A newspaper report

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LOCAL PUPIL DISCOVERS BURIED TREASURE!

A pupil at Brownings Primary School has discovered a hoard of gold treasure hidden in the school field. Amelie Phipps, 10, was playing tag at lunchtime with her friends when she spotted something shining on the ground.

'It was sort of hidden under the leaves,' she said. 'I bent down to look closer, and there was a gold coin there. It was extremely dirty. I was really surprised.'

Amelie alerted the teacher on duty, Shahida Bansal, who realised at once that the pupil had found something rather special. 'I put cones around the area and called the children off the field,' Mrs Bansal said. 'Then I rang the county archaeology team. They sent someone out immediately.'

By the afternoon, the school field had turned into an archaeological dig. Before long, more gold was unearthed. 'It was a thrilling moment,' Jack Walker, County Archaeologist, told us. 'I knew straight away that we had something extraordinary on our hands.'

It transpired that the coin Amelie Phipps had found was part of a larger hoard. As well as the gold coins, a number of necklaces and brooches were also discovered. 'It is at least 1300 years old – maybe more. It is certainly of significant historic interest,' Mr Walker stated. 'We are very excited to begin studying it.'







The archaeologist believes that a fox or a badger may have disturbed the hoard while digging, leading to Amelie spotting the coin on the ground. 'Even so, if it hadn't been for Amelie's keen eyes, we might never have found this wonderful hoard,' Mr Walker said. 'Very soon, the falling leaves would have just buried it again.'

The school field will be out of bounds for the children for the next few weeks, while a team of archaeologists search the ground carefully for any further treasure. In the meantime, a neighbouring farmer has offered the school children the use of one of his fields for playtime. 'I don't mind the kids playing on it for a few weeks,' Mr Andy Kew said. 'It's not fair for them to have to spend playtimes in their classrooms. I'm happy to help.' The headteacher of Brownings Primary School, Mrs Karen Coleman, said the teachers and children were very grateful for the farmer's kind offer.

The find will go out for valuation next month, but Mr Walker says it is likely to be worth, 'In the tens of thousands of pounds.' According to the Treasure Act 1996, any reward for finding the treasure should be shared equally between the finder and the owner of the land. In this case, the money will be split between Miss Amelie Phipps and her school.

I'm not sure what I will do with the money yet,' Miss Phipps explained. 'I will probably save a lot of it for when I'm older. But I'm definitely going to buy a metal detector straight away – so that I can go out and hunt for more treasure!'

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Comprehension questions

Name: ..... Date: .....

1. Look at the paragraph which begins: *'By the afternoon, the school field ...'*

   Find and copy a word which means **discovered.**

   .....

2. Aside from the gold coins, what else was in the hoard? Name **two** different items.

   1. .....
   2. .....

3. What season was it when Amelie found the first coin? Explain how you know.

   .....

   .....

   .....

4. Jack Walker is an **archaeologist**. Tick the definition that you think best describes this word:

   - ☐ **Someone who studies rocks and earth.**
   - ☐ **Someone who studies human history by examining ancient sites and objects.**
   - ☐ **Someone who works with schools to make sure they are safe for children.**
   - ☐ **Someone who shoots with a bow and arrow.**

5. *'It transpired that the coin Amelie Phipps had found was part of a larger hoard.'*

   Which of the following is closest in meaning to **transpired**?

   ☐ Told ☐ Tricked ☐ Transformed ☐ Turned out

6. How does Jack Walker think that the first gold coin got dug up?

.....

7. Why are the school children not allowed on the field for the next few weeks?

.....

8. Using information from the text, tick one box in each row to show whether each statement is **true** or **false.**

	True	False
The hoard included coins and jewellery.		
Mrs Bansal rang the police when she realised there was treasure on the school field.		
Amelie will receive all the reward money for the treasure find.		
The children will be able to play in the farmer's field until the archaeologists have finished their work in the school field.		

9. Why will the reward money be split between Amelie and her school?

.....

10. What is Amelie going to do with her reward money? Name **one** thing.

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