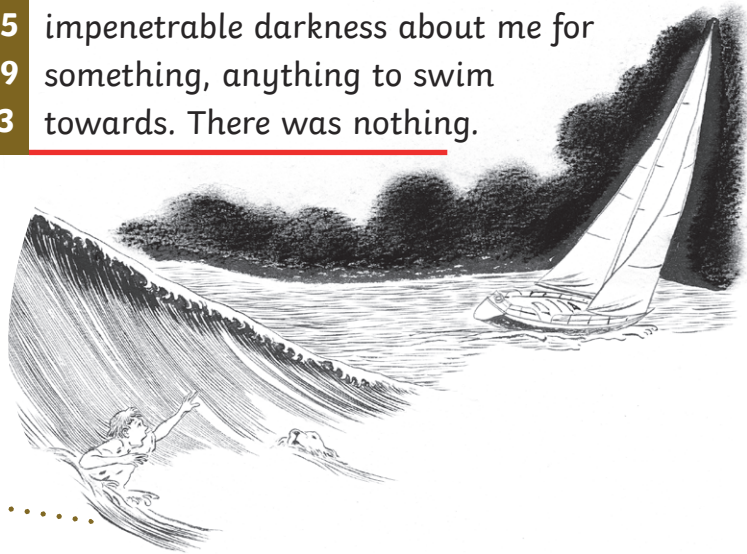


Nothing Could Save Me

8 The terrors came fast, one upon another. The
18 lights of the *Peggy Sue* went away into the dark
28 of the night, leaving me alone in the ocean, alone
37 with the certainty that they were already too far
47 away, that my cries for help could not possibly be
56 heard. I thought then of the sharks cruising the
63 black water beneath me – scenting me, already
73 searching me out, homing in on me – and I knew
83 there could be no hope. I would be eaten alive.
91 Either that or I would drown slowly. Nothing
94 could save me.

100 I trod water, frantically searching the
105 impenetrable darkness about me for
109 something, anything to swim
113 towards. There was nothing.



Quick Questions

1. Which word from the text describes something that 'cannot be passed or seen through'? Tick one.

☐ certainty

☐ impenetrable

☐ homing

☐ beneath

2. **I trod water, frantically searching the impenetrable darkness about me for something, anything to swim towards.**

What does the word 'frantically' tell us about how the character feels in the following sentence?

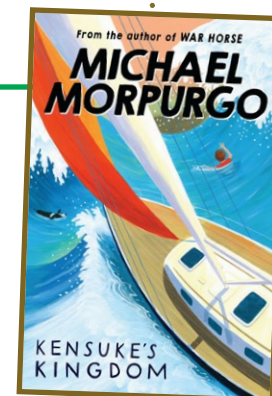
3. What two things does the narrator believe will happen to him?

- ---
- ---

4. Explain what you think the narrator will do next.

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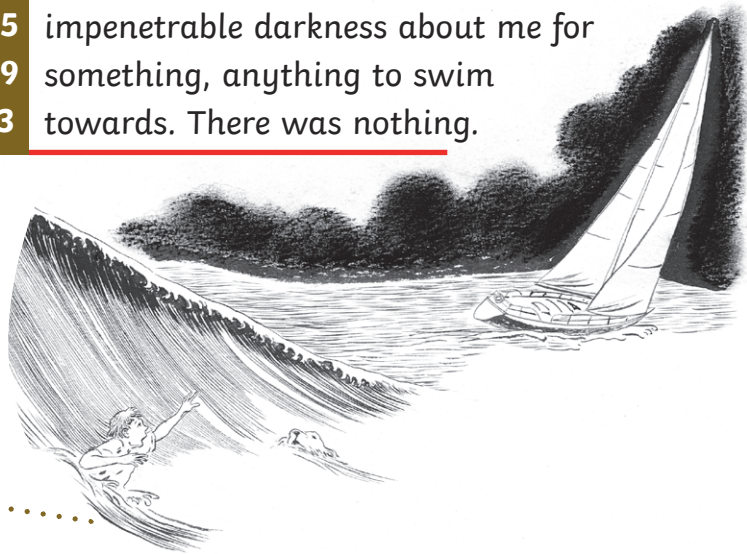
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Answers

1. Which word from the text describes something that 'cannot be passed or seen through'? Tick one.

<input type="checkbox"/> certainty	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> impenetrable
<input type="checkbox"/> homing	<input type="checkbox"/> beneath

2. **I trod water, frantically searching the impenetrable darkness about me for something, anything to swim towards.**

What does the word 'frantically' tell us about how the character feels in the following sentence?

Pupils' own responses, such as: The word 'frantically' suggests the narrator feels panicked and out of control because he is frightened and desperate for safety.

3. What two things does the narrator believe will happen to him?

- **eaten alive**
- **drown slowly**

4. Explain what you think the narrator will do next.

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think the narrator might either find the energy and strength from deep within himself to swim until he reaches land or float on the surface of the ocean, drifting ashore to a deserted island.

