

Name: _____

READING: THE LOST WORLD.

You are going to read an excerpt from Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's novel *The Lost World*. Sir Arthur Conan Doyle was the creator of the famous detective Sherlock Holmes. **The Lost World** is a tale of suspense and adventure.

THE LOST WORLD

One evening at the Science Museum, I heard Professor Challenger talking about a lost world which he had discovered in the Amazon, in South America. Professor Challenger was an amazing scientist whose books I had read. He said that dinosaurs were still alive there. Most people thought he was mad, but I was fascinated. Was it really possible that those creatures from the past still existed? Professor Challenger asked for volunteers to join a team of explorers to go to the lost world. I jumped at the chance. I had to see this place for myself.

When we reached the Amazon, we bought canoes and started our journey up the river. On the sixth day, we left the canoes and continued on foot. Finally, we came to the mountain where the professor had found the lost world. He pointed to a tunnel. "That tunnel is the entrance to the lost world," he said. We walked towards the tunnel but then, the professor stopped. "Oh, no!" he said. "The roof of the tunnel has fallen down. Look at all these rocks. I don't think we'll be able to move them by ourselves. We'll never reach the lost world now."

I was really disappointed, but the other explorers who had come with us became angry. "You've been lying to us!" they shouted. We went back to our camp and prepared dinner in silence. Suddenly, we heard a loud noise coming from above. We looked up at the dark sky and saw an enormous creature with huge wings, red eyes and a long sharp beak. Suddenly, it flew down and stole our dinner. "That was a pterodactyl, a flying dinosaur," said one of the scientists. "I'm sorry I didn't believe you before, Professor Challenger. Now I know you were telling the truth."

That night, I couldn't sleep. I knew that we would find a way to the lost world, but now I wasn't sure I wanted to see it. I was afraid to think about the strange creatures waiting for us there.



Now, choose the correct answer.

- Why did the writer want to go with Professor Challenger?
 - Because he thought that Professor Challenger was amazing.
 - Because he wanted to be a volunteer.
 - Because he wanted to see if dinosaurs still existed.
- How did the explorers travel in South America?
 - They walked all the way.
 - They walked and went by boat.
 - They travelled in boats.
- Why couldn't the men reach the lost world?
 - Because they couldn't find the entrance.
 - Because they couldn't climb over the rocks.
 - Because there were rocks in the way.
- What happened at the camp that evening?
 - A pterodactyl ate their food.
 - One scientist decided to tell the truth.
 - They saw many strange creatures.