

**V – Vocabulary.**

**I – Inference.**

**P – Prediction.**

**E – Explanation.**

**R – Retrieval**

**S – Summarise/ Sequence.**

**Summary:**

Journey to the River Sea is a tale that tells the story of Maia – a young orphan. In a twist of fate, relatives of Maia are found... in the Amazon. Full of hope and excitement, Maia heads to the Amazon with her governess – Miss Minton. When she arrives though, she finds the Amazon (and her long-lost relatives) are not as they seem.

**Author info:**

Eva Ibbotson was an Austrian-born novelist, known for her children's books. For 'Journey to the River Sea' she won the Smarties Prize in category 9–11 years and made the Carnegie, Whitbread, and Blue Peter shortlists. Her books are imaginative and humorous, and most of them feature magical creatures and places.

**Example VIPER questions/ sequence:**

Predict what you think is going to happen in this chapter.

What do these words mean? Can you think of a synonym for the word veranda?

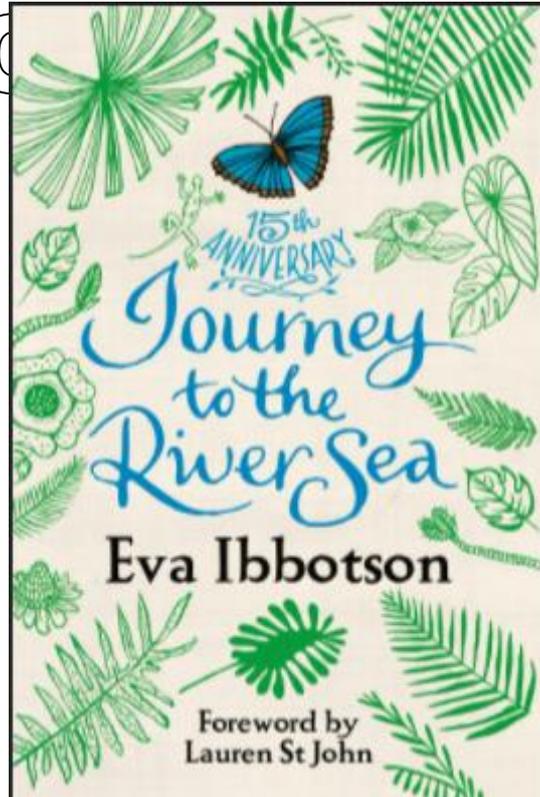
According to the text, what does Maia think about the Amazon?

Order the events of this chapter.

Which words suggest that Miss Minton isn't happy?

Explain why the author has used this word. What is the impact on the reader?

What has happened in this chapter?



**Main Characters:**

- Maia
- Miss Minton
- Beatrice & Gwendolyn
- The Carters
- Clovis
- Mr Trapwood & Mr Low



**Key themes/ messages:**

- Exploration
- Friendship
- Bravery
- Adventure

**Books by the same author:**

- Which Witch?
- The Secret of Platform 13,
- Dial-a-Ghost
- Monster Mission,
- The Star of Kazan,
- The Beasts of Clawstone Castle,
- The Dragonfly Pool.

**More reading time activities:**

- Pobble 365 on the Amazon.
- Non-fiction text on the Amazon.
- Monster cloze to focus on grammar.
- Fluency.

**Key words:**

Prosper/ splendid/ Civilised/ hostile/ burrow/ governess/ heroine/ distress/ tattered/ perch/ gaunt/ haughtily/ knickerbocker/ tremble/ lurch/ juvenile/ beastly/ simper/ matinee/ trek/ veranda/ quell/ impertinent/ slender/ embroidered/ mongrel

**Main moments:**

- Leaving the safety and comfort of her Boarding School to travel to the Amazon.
- Meeting her friend Clovis.
- Meeting the Carters.
- Miss Minton's disappearance.