Reading Comprehension

Michael Rosen's Pocket Shakespeare: A Beginner's Guide to the Best Bits of The Bard By Michael Rosen, illustrated by Chris Riddell

Read the 'Magic and Superstition' text excerpt pages in this pack. This text is taken from *Pocket Shakespeare* and describes what Tudors thought about magic and superstition and why Shakespeare included them in his plays. The extract also includes two of his most famous magical speeches.

Answer these questions using the text extract (pages 14 and 15).

Write 3 ways people showed they were Christian during Shakespeare's time.

1. .....

2. .....

3. .....

Which 2 words can be used to describe beliefs that are not Christian?

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Why might Shakespeare have thought there was some magic in his own writing?

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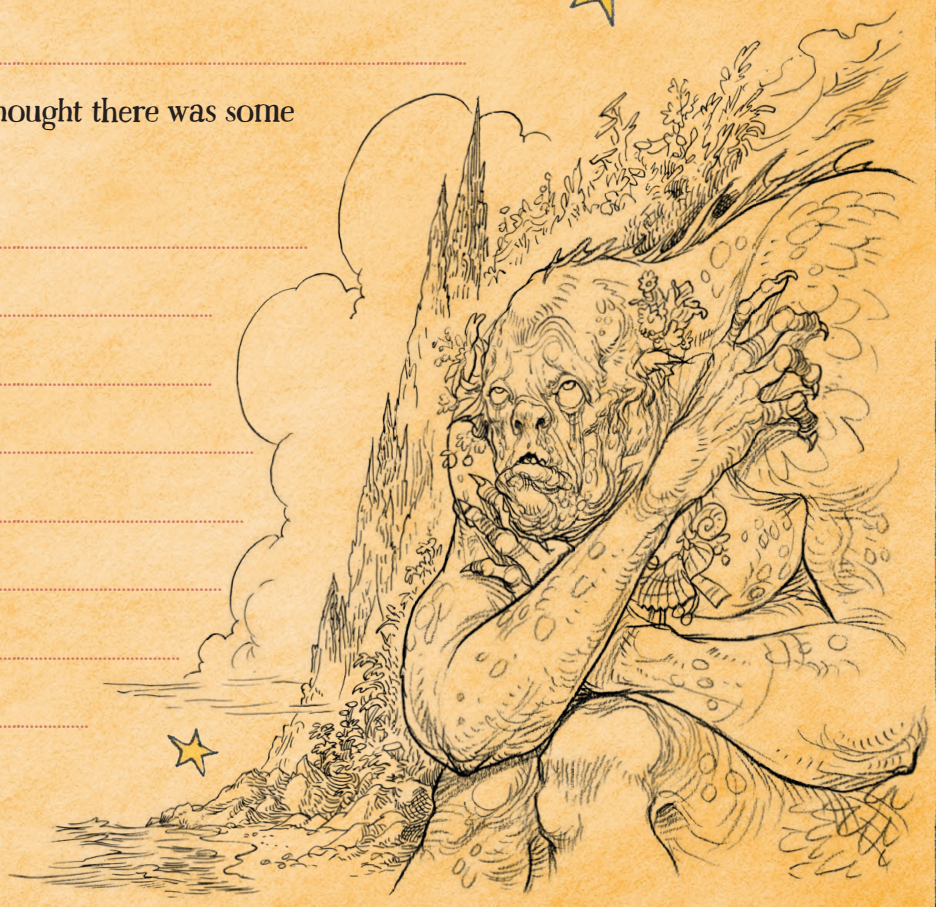
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Answer these questions using the text extract (pages 16 and 17).

What magical power do the witches have?

Find and copy the word that means the same as 'owl'.

Which phrase means the same as 'the spell is ready'?

ORACY!

Talk with a partner about why you think Shakespeare chose the animals he did for the witches' spell.

Answer these questions using the text extract (pages 22 and 23).

Why does Caliban want to get rid of Prospero?

Copy the phrase that means the same as, 'Don't be scared'.

What are the two sounds Caliban describes hearing?



ORACY!

Think about all the extracts you have read. Talk with a partner about what you think people today believe about magic and superstition?

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