

# Predicting - 2

Read the diary entries.

## My diary Alex Stuart, age 11

### Sunday 4 January

We arrived during the hottest part of the day and the flies couldn't get enough of our sweaty skin! Uncle Joe's farm looked just how I imagined an Australian farm in the summertime to look—lots of sheds; big machinery; rusty, forgotten trucks; and dry, brown fields in every direction!

### Wednesday 7 January

Today we drove around the farm checking sheep. It was just Joe, Dad and me, so I was allowed to sit in the back of the 'ute' with Rex, the sheepdog, instead of sitting inside the vehicle. We moved a flock of sheep closer to a dam so they could have a drink. One sheep was lagging behind. Joe bellowed instructions at Rex, who chased the sheep and pinned it down so we could check it.

### Friday 9 January

Today was cool! I rode on the four-wheeler motorbike with Dad. Joe was on the two-wheeler with Rex on the back. We rode along the fence line and put some yabby nets out in a dam. While we were there, Joe gave me a string with some meat on the end and I caught three yabbies with it! (One had the most enormous claw!)



### Saturday 10 January

This afternoon we collected the yabbies from the nets and scored three buckets' worth! I watched Aunty Sue and Mum cook them, then I peeled them for our tea. Delicious! On the drive back from the dam, six big kangaroos were bounding alongside us! I've never been so close to a roo before. It was awesome!

### Tuesday 13 January

The shearers came today and they worked like machines! I helped the other 'rouseabouts' pick up wool from the floor and when Mum and Aunty Sue finally brought lunch, I felt like I could eat a horse! At the end of the day, Uncle Joe said I deserved to be paid for my hard work and gave me \$50!

### Friday 16 January

I helped Dad and Uncle Joe build a 'chook shed' today. We used a big machine to dig the holes and then we cemented in the posts. (Mum stood and watched the whole time to make sure I didn't get too close to the machine and 'lose a limb'!) Dad and I took the ute to the tip and found an old gate there that fitted perfectly. We pulled the chicken wire around the pen and attached it. Tomorrow, I'm going to build a roost from some old planks of wood I found behind the tractor shed.

I can't believe I only have three more days left on the farm before we fly all the way back home again!

# Predicting

## Try it out



Use the strategies you learnt and practised in *Penguin Island* to make predictions.

- You need to find and underline the information related to each question.
- The answer is not in the text but there is information you can use and think about.
- The writer will suggest, rather than tell what is likely to happen.
- Check all possible answers before making a decision.

### Think!

Read Wednesday 7 January and Friday 16 January to help you answer this question.

1. If Alex's mum had gone with them to check sheep, predict which of these situations would have been most likely.

- (a) Alex and her Mum would have sat in the back of the ute together.
- (b) Mum and Rex the dog would have sat in the back of the ute together.
- (c) Alex and her Mum would have sat in the ute without their seatbelts on.
- (d) Alex and her Mum would have sat in the ute with their seatbelts on.

The best answer is ☐.

2. What do you think is the most likely thing Alex will do on Saturday 17 January?

- (a) Go back to the dam to catch more yabbies.
- (b) Collect planks of wood from behind the tractor shed.
- (c) Help her Mum and Aunty Sue with the cooking.
- (d) Ask to borrow the four wheeler bike to look for more kangaroos.

The best answer is ☐.

3. Now Alex has \$50, do you think she will want to leave the farm to go shopping and spend her money? Give reasons for your answers.

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4. Predict and write what you think Alex will most likely say if her parents ask her to go back to the farm for another holiday.

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5. Imagine Alex had been involved in an accident during her holiday. Use the text to help you predict two likely things that could have gone wrong during her time on the farm.

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