

The rock was split perfectly in two - like it had been sliced with a knife, or sword. Maybe a legendary King had drawn a stone from here, just like King Arthur. The temptation to climb on it was too great, I wanted to stand on the top like a conquering hero.

Loose stones crunched under my feet as I raced my brother. I wanted to be first. Leaping like a mountain goat, I scrambled up the shiny surface. Then I slipped. My foot wedged deep in the gap.

**My brother screamed. The gap was closing, the stone was alive!**



1. Who was King Arthur? Why might he be important to this story?
2. How old do you think that the characters are? Why makes you think this?
3. Why do you think the storyteller wants to be the first to the top of the rock?
4. Which words, or phrases, show us that the storyteller wants to be first to the top?
5. If you could ask the storyteller a question, what would it be? What do you think the answer would be?

A Starter for 10

### Be a detective.



What evidence is there that King Arthur was not a myth?

King Arthur had a legendary sword called Excalibur. What other legendary swords are there?

A Kenning is an Anglo-Saxon poem used to describe objects (body – bone house, ship – wave floater. Can you create your own?

What are the strongest materials on Earth? Would they be able to slice this rock open?

Create a design for a legendary / magical weapon. What makes it special?