

# WATER WORLD – 1

## Read the fantasy.

Sebastian looked up towards the surface of the water in amazement. It was like no creature he had ever seen before. Forgetting the constant task of finding more food to take back to the dome, he circled it cautiously. He breathed slowly through his gills, the legacy of being born a 'swimmer' whose ancestors had for generations ventured out from the dome to harvest underwater vegetation and the sea creatures on which their community depended.

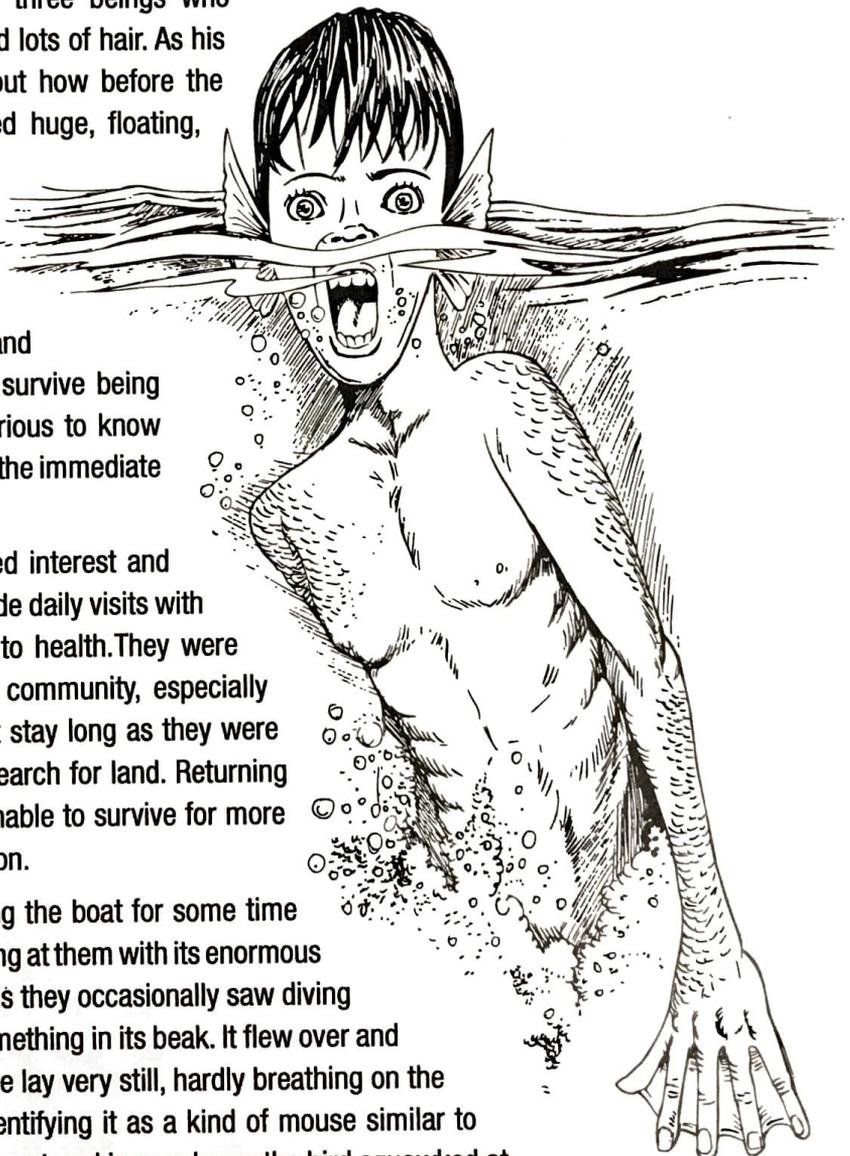
After the land was inundated, his people had moved into a dome they had constructed in preparation for the inevitable disaster, caused by the melting polar ice. He had visited the surface often but it was a bleak, empty world of sky and waves. The beautiful, dry world of the past he had learnt about in old films and books fascinated him and, unlike most of his friends, he believed that it could, after all these years, have risen again from the oceans covering the Earth. He would love to venture further afield in search of land but there were only a few 'swimmers' and the community depended on them.

On closer inspection, he found that the creature, about the size of a small whale, had the strangest skin and didn't acknowledge or respond to him in any way. He pushed himself up above the surface but dived back immediately in confusion. The creature was carrying three beings who looked like people but with darker skin and lots of hair. As his mind raced, he remembered hearing about how before the great flood, some people had constructed huge, floating, supposedly self-sufficient facilities on which whole communities had planned to live.

The beings appeared very weak and he realised that they were in need of water and food. There was no way that they could survive being taken down to the dome and he was curious to know more about them, so he decided to provide the immediate help they needed.

Michael, Melissa and Brad certainly added interest and entertainment to Sebastian's life as he made daily visits with supplies and watched their rapid return to health. They were a constant source of amazement to his community, especially the other 'swimmers', but they would not stay long as they were very anxious to resume their desperate search for land. Returning to their floating community, which was unable to survive for more than a few months, was no longer an option.

A large black bird which had been circling the boat for some time landed on the stern and seemed to be staring at them with its enormous blue eyes; it was unlike any of the seabirds they occasionally saw diving for fish. The bird seemed to be holding something in its beak. It flew over and dropped it at Melissa's feet. A tiny creature lay very still, hardly breathing on the deck. Melissa picked it up by the tail, identifying it as a kind of mouse similar to some she had seen in old story books. They stared in wonder as the bird squawked at them and slowly ever so slowly started to fly towards the west ....



# WATER WORLD - 2

Answer the questions using the fantasy on page 3.

## 1 Literal

(a) Circle 'true' or 'false'.

(i) Sebastian could breathe underwater.

**True** **False**

(ii) Everyone who lived in the dome could breathe underwater.

**True** **False**

(iii) People knew about the flood before it happened.

**True** **False**

(iv) Sebastian was chosen to be a 'swimmer'.

**True** **False**

(v) Melissa, Michael and Brad were floating on a whale.

**True** **False**

(vi) Michael picked up the mouse.

**True** **False**

## 2 Deductive

(a) Why was Sebastian so surprised to meet Melissa, Michael and Brad?

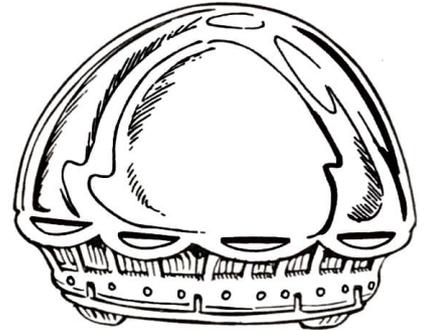
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(b) How did most of the community living in the dome know about the visitors?

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## 3 Evaluative

(a) Where do you think the mouse could have come from? \_\_\_\_\_

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(b) Explain why you think this.

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(c) Why did the black bird look different from the seabirds? \_\_\_\_\_

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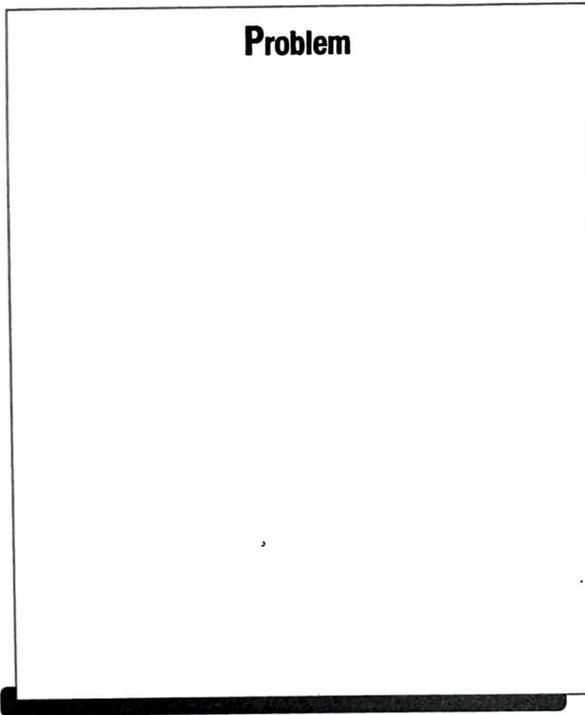
(d) (i) What do you think Melissa, Michael and Brad will do now?

(ii) Will Sebastian go back to stay in the dome? Explain why you think this.

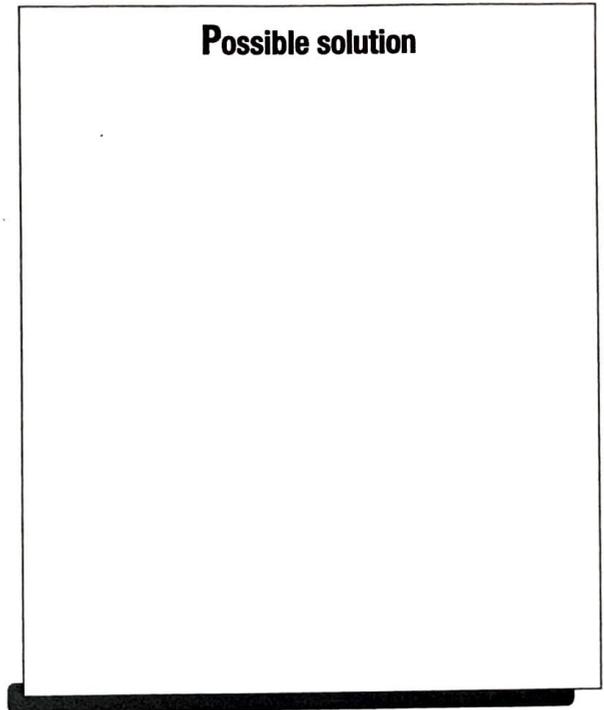
# WATER WORLD – 3

1 If, like Melissa, Michael and Brad's ancestors, you had to plan to live for generations on a huge floating structure, what would be some of the major difficulties you would need to overcome and how could they be managed?

**Problem**

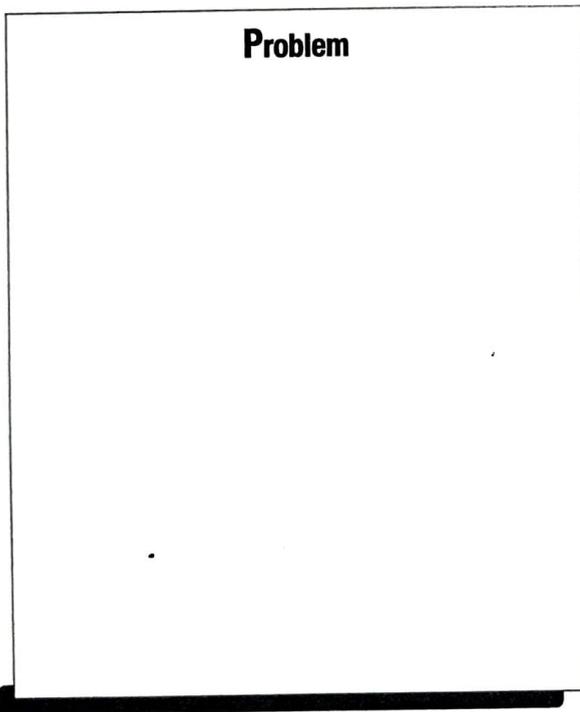


**Possible solution**

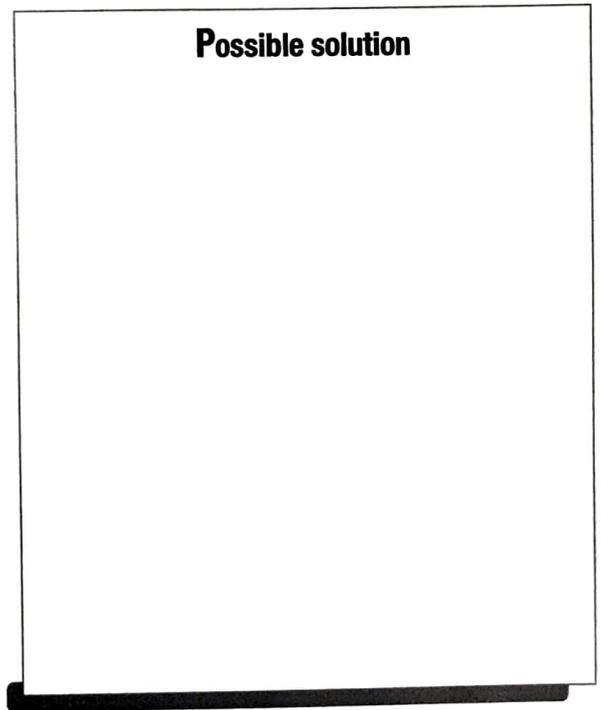


2 Compare the problems confronting Sebastian's ancestors.

**Problem**



**Possible solution**



3 Which of the two solutions for surviving a flood do you prefer? \_\_\_\_\_

Explain why you think this. ....  
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