

ORPHANS OF THE TIDE

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RESOURCE PACK FOR KS2 TEACHERS

Suitable for: Ages 9+



Puffin Schools

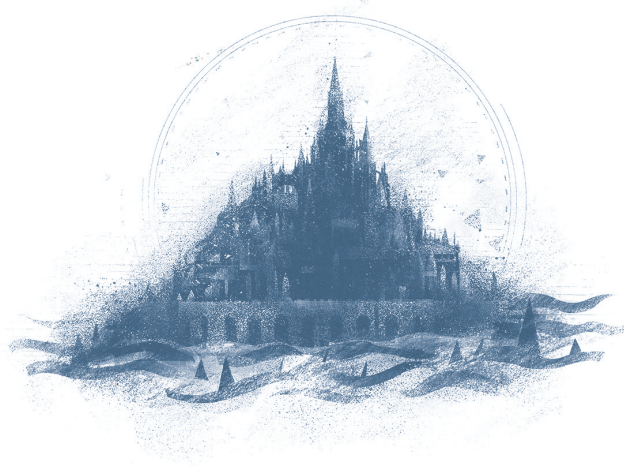
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Explore themes of:

✓World Building ✓Diary Entries ✓Inventions ✓Plot Twists ✓Memory

Subject Checklist:

✓Literacy ✓Creative Writing ✓Art, Design & Technology ✓Speaking and Listening ✓PSHE



Contents

LESSON 1: An Introduction to the Series

Objectives: Match key themes to book covers from the series; identify what makes the City an interesting and unusual setting for the story; write a descriptive paragraph about an imagined city.

LESSON 2: Orphans of the Tide: Fear of the Enemy

Objectives: Explore the theme of fear in an extract; write a diary entry from Ellie's perspective; explain the significance of plot twists in Orphans of the Tide.

LESSON 3: Orphans of the Tide: Ellie and her Inventions

Objectives: Have a class vote for Ellie's best invention; design an invention to solve a problem in your imagined city; create a character profile for the character of Ellie.

LESSON 4: Shipwreck Island & Eternity Engine: Further Activities

Objectives: Reflect on the power of memory in the series; write about your own special memory; design the book cover and write a blurb for the next book in the series!

About the books

Orphans of the Tide

Winner of the Branford Boase Award 2021, a breathtaking fantasy adventure for fans of *His Dark Materials* that *The Times* calls 'Unputdownable'.

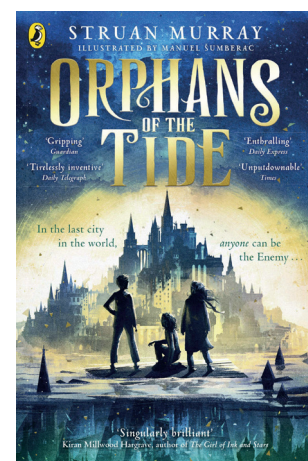
The City was built on a sharp mountain that jutted improbably from the sea, and the sea kept trying to claim it back. That grey morning, once the tide had retreated, a whale was found on a rooftop.

When a mysterious boy washes in with the tide, the citizens believe he's the Enemy - the god who drowned the world - come again to cause untold chaos.

Only Ellie, a fearless young inventor living in a workshop crammed with curiosities, believes he's innocent.

But the Enemy can take possession of any human body and the ruthless Inquisition are determined to destroy it forever.

To save the boy, Ellie must prove who he really is - even if that means revealing her own dangerous secret...



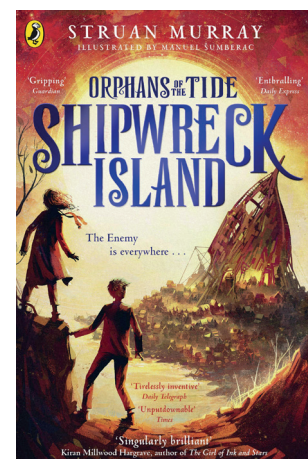
Orphans of the Tide: Shipwreck Island

The breathtaking adventure continues in the sequel to the much-loved *Orphans of the Tide*.

Orphans Ellie and Seth have crossed an endless ocean in search of freedom and peace.

Arriving on the shores of a colourful tropical island ruled by a mysterious queen, it seems they might just have found the perfect new home.

But there is trouble brewing in paradise and soon Ellie and Seth find themselves caught up in a dangerous struggle for power - and forced to confront terrible truths from their past...

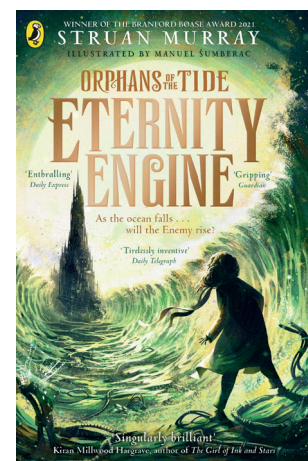


Orphans of the Tide: Eternity Engine

The critically-acclaimed *Orphans of the Tide* trilogy reaches its spine-tingling climax and dramatic conclusion.

The seas have parted to reveal the remains of humanity's lost empire and opened a path from Shipwreck Island to the Enemy's City. Now only Ellie Lancaster and her orphan friends can prevent a terrible war.

As Kate marches north at the head of her army, panic infests the City as the Enemy's strength grows. For the parting of the seas has also uncovered the Eternity Engine, a dreadful machine from before the Drowning, with the power to remake the world - or destroy it forever...



Lesson 1: An Introduction to the Series

Lead-in questions:

Which of the Orphans of the Tide books have you read?

Which words would you use to describe the series to a friend?

Task 1:

Look over the book covers in pairs, discussing the following questions:

- What do you like about the titles and book covers?
- Why do you think specific colours have been chosen?
- Who and what can you spot in the illustrations?
- How do the illustrations link to the titles?

Then, based on what you have read as well as the book covers and titles, sort which themes you expect to explore in each book. Discuss your choices as a class.

Themes:

ADVENTURE

INVENTIONS

THE SEA

FRIENDSHIP

GODS

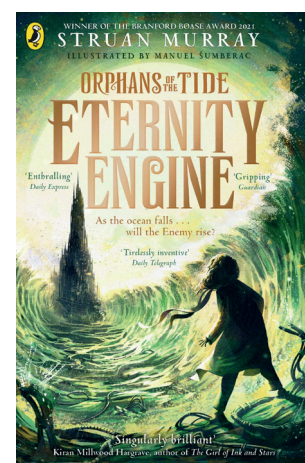
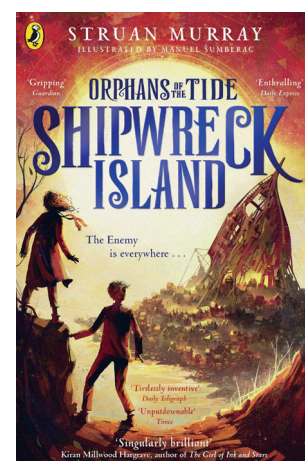
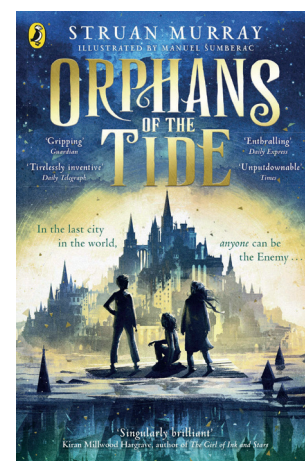
MEMORY

FEAR

FAMILY

GOOD VERSUS EVIL

NEW WORLDS



Book 1 themes I expect to explore

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Book 2 themes I expect to explore

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Book 3 themes I expect to explore

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The City was built on a sharp mountain that jutted improbably from the sea, and the sea kept trying to claim it back. When the tide rose, it swallowed up the City's lower streets. When the tide fell, it spat them back out again, but left its mark. Fresh mussels clung to windowsills. Fish flailed on the cobblestones. That grey morning, once the tide had retreated, a whale was found on a rooftop.

Task 2:

Read over the above extract from the first page in the *Orphans of the Tide* series and annotate it using the key below:

CIRCLE = descriptions of the sea and the tide

Tip: Can you spot how the writer makes the sea sound alive with a mind of its own?

UNDERLINE = unusual things you see in the City

Tip: How is this place different from a typical town or city?

Write up your ideas in a few sentences, explaining how the writer has created an interesting and unusual world in the first page of the series.

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Task 3: Creative writing challenge!

Imagine and describe your own city! Start by discussing with a partner: what features might make your city unusual? How would this city be similar and yet different to the real world? What would make a great setting for a story?

Write a paragraph describing your city, using the sentence starter and the word bank below. Choose every word carefully, selecting interesting verbs and adjectives.

Tip: Try to avoid using the sea, instead building your own new world!

Word bank

JAGGED	MENACING	DELICATE	TIPPED	WASHED
BRIGHT	COLLAPSED	WHISPERED	PROUD	SPIRALLING
GORGEOUS	MAGNIFICENT			

The city was built on

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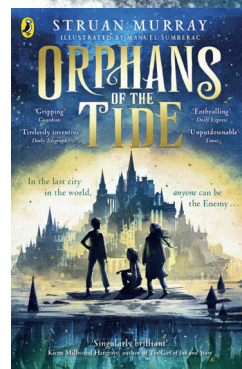
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Lesson 2: Fear of the Enemy

Lead-in questions:

What does the word 'fear' mean to you?

How can fear make people behave?



Task 1:

At the beginning of *Orphans of the Tide*, the City is steeped in fear and suspicion as to who the Vessel and Enemy may be. Read over the key extract below in which Ellie has freed Seth from the whale, then answer the questions.

‘How did you –?’ Ellie stammered. ‘What were you –? Why were you in that whale?’ But the boy wasn’t listening. He turned and looked at the hole in the whale, seemingly unaffected by the smell. He noticed the crowd watching him in silent horror. He shivered, and Ellie remembered how cold his skin had felt.

A faded blue greatcoat landed at her feet with a thump. The young guardsman was standing ten feet away. He was deliberately not looking at the blood-covered boy, his hand held firmly over his mouth.

‘Thanks,’ said Ellie. She approached the boy and he tensed, clenching his fists. She took another small step, holding out the coat. He was skinny, yet muscular-looking, and his body heaved with every breath he drew. Ellie stepped cautiously to his side and draped the coat round his shoulders.

‘What’s your name?’ she asked.

Extract Discussion Questions:

1. How does the writer show Ellie’s confusion at the beginning of the extract? Give examples.
2. How do the crowd and the young guardsman treat Seth? What do you think they are thinking and feeling at this point?
3. What words are used to describe Seth in the extract? What is your first impression of him? Explain your ideas.
4. How does Ellie behave differently compared to the others at the scene? What does this reveal about her character?
5. Why do you think Ellie steps ‘cautiously’ towards him? What might she be afraid of?

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Task 2:

Throughout the series, a number of diary entries are included from characters such as Claude Hestermeyer, Leila, and Hannah Lancaster. Why has the writer structured the books in this way? What do we learn about characters from their diaries?

Using the extract from Task 1, write a diary entry from Ellie's point of view in which she reflects on the day's events.

You might like to include:

- Her shock and surprise at freeing a boy from a whale
- Her first impressions of Seth
- Why she acted so quickly to help him
- Any fears she might have for Seth and his safety

From the diary of Ellie Lancaster

SPOILER ALERT!

Save this task for when you have finished reading the story to avoid any spoilers!

Task 3:

Orphans of the Tide includes a number of plot twists through the series. This is when a story takes an unexpected turn and is a great way of keeping readers on the edge of their seat! For each of the plot twists in the table below, note down:

- what we find out about the character(s)?
- why is this an unexpected turn in the story?

Quote	What do we find out about the character(s)?	Why is this an unexpected turn in the story?
I knew the signs better than anyone – before this fateful day, my research had focused on studying the history of the Enemy. I sipped some whisky, and stared at the man who'd once been my best friend. It means I'm the Vessel. Page 48	Claude:	
	Peter:	
'You're a god!' Anna whispered excitedly. 'No,' said Seth, glaring at Anna. 'I'm not.' 'But it's the only explanation that makes sense,' Ellie said softly. 'The Enemy wasn't the only god to survive the Drowning.' Page 162	Seth:	
Ellie closed her eyes, not wanting to see the look on his face when she told him ... 'No, Seth. Finn is the Enemy. I'm the Vessel.' Page 192	Ellie:	
	Finn:	

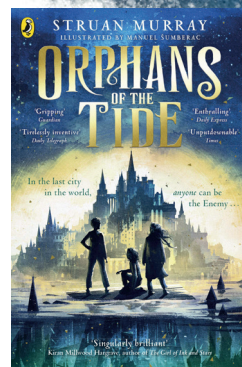


Lesson 3: Ellie and her inventions

Lead-in questions:

Can you name any
inventors and their
inventions?

Which everyday objects
and inventions do you
take for granted?



Task 1:

On page 49 of *Orphans of the Tide*, Ellie's mother is described as 'a genius, transforming the City with her inventions'. When she dies, Ellie carries on her amazing work.

Read over the inventions developed and maintained by Ellie and her mother and think about why each invention is useful.

Hold a class vote as to which invention you think is most valuable to the City and why? Which would be the most fun invention to use?

MACHINES TO
CATCH WHALES

SPECIAL GLASSES FOR
SEEING UNDERWATER

AN OBJECT TO
GATHER OYSTERS

A SEAWATER
FILTERING SYSTEM

A ROCKET POWERED
BY GUNPOWDER

A SPRINKLER
SYSTEM

A MECHANICAL LEG AND
FOOT FOR CASTION

Task 2:

Look back over the description of your city in Lesson 1. Think of some problems your city and its people might face. For instance, if your city is set in the desert, perhaps it is difficult to travel across sand? Make a list of these problems.

Problem 1:

Problem 2:

Problem 3:

Problem 4:

Problem 5:

Choose one of the problems from your list and come up with an invention to solve this problem. Design and label your invention explaining what it does and how it will improve life in your own fantasy city.

MY INVENTION

What is it?

What does it do?

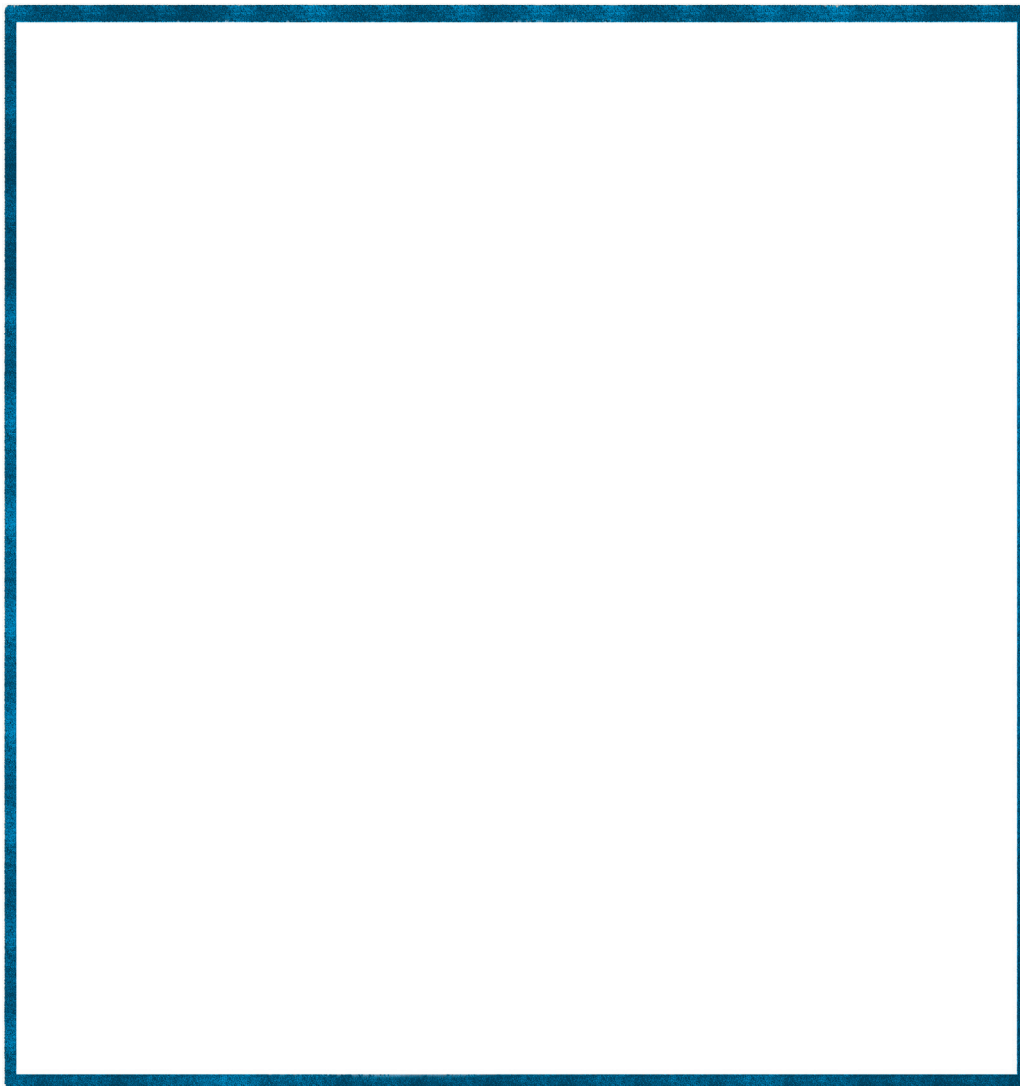
What problem does it solve in your city?

Extension: Can you write a one-minute pitch explaining what your invention is, persuading the city councillors to pay you a small wage to develop it. Perform your pitch to the rest of the class if you are happy to!



Task 3:

Use the work you have done in this pack so far and your knowledge of the series to create a character profile and sketch of Ellie.



Ellie's skills and qualities:

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Ellie's family history:

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Ellie's best friend(s):

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Lesson 4: Further activities

Lead-in questions:

Which themes from Lesson 1 have you explored so far?

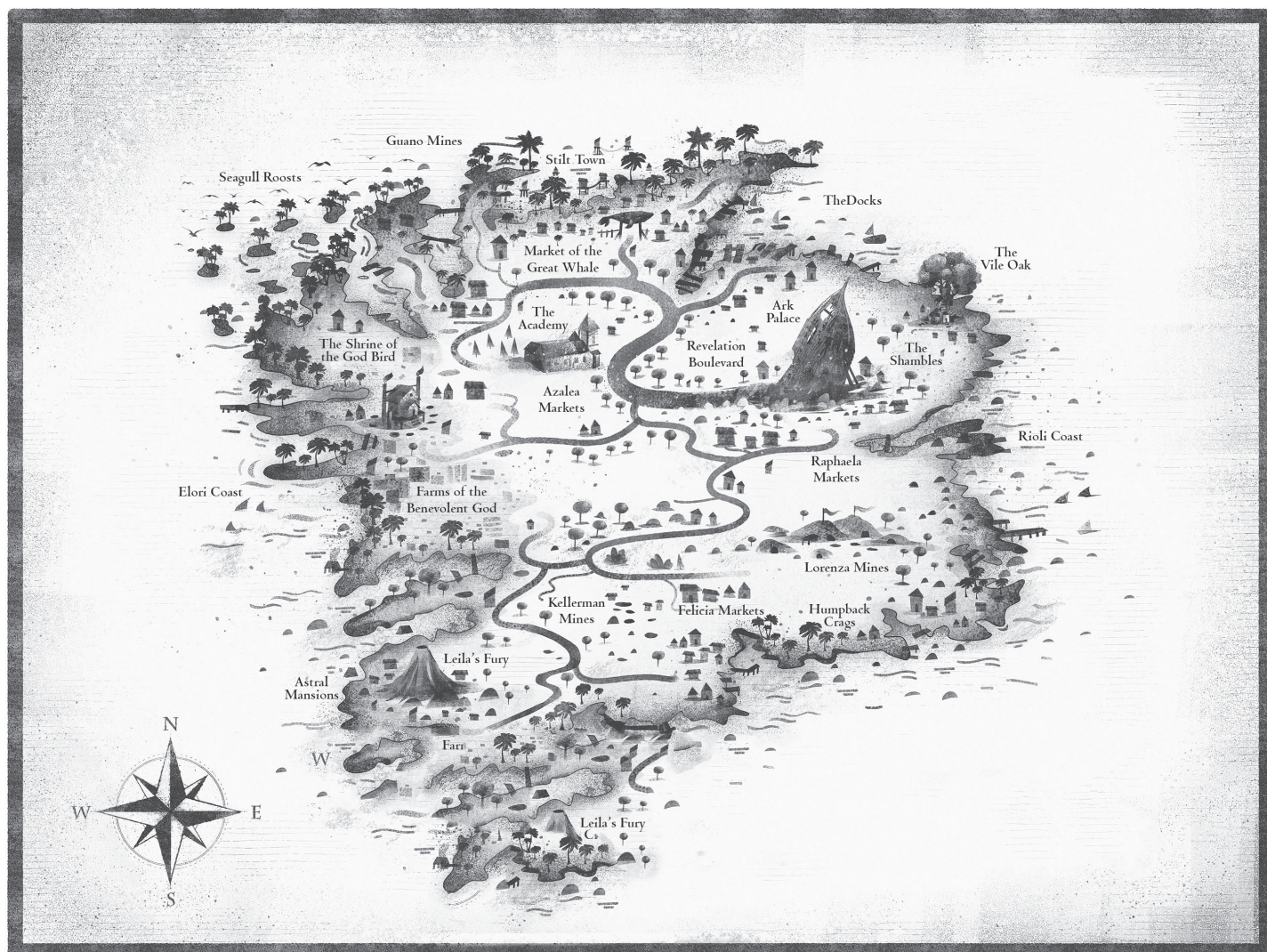
Can you make any final predictions about the last two books and their themes?



Task 1:

In Book 2, we are introduced to another amazing setting, as Ellie and Seth evade the Inquisition by escaping to the mysterious *Shipwreck Island*. This is a place in which the inhabitants worship 'the God of life' who they hope will save them from 'the God of death.'

Look over the map below; how do illustrations help bring the story to life? Which places can you spot on the map? What adventures do you think the characters might have there?



Taking inspiration from the series, sketch a map of your city from previous lessons. You could sketch the whole island that it is a part of, or just the city itself. Be sure to include lots of interesting places for adventures to take place! Label your map and put it on display.



Task 2:

In *Eternity Engine*, Ellie requires all her strength and the help of her orphan friends in the ultimate fight between good and evil!

Read over the extract below of Ellie confronting the Enemy and answer the discussion questions:

And then, Ellie let all her memories fill her up. Good memories and bad: everything that had ever happened to her, everything that had made her what she was. She heard the screams from the City around her, and felt their pain too. She saw the faces of the people in the crowd, saw them shield their eyes as the lines on her skin blazed. But it didn't matter. The lines could burn as bright as the sun. Ellie would not break.

'These bad things all happened,' Ellie whispered, thinking of her mum, her brother, of Seth and Kate and Anna. 'They will always have happened, and they will always hurt. But they are part of who I am. I am Ellie Lancaster, and the world is a better place with me in it.'

Extract Discussion Questions:

1. What does Ellie allow her memories to do?
2. What does Ellie hear, feel, and see when she does this?
3. What does the line 'Ellie would not break' mean and reveal about her character?
4. How does the Enemy try to feed off the 'bad things' that have happened? Give examples from the books.
5. What will Ellie's memories always be 'a part of'? Why is this a powerful moment in the series?

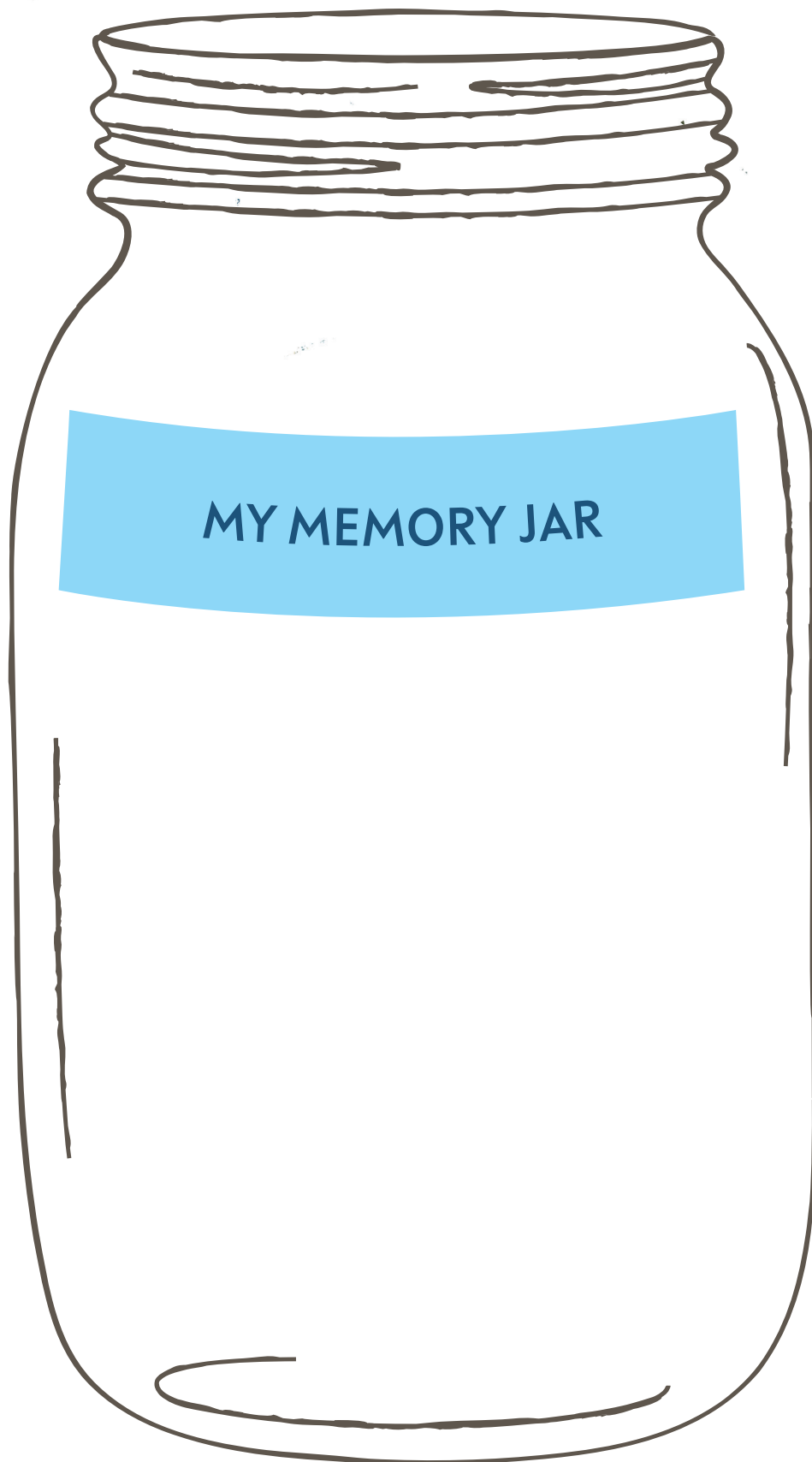


Task 3:

Spend a few minutes discussing the power of memories in the *Orphans of the Tide* series. What memories do you have? How do your memories form who you are?

Create two Memory Jars. In the first, note down any memories that Ellie might be thinking of in the extract; in the second, note down any memories that you might include in your own Memory Jar.





Final Task:

Congratulations! You have been asked to come up with the fourth book in the *Orphans of the Tide* series! Spend a few minutes planning the danger and excitement that lies ahead for the characters in the amazing new worlds they could explore.

Come up with a title, book cover, as well as a brief blurb that describes what the book is about. Make sure you grab your reader's eye and attention!

TITLE: Orphans of the Tide:

BLURB:

