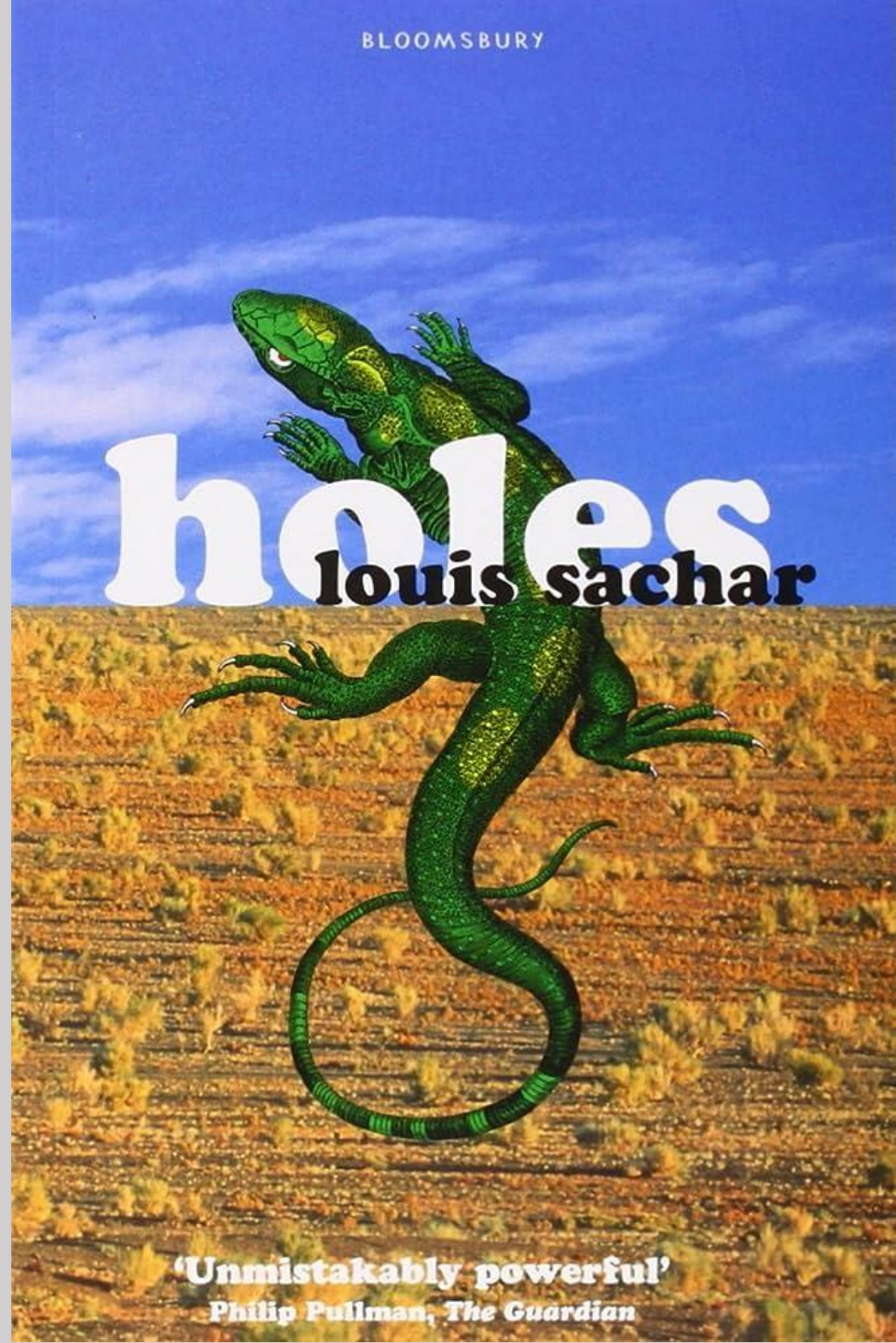
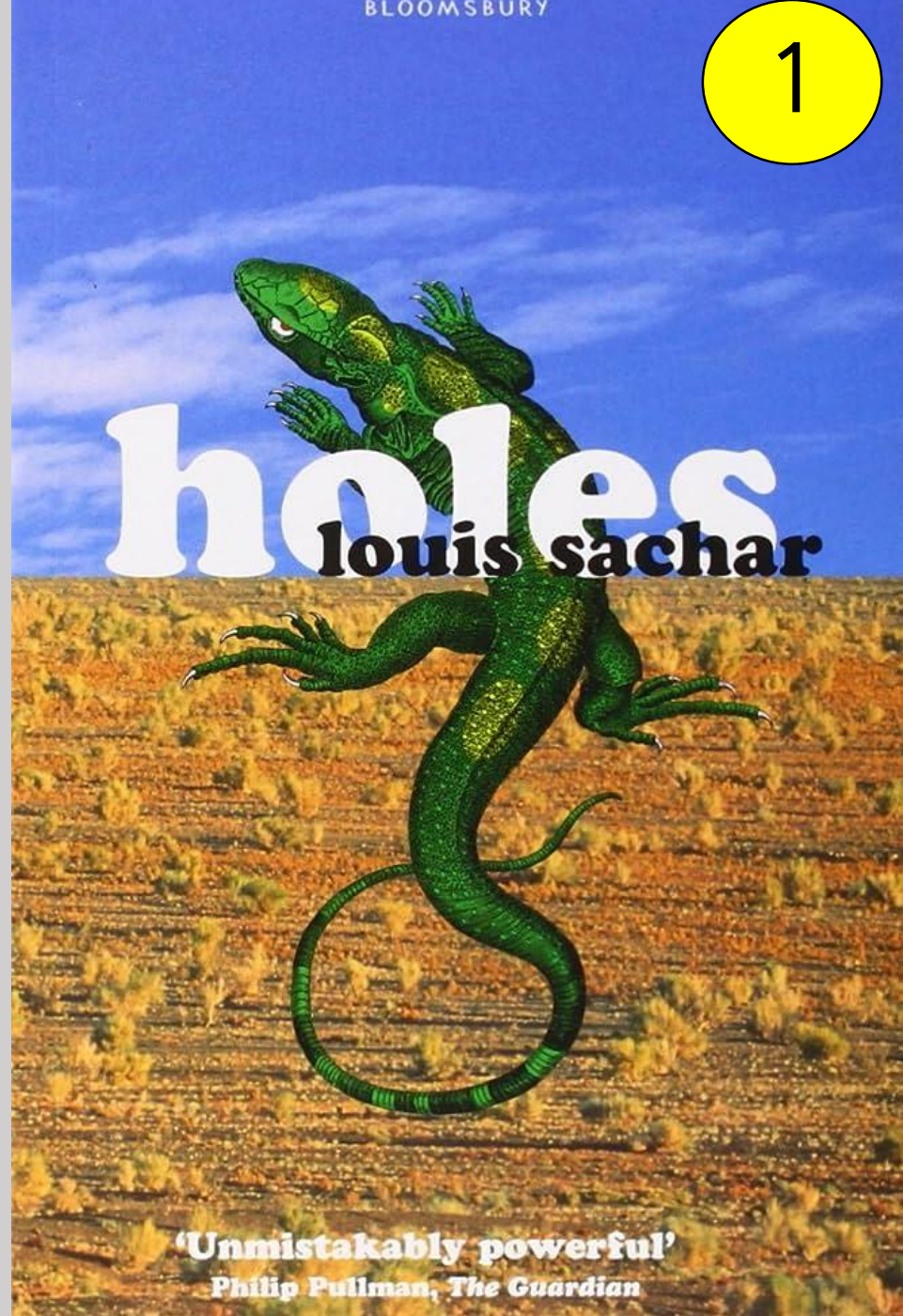


Holes
by
Louis Sachar



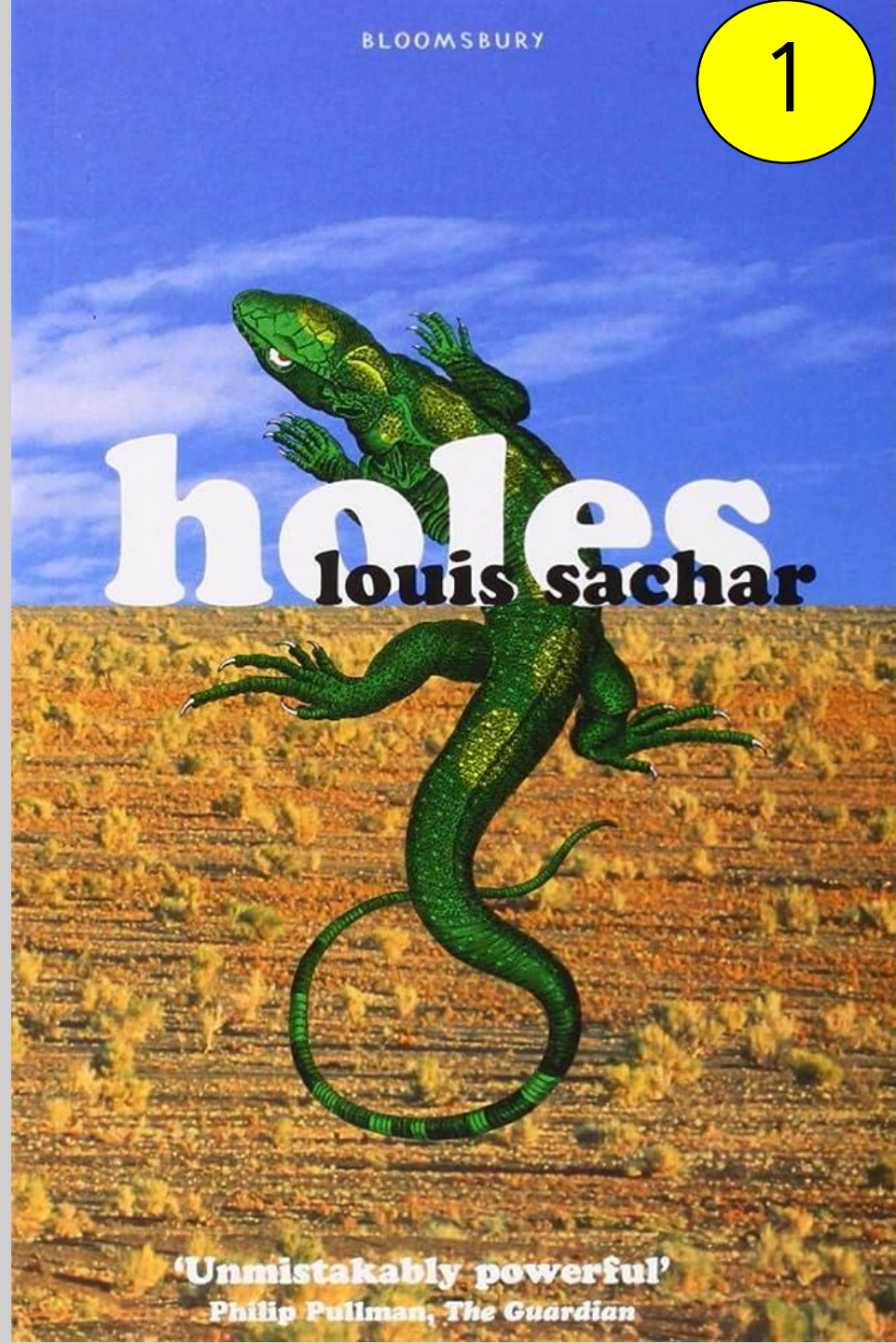
LESSON ONE

Holes by Louis Sachar

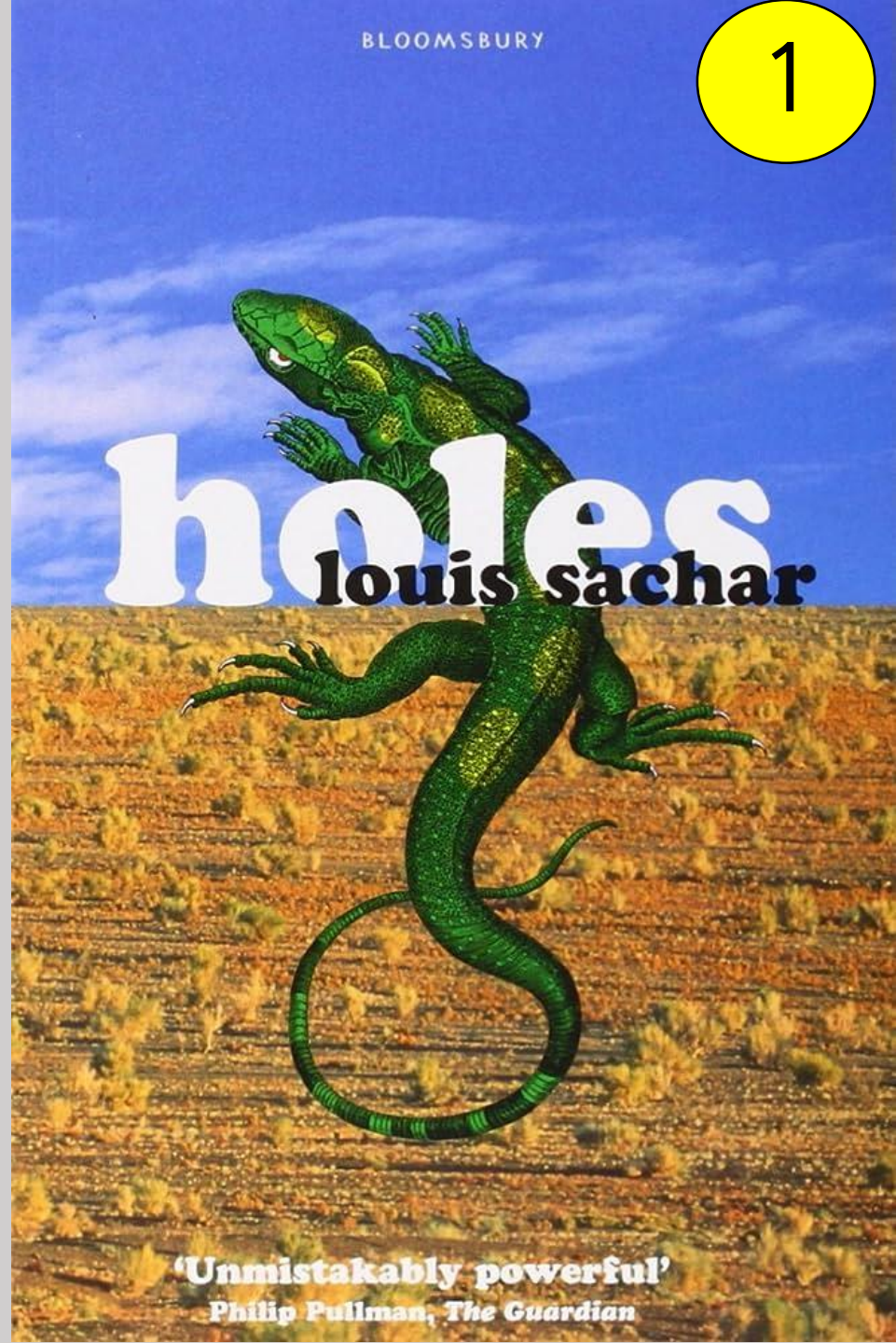


- What do you think the book will be about?
- What role might the lizard have to play in the story?
- How do you think holes are included in the story? How many ideas can you think of?
- Where might the story be set? Look at the background for clues.




I think that...because...

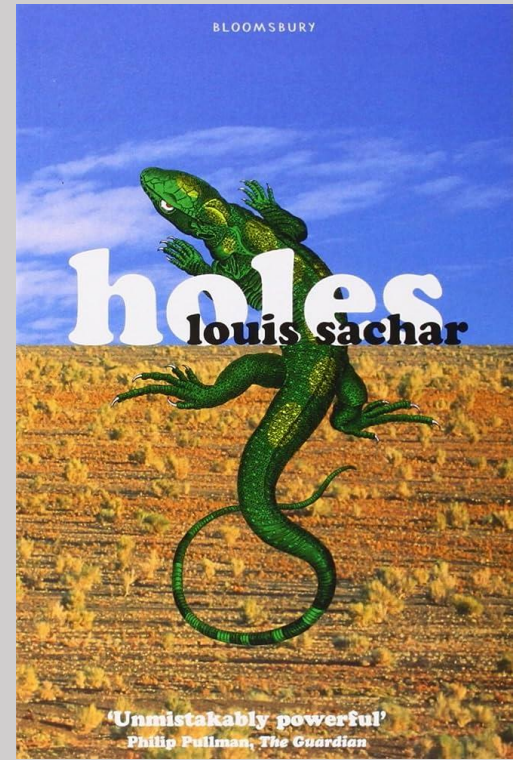


Stanley Yelnats' family has a history of bad luck, so he isn't too surprised when a miscarriage of justice sends him to a boys' juvenile detention centre. At Camp Green Lake the boys must dig a hole a day, five feet deep, five feet across, in the dried up lake bed. The Warden claims the labour is character building, but it is a lie. Stanley must dig up the truth.



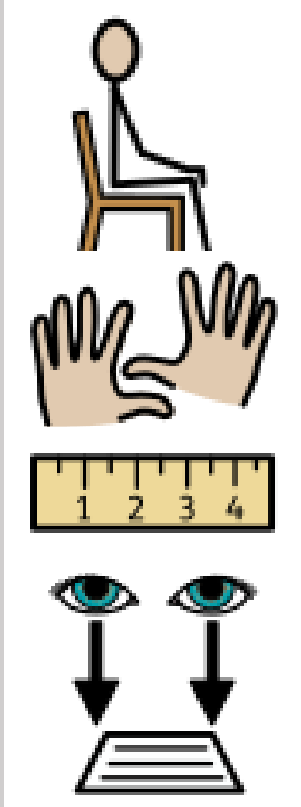
Chapter One

Word	Picture	Definition
Texas		a state in the south of America
warden		someone who has charge or care of something
scorpion		arachnids that look a bit like small lobsters, equipped with a pair of pincers and a tail that curves over their back



Chapter One (Teacher Reading)

1

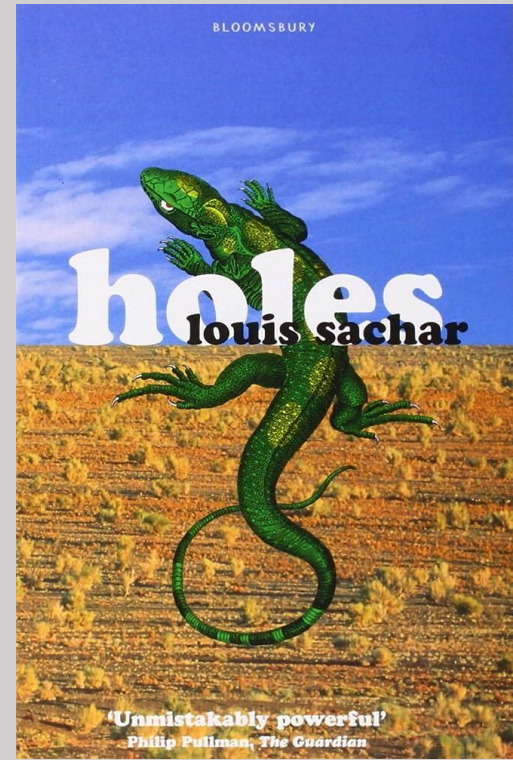


Sit still, with both feet on the floor

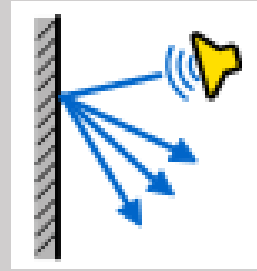
Use both hands to hold your ruler

Follow the text, using your ruler under each new line

Track every word, as you hear it



Chapter Two (Echo Read)



1

The reader is probably asking: Why would anyone go to Camp Green Lake?

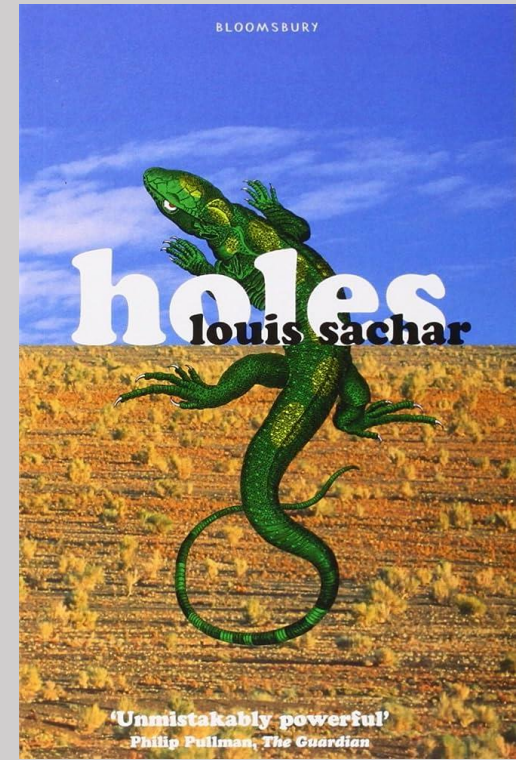
Most campers weren't given a choice. Camp Green Lake is a camp for bad boys.

If you take a bad boy and make him dig a hole every day in the hot sun, it will turn him into a good boy.

That was what some people thought.

Stanley Yelnats was given a choice. The judge said, "You may go to jail, or you may go to Camp Green Lake."

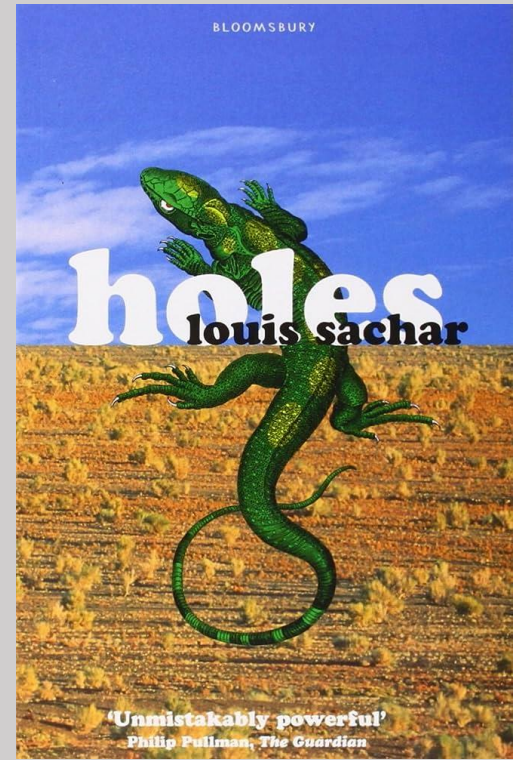
Stanley was from a poor family. He had never been to camp before.



Chapter One and Two

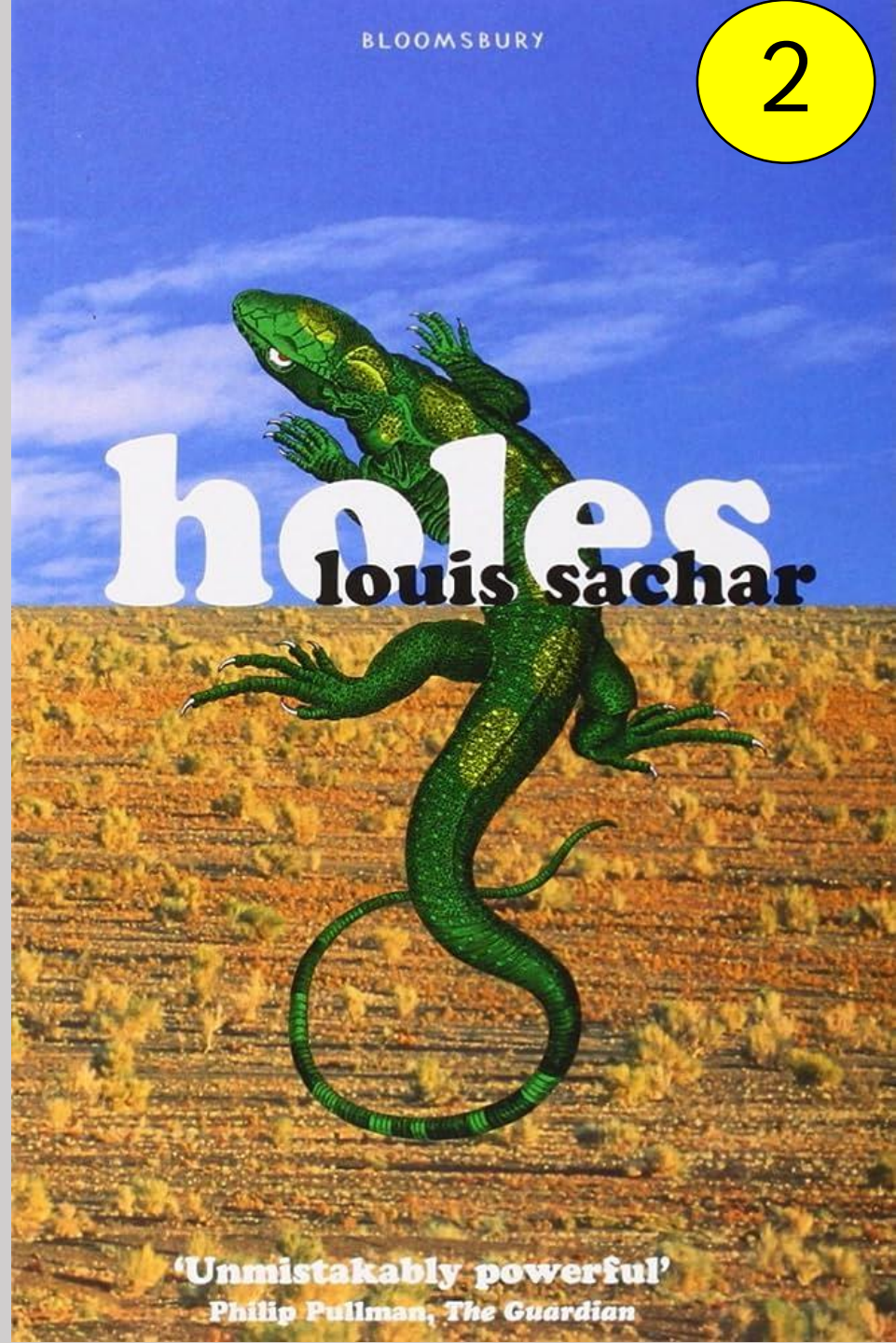
- What does the word 'forbidden' mean?
- What does it mean that 'the Wardens own the shade'?
- What do you think will happen if you get bitten by a yellow-spotted lizard? Why do you think this?
- What impressions do you get of Stanley Yelnats? Explain your answer.

I think that...because...



LESSON TWO

Holes by Louis Sachar







BLOOMSBURY

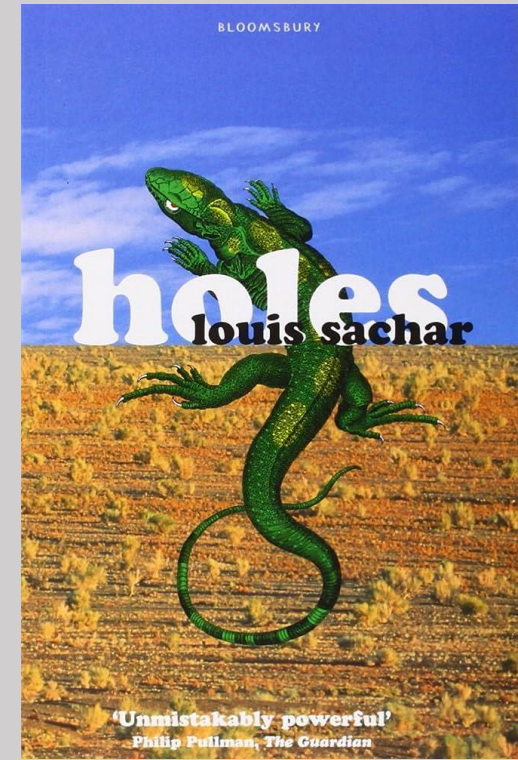
2

holes
louis sachar

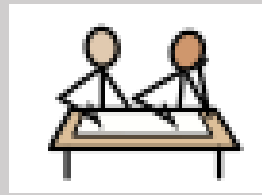
'Unmistakably powerful'
Philip Pullman, *The Guardian*

Chapter Three

Word	Picture	Definition
rifle		a gun, especially one fired from shoulder level
ratio	<p>two to three</p> <p>2 : 3</p> 	the relation between two amounts showing the number of times one value contains or is contained within the other
slumped		having your head low and shoulders forward
convicted		having been declared guilty of a criminal offence



Chapter Three (Paired Read)



2

Stanley Yelnats was the only passenger on the bus, not counting the driver or the guard. The guard sat next to the driver with his seat turned around facing Stanley. A rifle lay across his lap.

Stanley was sitting about ten rows back, handcuffed to his armrest. His backpack lay on the seat next to him. It contained his toothbrush, toothpaste, and a box of stationery his mother had given him. He'd promised to write to her at least once a week.

He looked out the window, although there wasn't much to see—mostly fields of hay and cotton. He was on a long bus ride to nowhere. The bus wasn't air-conditioned, and the hot, heavy air was almost as stifling as the handcuffs.

Stanley and his parents had tried to pretend that he was just going away to camp for a while, just like rich kids do. When Stanley was younger he used to play with stuffed

animals, and pretend the animals were at camp. Camp Fun and Games he called it. Sometimes he'd have them play soccer with a marble. Other times they'd run an obstacle course, or go bungee jumping off a table, tied to broken rubber bands. Now Stanley tried to pretend he was going to Camp Fun and Games. Maybe he'd make some friends, he thought. At least he'd get to swim in the lake.

He didn't have any friends at home. He was overweight and the kids at his middle school often teased him about his size. Even his teachers sometimes made cruel comments without realizing it. On his last day of school, his math teacher, Mrs. Bell, taught ratios. As an example, she chose the heaviest kid in the class and the lightest kid in the class, and had them weigh themselves. Stanley weighed three times as much as the other boy. Mrs. Bell wrote the ratio on the board, 3:1, unaware of how much embarrassment she had caused both of them.

Stanley was arrested later that day.

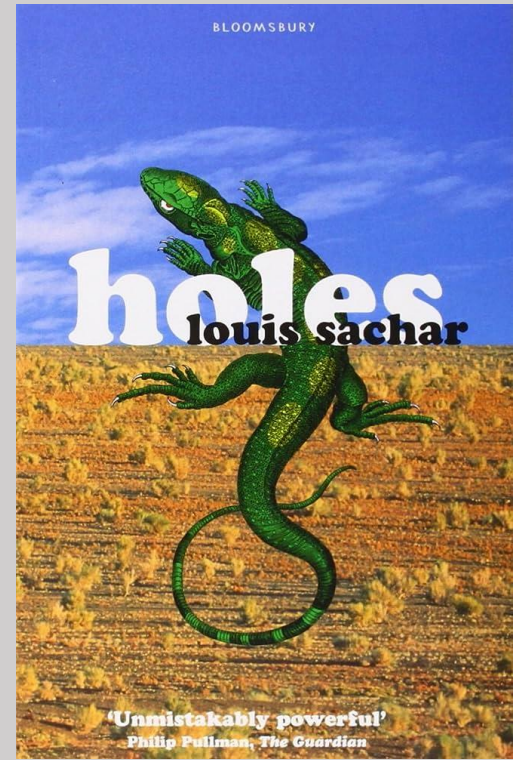
He looked at the guard who sat slumped in his seat and wondered if he had fallen asleep. The guard was wearing sunglasses, so Stanley couldn't see his eyes.

Stanley was not a bad kid. He was innocent of the crime for which he was convicted. He'd just been in the wrong place at the wrong time.

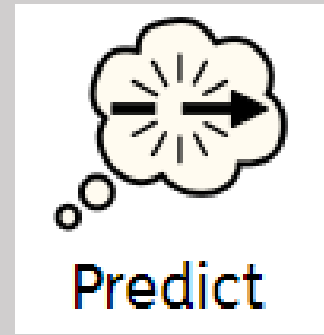
It was all because of his no-good-dirty-rotten-pig-stealing-great-great-grandfather!

He smiled. It was a family joke. Whenever anything went wrong, they always blamed Stanley's no-good-dirty-rotten-pig-stealing-great-great-grandfather.

Pages 6 and 7



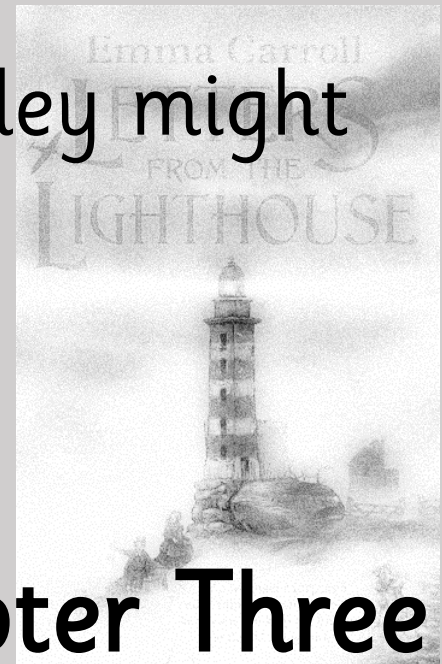
Chapter Three



2

1) Predict why someone might go to Camp Green Lake.

2) Using evidence from the text, predict what Stanley might have done to be sent to Camp Green Lake.

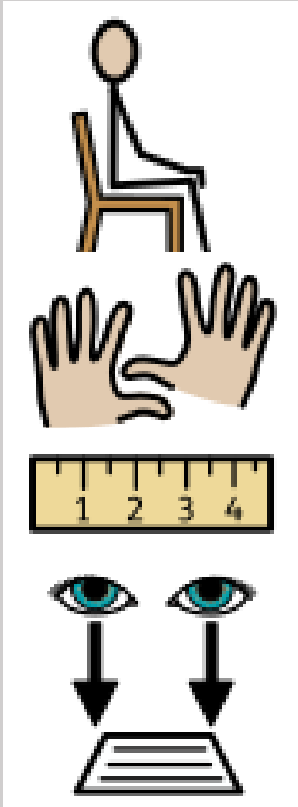


Teacher Read – Finish Chapter Three

Chapter Three (Pages 8 – 10)

2

Teacher Reading

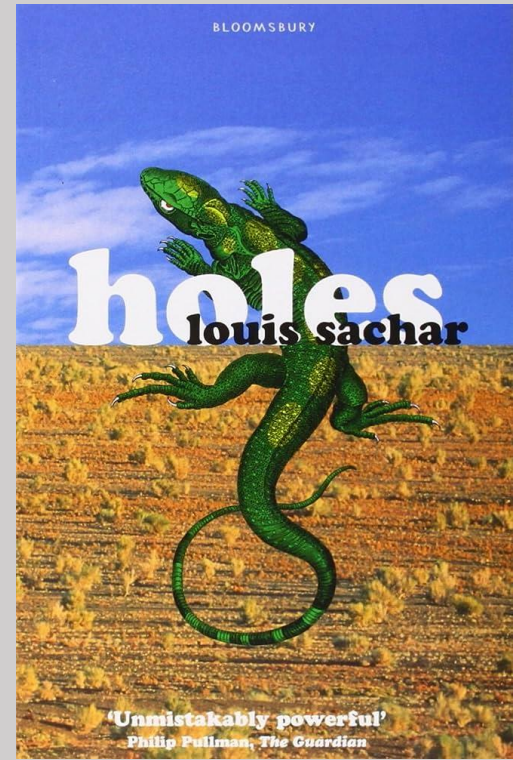


Sit still, with both feet on the floor

Use both hands to hold your ruler

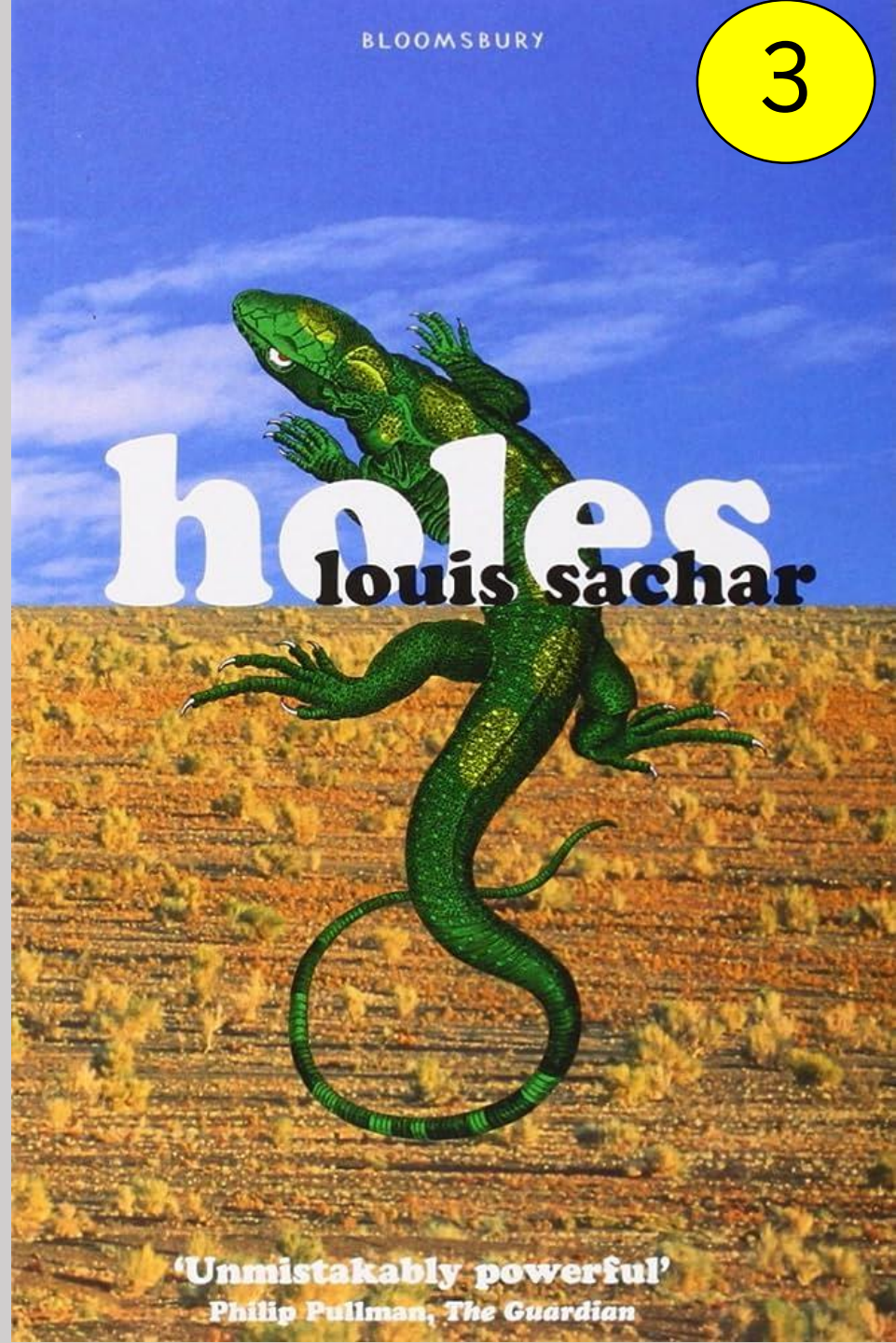
Follow the text, using your ruler under each new line

Track every word, as you hear it



LESSON THREE

Holes by Louis Sachar



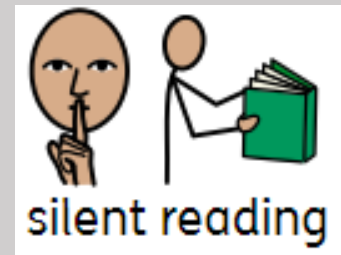
BLOOMSBURY

3

holes
louis sachar

'Unmistakably powerful'
Philip Pullman, *The Guardian*

Re-read Chapter Three (Pages 8 -10)



3

Using evidence from the text, answer this question:

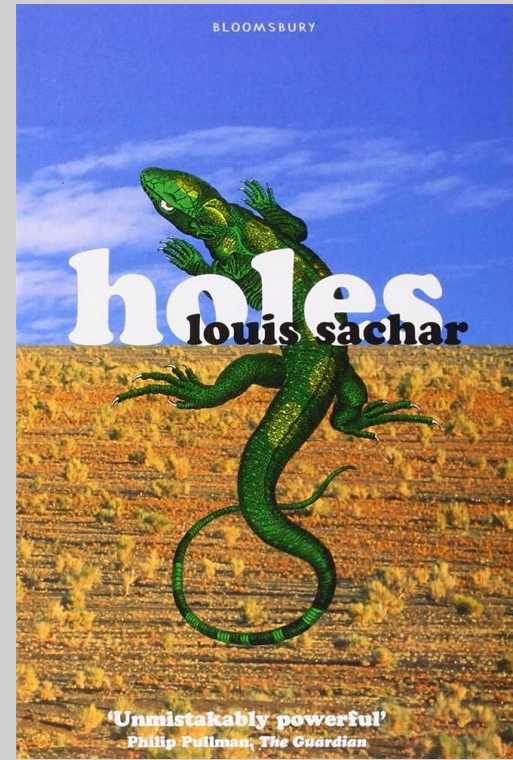
What do you know about Stanley Yelnats?

1)

2)

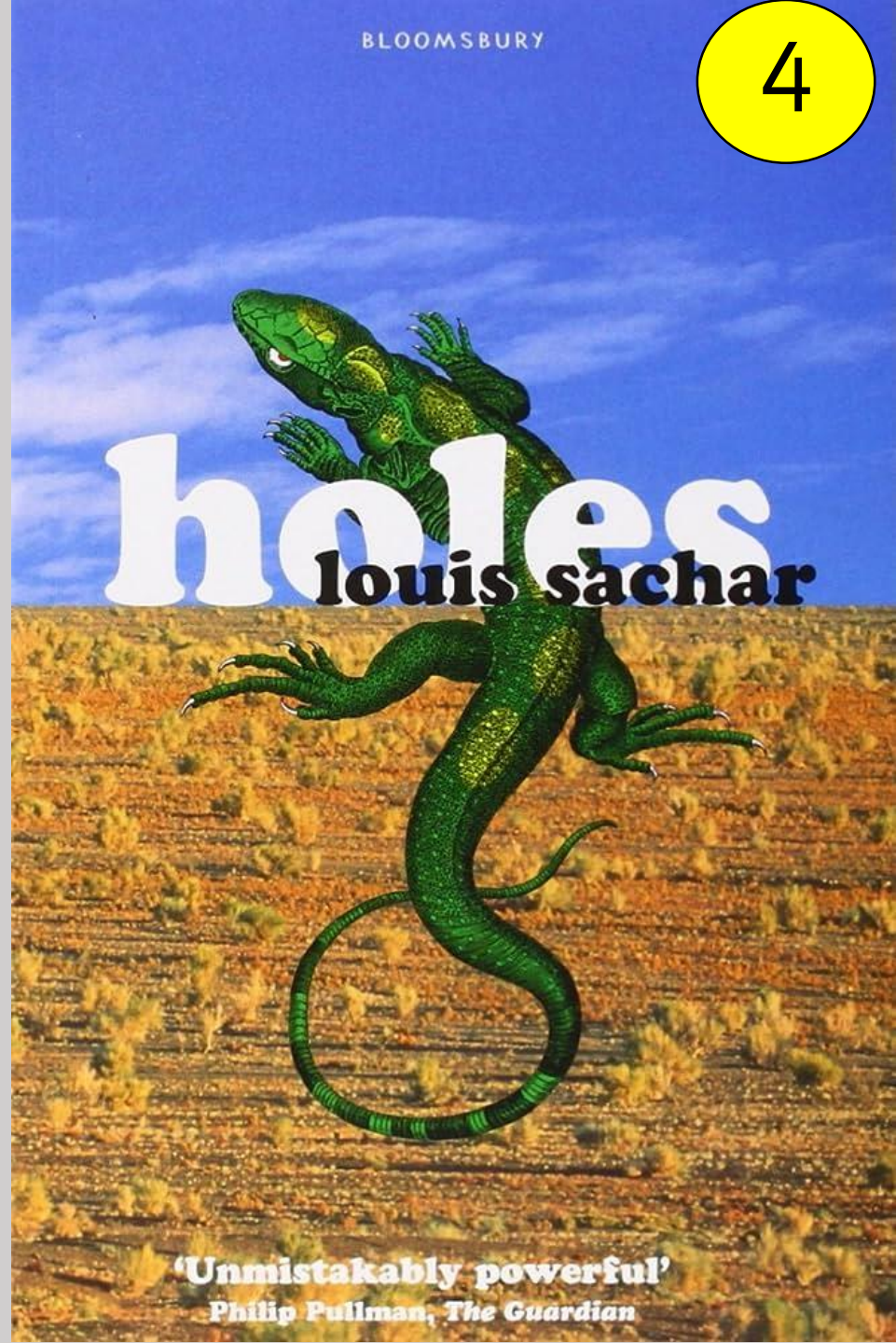
3)

Stanley is... because...



LESSON FOUR

Holes by Louis Sachar







BLOOMSBURY

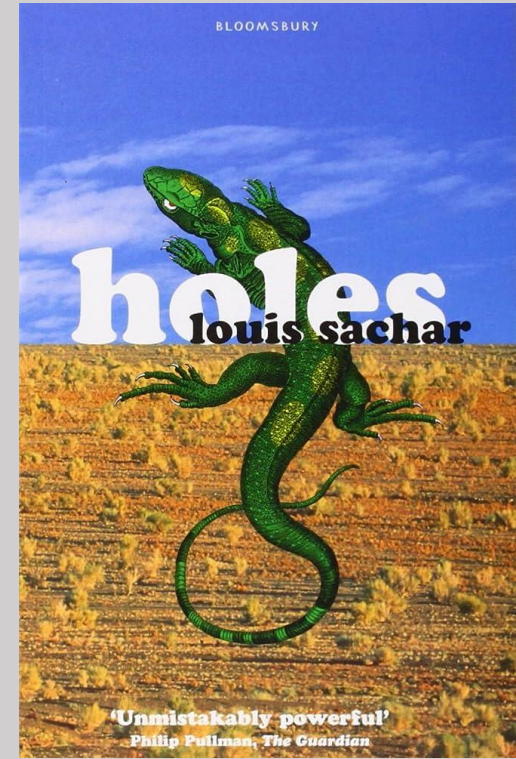
4

holes
louis sachar

'Unmistakably powerful'
Philip Pullman, *The Guardian*

Chapter Four

Word	Picture	Definition
juvenile		young people
burlap		thick, rough fabric that is used for making sacks
violation		A behavior that acts against something like the law
buzzard		A large hawk-like bird of prey



Close Read (Pages 11 - 14)

4

said, YOU ARE ENTERING CAMP GREEN LAKE JUVENILE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY. Next to it was another sign which declared that it was a violation of the Texas Penal Code to bring guns, explosives, weapons, drugs, or alcohol onto the premises.

As Stanley read the sign he couldn't help but think, *Well, duh!*

The guard led Stanley into the building, where he felt the welcome relief of air-conditioning.

A man was sitting with his feet up on a desk. He turned his head when Stanley and the guard entered, but otherwise didn't move. Even though he was inside, he wore sunglasses and a cowboy hat. He also held a can of soda, and the sight of it made Stanley even more aware of his own thirst.

He waited while the bus guard gave the man some papers to sign.

"That's a lot of sunflower seeds," the bus guard said.

Stanley noticed a burlap sack filled with sunflower seeds on the floor next to the desk.

"I quit smoking last month," said the man in the cowboy hat. He had a tattoo of a rattlesnake on his arm, and as he signed his name, the snake's rattle seemed to wiggle. "I used to smoke a pack a day. Now I eat a sack of these every week."

The guard laughed.

There must have been a small refrigerator behind his desk, because the man in the cowboy hat produced two more cans of soda. For a second Stanley hoped that one might be for him, but the man gave one to the guard and said the other was for the driver.

"Nine hours here, and now nine hours back," the guard grumbled. "What a day."

Stanley thought about the long, miserable bus ride and felt a little sorry for the guard and the bus driver.

The man in the cowboy hat spit sunflower seed shells into a wastepaper basket. Then he walked around the desk to Stanley. "My name is Mr. Sir," he said. "Whenever you speak to me you must call me by my name, is that clear?"

Stanley hesitated. "Uh, yes, Mr. Sir," he said, though he couldn't imagine that was really the man's name.

"You're not in the Girl Scouts anymore," Mr. Sir said.

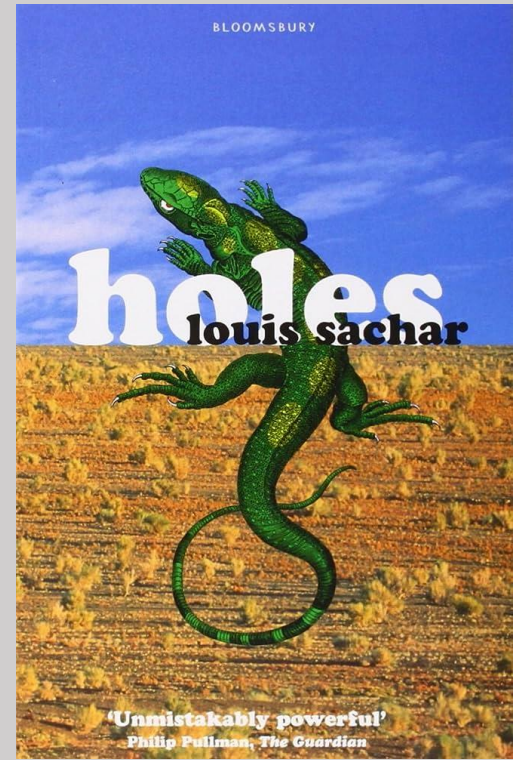
Stanley had to remove his clothes in front of Mr. Sir, who made sure he wasn't hiding anything. He was then given two sets of clothes and a towel. Each set consisted of a long-sleeve orange jumpsuit, an orange T-shirt, and yellow socks. Stanley wasn't sure if the socks had been yellow originally.

He was also given white sneakers, an orange cap, and a canteen made of heavy plastic, which unfortunately was empty. The cap had a piece of cloth sewn on the back of it, for neck protection.

Stanley got dressed. The clothes smelled like soap.

Mr. Sir told him he should wear one set to work in and one set for relaxation. Laundry was done every three days. On that day his work clothes would be washed. Then the other set would become his work clothes, and he would get clean clothes to wear while resting.

"You are to dig one hole each day, including Saturdays and Sundays. Each hole must be five feet deep, and five feet



(My Turn)

According to the text, what was the only plant that grew at Camp Green Lake?

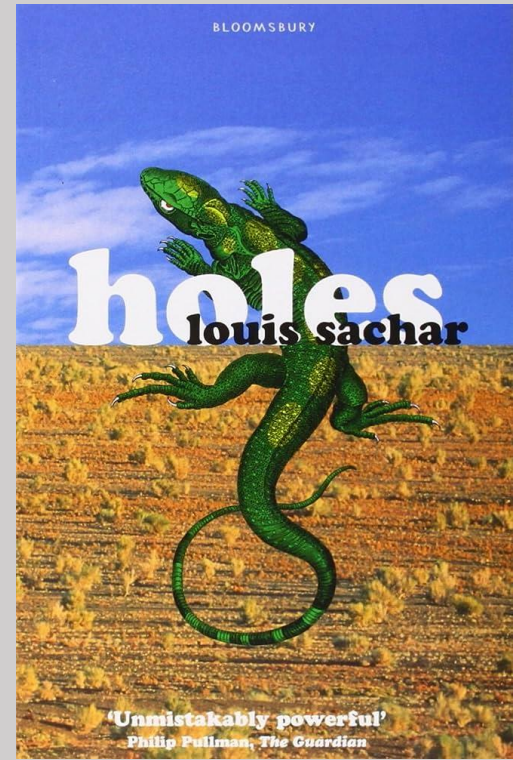
Stanley felt somewhat dazed as the guard unlocked his handcuffs and led him off the bus. He'd been on the bus for over eight hours.

"Be careful," the bus driver said as Stanley walked down the steps.

Stanley wasn't sure if the bus driver meant for him to be careful going down the steps, or if he was telling him to be careful at Camp Green Lake. "Thanks for the ride," he said. His mouth was dry and his throat hurt. He stepped onto the hard, dry dirt. There was a band of sweat around his wrist where the handcuff had been.

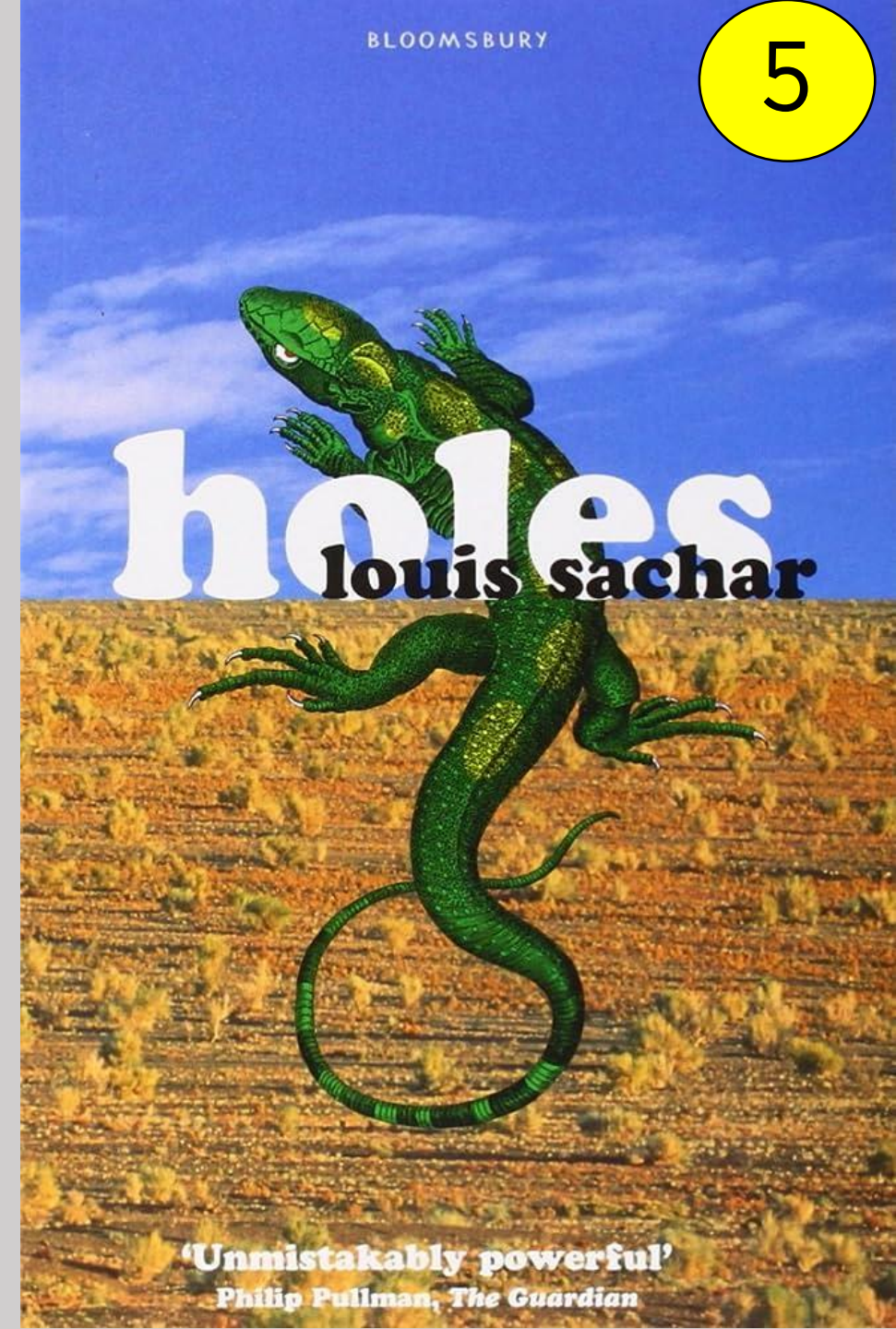
The land was barren and desolate. He could see a few run-down buildings and some tents. Farther away there was a cabin beneath two tall trees. Those two trees were the only plant life he could see. There weren't even weeds.

The guard led Stanley to a small building. A sign on front



LESSON FIVE

Holes by Louis Sachar



BLOOMSBURY

5

holes
louis sachar

'Unmistakably powerful'
Philip Pullman, *The Guardian*

(Your Turn)

5

1. According to the text, how long had Stanley spent on the bus?

1 mark

2. "His mouth was dry and his throat hurt."
Give **two** reasons why Stanley's mouth was dry and throat hurt.

1. _____

2. _____

2 marks

3. Tick one box in each row to show whether each statement is **true** or **false**.

	True	False
The guard produced three cans of soda from the refrigerator	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stanley was given two yellow jumpsuits	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Laundry is done every two days	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr Sir has a gun to stop boys from escaping	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

1 mark

