

Examples of Basic Responses

Section I

On a scale of one to ten, I would give this book an eleven. I enjoyed it very much. It got my attention well and held on tight. Its pages pulled me into the world of Redwall. Jacques does an incredible job of vividly describing the setting and characters. For example, he describes characters' sizes with interesting adjectives like enormous, miniscule, etc. I also enjoyed the different dialects that he gave certain animals, such as moles. They mostly had an outrageous accent, but they did have an interesting way of talking, like whenever they agreed with someone, they would say, "Burr, Oi!"

One thing I didn't enjoy was that I got confused at times due to the chapter setup. In this book the chapters alternate between several important characters until at the end they all meet in the final conflict. Another thing I didn't like very much was that I couldn't understand what characters were saying at times because of how outrageous their accents were. Other than that, however, I thought this was an incredible story that all fantasy lovers should read.

This book related to my life because it made me think about how I have to make choices. When the main characters go on their search for the sword and shield of Redwall, they must make many choices to stay safe from the rats. Each choice means sacrifices for Matthias and for his friends. This relates to my life because I have to make choices regarding my homework and grades that sometimes mean sacrificing things I'd like to do. In the end, though, I'm working for the reward of good grades and a trip to Silverwood just like the characters in Redwall were working for their reward.

Section II

1. **"Dublin lay enveloped in darkness but for the dim light of the moon that shone through fleecy clouds, casting a pale light as of approaching dawn over the streets and the dark waters of the Liffey."** (pg. 224) This description sets the scene for the battle between two lone snipers in Ireland's civil war. The description of the moon's light makes me imagine an eerie street scene. Even though it's night, the soldiers would have to worry about being spotted because it's light out like in the really early morning hours. This quote also makes me wonder if the street lights aren't working. Dublin is a big city, so I'd think that the moonlight wouldn't really matter.
2. **"Blast!" he muttered, "I'm hit."** (pg. 225) This statement is made after the main character sniper (unnamed) is shot by the opposing sniper. The quote is significant because his choice of words and reaction show so much about his personality. He doesn't curse or shout; he "mutters." That reaction fits him perfectly. He's been calm and calculating throughout the story, so to have him say so few words and to be so matter of fact about his crisis situation is what I'd expect from this character.
3. ...