup> of October? **Toland was too 'weary' to write anything after being out all night.**

What is a 'thrall'? **A slave.**

What is the purpose of text written in brackets? **To provide extra information.**

What drink do even the children in Viking houses have every day? **Ale.**

In relation to Viggo, who are Torsten, Ulf and Gerd? **His father, older brother and mother.**

Lots of texts begin with a problem and end with the problem being sorted out. Who or what is the problem in this text, and how is the problem sorted out? **The problem is Ulf and how Toland and Viggo will get even with him. It is sorted when they smear the muck next to Ulf's sleeping bench.**

After reading this diary, do you think Vikings treated their slaves well or badly? Give TWO reasons for your answer. **Various answers; must be justified.**

What other books have you read which were written as diaries? **Many possible answers.**

Why does writing a story as a diary help readers to understand/sympathise with the main character? **Everything you read is seen through their eyes and described by them. Readers are given access to a character's thoughts and feelings.**

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