

# Read for Pleasure

## The Book With No Pictures

By BJ Novak

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B.J. Novak



### **WARNING!**

**This book looks serious but it is actually completely ridiculous!**

**If a kid is trying to make you read this book, the kid is playing a trick on you.**

**You will end up saying silly things and making everybody laugh and laugh.**

**Don't say I didn't warn you...**

### **Title Talk**

*The title of this story is: The Book With No Pictures.*

- What kind of a book do you think this will be: serious or funny?
- Why do you think this?
- Do you think this book will be for adults or children?
- Why do you think this?
- If this book does indeed have no pictures, how could it possibly make you laugh?

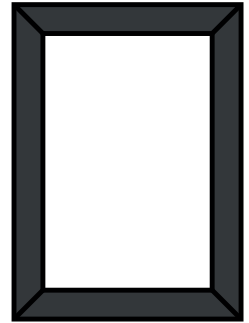
## **Cover Chat**

Now look at the cover of this picture book.

- Are there any pictures on this cover?
- Does the fact that it is a plain white cover with plain black text reinforce your ideas about what kind of book this will be? Discuss.

## **Page 2-12**

- Why might a book with no pictures seem like no fun?
- Why might it seem BORING and SERIOUS?
- How does this book work?
- Why might this be funny?



## **Page 13**

- What is the first nonsense word you have to say? Say it out loud.
- Does this word mean anything?

## **Page 14**

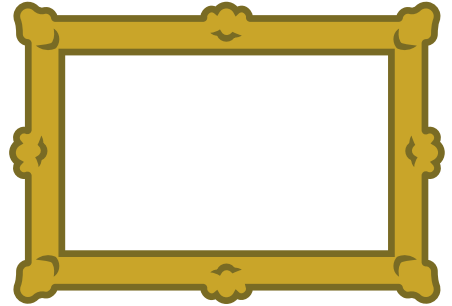
- What is the second nonsense word you have to say? Say it out loud.
- Is the reader shocked at having to say these words out loud?
- How do you know?

## **Page 15-18**

- What words do you have to say next?
- What animal do you need to act like when you read these words out loud?
- Which words do you need to stress on page 16? How do you know?
- How do you think you would say the words of the reader's inner voice?
- How would you say the words ROBOT MONKEY?
- Why do you think the word WHAT is also written in capital letters?
- What does this tell us about how the reader is really feeling?

### **Page 19-20**

- What is the reader's head made from?
- Why do you think the reader says 'wait a second...'??
- How should you read these words? Say them out loud.
- What two questions does the reader now ask?
- How does the book itself answer?!



### **Page 21-24**

- What is it now time to do now?
- Does the reader really want to sing a song?
- How would you say his words? How do they show how he is feeling?
- What song do you have to sing? Sing it?
- Why do you think the word WHAT is written in capital letters?

### **Page 26**

- What word does the reader call this book?
- How do you think they would say this word? Act it out.
- Why do you think the reader wants to stop reading?
- Why is the word No written so big and is followed by two question marks and an exclamation mark?
- Which word on this page is written in capital letters? Why might this be?

### **Page 28**

- Who is the only friend in the whole wide world?
- Why is this such a funny name?
- How might you pronounce this name? Act it out.



### **Page 29-34**

- How does the book describe the kid this book is being read to?
- Does that kid believe this to be true?
- How else is this kid described as on page 31? Why might this be?

### **Page 36**

- What does the reader say next?
- What voice would you use for these words? Why?
- Why do you think these words are written so small?
- What do you think will be written on the following two pages?
- Will this make you laugh?

### **Page 37-38**

- Look at the group of nonsense words that appear on these pages.  
How would you say each one out loud? Act them out.  
Which one do you find the funniest? Why do you find it so funny?

### **Page 40**

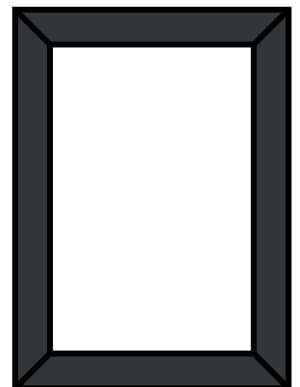
- How does the reader feel about having to say all these nonsense words out loud?
- Why do you think these words appear on this page as they do?
- Does it alter how these words are read? If so, how?

### **Page 42**

- Which words would you stress when reading this page out loud?
- How do they appear on this page?
- Did this help or hinder you when reading these words aloud?
- What do you think the word PREPOSTEROUS means?

### **Page 43-44**

- How many times does the reader say PLEASE on page 43?
- Why do you think the reader says this word so many times?
- What word does the reader call this book on page 44?
- What does the word RIDICULOUS mean?



## **John Murray**

John is a recognised specialist in developing children's reading and comprehension.

The creator of Reading Explorers, Top Class Comprehension and Reading Rocketeers, his seminars and CPD training focus on the teaching, learning and enjoyment of reading.

An independent Literacy consultant, he aims to support schools to improve their performance and secure best practice. Above all, it is to ignite within us a passion for books and a genuine love for the written word.

His enthusiasm and expertise can be seen throughout his work and his resources and training are used in classrooms worldwide.



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