

# RIDLEY'S ROVERS

## Teacher Resources, Week 5

### This PDF contains:

- **Text Questions:** In this section, you will find questions about the chapter. These can be used orally in guided or shared reading discussions, as an independent comprehension exercise, or as part of a written homework or reading club activity.
- **Writing Activities:** Fiction Express for Schools provides a brilliant springboard into writing and some ideas and inspiration are provided in this section.
- **Other Extension Activities:** This section provides ideas for cross-curricular extension activities related to the chapter.
- **Worksheets and Puzzles:** This section provides printable worksheets and puzzles for student use. Answers are also provided where appropriate.
- **Key Words and Phrases:** This section provides a selection of key words from the chapter for use in a classroom literacy display or 'working wall'.
- **Glossary:** Here you will find definitions of words used in the chapter.
- **Picture Resources:** This section provides images to inspire student discussion. These images can be displayed on a whiteboard or printed.
- **Resources:** Here you will find a list of relevant websites and books that students might find useful.

## Text Questions

### Chapter 5: The Cup Final

1. Did you enjoy reading the final chapter of *Ridley's Rovers*? Were you surprised with what happened in the chapter?
2. How did you feel when you reached the end of the story? Why do you think that the author left the mystery of Ridley unanswered?
3. Would you read another story by this author? Why?
4. Why is there hostility between Ridley and Kitty? Do you think Ridley could have done something to reduce this? Why do you think she doesn't try to make things right with Kitty? Explain your ideas.
5. Why does Liam find it hard to *hold the peace* between Kitty and Ridley? Go back to the chapter to find the evidence to answer this question.
6. Why does it seem very strange to Liam when Ridley doesn't turn up for the last training session before the Cup Final? Go back to the chapter to answer this question.  
Teacher note: *usually she was the first person to arrive and the last to leave.*
7. What does Micky hear about Ridley from her old manager? Go back to the chapter to find out. Did you believe him? Explain.  
Teacher note: *"He told me to watch out. He said she was 'flaky', that she'd suddenly vanish when there was a big match coming up."*
8. What expression does Liam's mum use when she is being kept waiting for something? Go back to the chapter to find out.  
Teacher note: *"on tenterhooks"*

9. Can you think of any reason why Micky isn't able to contact Ridley? What were your thoughts about her at this point in the story?
10. Kitty says, "*She probably just wants everyone to chase after her.*" Do you think Kitty is right? Were you surprised when she didn't turn up on the day? What did you think?
11. How did Kitty lift the team's mood before the match? How do Kitty's words affect Liam? Go back to the chapter to find out.
12. Can you remember the name of the opposing team? Why do you think the team's name includes the word 'dynamo'?  
Teacher note: Dadlow Dynamo
13. What is unusual about the way West Park Rovers started the game? Why do you think they start the game well?
14. Do the team play well in the first half? Find the evidence in the chapter to answer this question.
15. What did Micky ask Liam and why does Liam feel flattered by this? Go back to the chapter to find out.
16. What is the main reason for moving Harrison 'up front'? Why is this a risk? Go back to the chapter to find out.
17. Why is Liam's role as midfielder made more difficult in the second half? Find the evidence in the chapter to answer this question.
18. Why did Liam decide to take the free kick? Does he score a goal? Would he have scored if the goalie hadn't slipped? Who thinks they could have done better? Go back to the chapter to find out.
19. Why do you think Ridley came on for Callum when it was penalties and not before?

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by Alan Durant



20. How cool was Ridley when she steps up to take the penalty? Find the simile that answers this question. Have you heard this simile before?

Teacher note: *as cool as a frozen cucumber*

21. Did Ridley give any clues that would explain why she didn't turn up to play in the Cup Final until the very end of the match? Go back to the chapter to find out.

22. Why do you think Liam never sees Ridley again?

23. Do you think West Park Rovers will miss Ridley playing in their team? Do you think Ridley taught the team members anything before she left?

## Writing Activities

Write an extra paragraph that could be inserted at the end of chapter 5. This extra paragraph describes Ridley's thoughts about the game as she walks away with her old manager. This is your chance to allow Ridley to answer the question of why she doesn't turn up until the end of the match and why this is the last time she will play for West Park Rovers. You could post your paragraph on the Fiction Express blog, where the author of this story will be able to read it! Your paragraph could start with one of the following opening sentences:

1. *As she walked away with her manager, Ridley felt satisfied with the outcome of the match. West Park Rovers, she thought, wouldn't be needing her help now that...*
2. *It was just as well, Ridley thought, as she calmly picked up her bag, that she arrived at the match before the game ended. If only she hadn't been delayed by...*

Write the conversation you think Liam will have with Kitty after the match. Don't forget to use the correct speech marks and punctuation.

Write a new ending for chapter 5 after Ridley misses the penalty.

Write a review of this story you think other students might find useful. Give a brief outline of what the story is about but don't give away what happens. Describe the main characters. Explain why you think the story is worth reading.

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Make a glossary of football terms that would be helpful to someone who knows nothing about this game. If you don't want to do a football glossary, you can do a glossary for another sport.

Write a poem called *The Mystery of Ridley*. Your poem could focus on Ridley's exceptional football skills, her 'cool' personality and the mystery of her sudden appearance and disappearance at the beginning and end of this story.

Would you have enjoyed the final chapter more if Ridley had turned up for the Cup Final and scored lots of goals for West Park Rovers? Why do you think the author doesn't do this? Write some thoughtful and interesting answers to these two questions. You might want to discuss your ideas with a partner first.

## Art Activities

Design a new front cover for this story. Make your cover as interesting and eye-catching as you can. Don't forget to include the title of the story and the author's name.

Design a recruitment poster for West Park Rovers. Make it as eye-catching as you can. List the benefits for new players in joining this successful local team. Remember to include the time and venue for the next training session.

## Discussion Activities

Do you think taking penalties in football is easy? Why do you think even exceptionally skillful football players sometimes miss penalties? Write down the best answers you get from your discussion.

At the end of chapter 5, Ridley says that she had '*other things to do*'. Discuss what you think she was doing. Write down your best three ideas.

## Research Activities

Using the Internet, find out where, when and how football became a sport. Write some interesting fact sentences based on what you find out.

Using the Internet, find out about the job of the referee in football. Write some interesting fact sentences on what you find out.

Using the Internet, find some amazing facts about football. Write a sentence for each of your top 3 amazing facts.

**Worksheet: Synonyms**

Match all the words on the left to the correct synonym on the right.

**hostility**

**alarm**

**injured**

**huddled**

**panic**

**calm**

**peace**

**harmed**

**gathered**

**jogged**

**flattered**

**aggression**

**thrashed**

**praised**

**surge**

**defeated**

**challenged**

**gush**

**trotted**

**demanded**



## **Worksheet: Answers**

**hostility**

**injured**

**panic**

**peace**

**gathered**

**flattered**

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**trotted**

**aggression**

**harmed**

**alarm**

**calm**

**huddled**

**praised**

**defeated**

**gush**

**demanded**

**jogged**

## Key Words and Phrases

Here is a list of challenging or potentially unfamiliar vocabulary used in Chapter 5 of *Ridley's Rovers*: **hostility, hold the peace, flaky, neutral ground, lifted the mood, rousing cheer, flattered, observed, evasively**

You may wish to explore this vocabulary with your pupils, to aid their understanding of the chapter and enhance, or 'up level', the quality of their own writing.

You might like to use the boxed versions of the words below on your 'working wall' or literacy display!

**hostility**

**hold the  
peace**

**flaky**

neutral ground

lifted the mood

**rousing  
cheer**

**flattered**

observed

**evasively**

## Glossary

**penalties** – a series of penalty kicks by each side to decide the outcome of a game when both teams have the same score

**relegation** – being moved down to a lower league or division

**equalised** – to have the same score as your opponent

## Picture Resources



[www.bigstock.com](http://www.bigstock.com) · 61224899

The World Cup Final is the biggest cup final match in the world. England has only won it once, when the country hosted the tournament in 1966. This statue is of Geoff Hurst, the England captain at the time.

Using books and the Internet, find out five facts about this England legend or about the game that saw him lift the World Cup trophy 50 years ago.

## Picture Resources



[www.bigstock.com](http://www.bigstock.com) · 28226354

The Jules Rimet trophy pictured here is the prize awarded to the winning team of the Men's World Cup.

In 1966, a dog called Pickles played a very important role off the pitch and saved this trophy. Find out more about this story. What was the name of Pickles's owner? How did Pickles save the World Cup trophy?



[www.bigstock.com](http://www.bigstock.com) · 73720828

## Picture Resources



www.bigstock.com · 91449677

The 1966 World Cup Final was played at Wembley Stadium in west London. The old stadium was demolished in 2003 but the new stadium sits on the same site.

Find out at least three facts about the new Wembley Stadium, including when it opened and how many people it can hold (its capacity).

## Resources

### Websites

How much do you know about the biggest footballing competition in the world, the World Cup Finals? Test yourself here!

<http://www.funtrivia.com/playquiz/quiz332359260c650.html>

At the top of the league, clubs pay huge amounts of money for their star players. Can you answer who got the biggest transfer fees?

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/quizzes/transfer-higher-or-lower-2>

The Football Association is keen to support young players – both boys and girls. Find out more, or even take part in a training session near you:

<http://faskills.thefa.com/>

### Books

*An Infographic Guide to: Football.* Wayland, 2016

*Greatest Stadiums* by Clive Gifford. Wayland, 2016

*Match! Incredible Stats and Facts.* Macmillan Children's Books, 2016