YOUNG ARTHUR

In the year 493, Uther Pendragon became King of Britain. He had a counsellor named Merlin. Merlin was also a magician.[1]

When King Uther's son Arthur was born, Merlin said, 'Your son must grow up away from the court. It is safer!'

Merlin gave the baby son to Sir Ector and his wife. They raised[2] him well.

When King Uther died in 509, Britain had no king. The country had many problems.

1. **magician** : person who can make strange things happen by magic.
2. **raised** : looked after, brought up.

KING ARTHUR and his KNIGHTS

Merlin went to the Archbishop of Canterbury[1] and said, 'Britain must have a king. We must find one. Call all the noblemen of the kingdom. Tell them to meet at the great church in London on Christmas Day. There, God will show us the new king.'

On Christmas Day, all the noblemen were in the great church. Outside the church there was a big stone with a sword in it. These words were written on the big stone:

He who pulls the sword
out of this stone
is the true King of Britain.

1. **Archbishop of Canterbury** : important religious leader in Canterbury.

UNDERSTANDING THE TEXT

PET

1 Read the questions below.
For each question, choose the correct answer – A, B, C or D.

1. What happened in the year 493?
   - A ☐ Sir Ector died.
   - B ☐ Merlin was born.
   - C ☐ Uther Pendragon became King of Britain.
   - D ☐ King Arthur was born.
2. Who was Merlin the magician?
   - A ☐ King Uther's counsellor.
   - B ☐ King Uther's father.
   - C ☐ The Archbishop of Canterbury.
   - D ☐ Sir Ector's brother.
3. Why did Merlin gave King Uther's baby son to Sir Ector and his wife?
   - A ☐ Because they lived in King Uther's castle.
   - B ☐ Because it was safer for the baby to grow up away from the court.
   - C ☐ Because they paid Merlin for the baby.
   - D ☐ Because King Uther did not want the baby.
4. What happened in the year 509?
   - A ☐ Merlin became the King's counsellor.
   - B ☐ King Uther died.
   - C ☐ Arthur was born.
   - D ☐ The Archbishop of Canterbury died.
5. What did Merlin say to the Archbishop of Canterbury?
   - A ☐ 'God will show us the new king on Christmas Day.'
   - B ☐ 'A nobleman of London will be the new king.'
   - C ☐ 'You must be the new king.'
   - D ☐ 'Sir Ector will be the new king.'
6. What was written on the stone?
   - A ☐ 'He who breaks this sword is the true King of Britain.'
   - B ☐ 'No one must pull this sword out of the stone.'
   - C ☐ 'He who pulls the sword out of this stone is the true King of Britain.'
   - D ☐ 'He who pulls the sword out of this stone is the new Archbishop of Canterbury.'

LIVEWORKSHEETS