



Being misunderstood

1

In 1492, Christopher Columbus wanted to try to sail East to reach the West. In those days, people didn't believe that the Earth was round. What do you think they said to Columbus?

- 'You must be mad! That's impossible.'
- 'What have you been reading to make you think that's possible?'
- 'What a great idea! Go for it!'
- 'You're probably right. Let's give it a try!'
- 'Are you joking? What a wild imagination you have!'

● How do you think Columbus felt?

Sample answer: He probably felt upset and angry hearing things like this, but he was convinced he was right and continued with his idea.

● Do you think he abandoned his plan? What would you have done?

Open answer

2

Write a sentence to encourage Columbus to go ahead with his plan.

Sample answer: Come on, Christopher! You can do it – I'm sure you're right!

3

Read the text on page 56 of the EMOTIONARY and write **T (true)** or **F (false)** next to the sentences.

T We feel misunderstood when people don't get what we are trying to say.

F To feel understood, you have to have the same opinion as everyone else.

T You can feel misunderstood when you see the world differently to how others see it.

4

Look at the example and complete the other words.

● *mis + understanding = misunderstanding*

● *mis + lead = mislead*

● *mis + fortune = misfortune*

● *mis + treat = mistreat*

5

The text says that many geniuses had to face being misunderstood. What does **face** mean here? Tick the correct box.

talk about

get upset about

deal with

● Think of a problem you have had to face in your life and write about it below.

Open answer

6 **Face** has other meanings. Read the definitions below and write 1, 2, 3 and 4 next to the sentences.

face

1. a side
2. an expression
3. to look towards
4. the front of the head

- 3 My grandad told me that, when he was small, the teacher made them face the wall if they were naughty in class.
- 2 My sister is always pulling funny faces.
- 1 It's impossible to climb the west face of the mountain.
- 4 You have to wash your face! It's covered in chocolate.

7 Explain what a cat is to these people.

- Rose doesn't know what a cat is, but she knows what a dog is.

A cat is an animal that is similar to a dog, but more agile and does different things. A cat meows instead of barking.

- James has never seen an animal.

A cat is a living being that walks on four legs, has a tail and can't talk.

- P34X is an alien and you are the first Earth creature he has come across.

There are lots of living beings: human beings, like me, and animals. A cat is an animal that walks on four legs, has a tail and can't talk.

8 Read the situation and answer the questions.

Martin has a lot of friends. They do sport together or just mess round in the park. But what he likes most is ballet. He hasn't told anyone. Last Christmas, he wanted to go to a ballet display at school, but his dad suggested going bowling instead, because he knows Martin loves bowling.

- What is Martin's favourite activity?

Ballet.

- What does Martin's dad think his son's favourite activity is?

Bowling.

- What would you do if you were Martin? Would you insist on going to the ballet display? Why? / Why not?

Open answer

- What do you think will happen if Martin doesn't insist on going?

Sample answer: He won't be able to go to the ballet and his father will never know it is his favourite activity.

9

Complete the table. Then ask a friend or member of your family to complete the second table with what they think they know about you. **Open answer**

This is me	
I like eating ...	
I'm frightened of ...	
I like ...	
I'm disgusted by ...	
I enjoy ...	
I'm bored when ...	
I'm embarrassed when ...	

This is _____	
He/She likes eating ...	
He/She is frightened of ...	
He/She likes ...	
He/She is disgusted by ...	
He/She enjoys ...	
He/She is bored when ...	
He/She is embarrassed when ...	

- Look at the points you have answered differently and discuss them. That way, you can avoid being misunderstood.

