

The Iron Man - Chapter 1

Why does the author begin with the repetitions: “Nobody knows”?
Why does the author compare the Iron Man to a house?
Why does the author keep comparing the Iron Man to household items/ rooms?
Why were his eyes shining with different colours?
Why did he step off the cliff?
What can we tell from the use of the sound word, CRRRAAAASSSSSH? Find more examples of Onomatopoeia - when a word sounds like the noise it is describing.
What happened as the Iron Man crashed down the cliff?
What did the seagulls think that they had found?
What happened as soon as the eye and hand got together?
Where was the Iron Man’s missing ear?
Why did the Iron Man walk into the sea?
Do you think the Iron Man is a good or a bad character? Explain why.

The Iron Man - Chapter 2

What was Hogarth doing when he saw the Iron Man?

Why do you think his father believed him?

What had happened with the tractor/machinery during the night?

How did Hogarth's father manage to get away from the Iron Man?

What do you think the Iron Man would have done if Hogarth's dad had not escaped?

Where did the Iron Man go after eating the machinery and how did the farmers discover this?

What did the farmers do to protect themselves?

How did they warn people about the trap?

Hogarth had the idea to use the hole for something else - what?

How did Hogarth lure the Iron Man into the hole?

What did the farmers do after the Iron man fell into the hole?

How did Hogarth feel after he had trapped the Iron Man?

The Iron Man - Chapter 3

How did the mother explain the tremble that the father felt?

How did the mother know that there was something wrong?

Why did the family not look back after they got into the car?

Why did the farmers not ask the army for help?

Why was the Iron Man getting rusty?

What did Hogarth ask the Iron Man and how do we know the Iron Man could hear him?

How can we see that the Iron Man was happy on page 74?

The Iron Man - Chapter 4

What is the 'strange news' that everybody is talking about at the beginning?

Why did the people of Earth tremble and weep and pray to God?

Why do you think Hughes chooses to repeat the word 'terribly' so often as he describes the space-bat-angel-dragon landing on Australia?

How do you feel when you read about the space-bat-angel-dragon?

Why has Ted Hughes used a mixture of lowercase and uppercase letters in the words BIGger, Grew and NEARer?

What do you think the Iron Man will do when he goes up against the monster from space?

The Iron Man - Chapter 5

Explain how they transported the Iron Man to Australia.

Name three other things that were brought to Australia.

Why did the angel-bat-dragon take the Iron Man up on his challenge?

What shocked the dragon after the engineers had lit the pit?

How do you think the dragon felt as he watched the Iron Man burn?

Describe how the dragon looked when he returned from his first trip to the sun. And the second trip.

What must the dragon do after he has lost the challenge?

What message do you think Ted Hughes is trying to send to his readers about fighting and war?

Have your feelings about the Iron Man changed from the very beginning of the story?

Do you think the creature landing on earth was a positive or negative thing? Explain.