

The Wind in the Willows

Kenneth Grahame

What does the crash do to Rat's grand declaration about boating?

TOTAL TIME

PASSAGE

30 minutes	Rat praises boating and crashes
------------	---------------------------------

FIND THE ANCHOR TEXT

Use the Anchor Text Table of Contents in the Enhanced Reader to open the START anchor. Then use the dropdown to select the END anchor.

SECTION / LOCATION	Chapter I · The River Bank
START	“This has been a wonderful day!” said he, as the Rat shoved off and took to the sculls again.
END	The dreamer, the joyous oarsman, lay on his back at the bottom of the boat, his heels in the air.
PASSAGE ID	sec-ww-01

THE MOVE

Use comic interruption to test a character's certainty

WHY THIS PASSAGE

Rat speaks about boating with absolute confidence, and almost immediately the boat overturns him into a ridiculous position. The comic interruption does not prove boating is worthless; it punctures the certainty and self-importance of his declaration.

MARK

Underline Rat’s most confident claim about boating. Circle the physical details of the crash and his position afterward. Draw an arrow from the grand statement to the comic result.

NOTICE

- What does Rat sound completely certain about before the accident?
- How does the physical comedy change the tone of his certainty?
- Does the crash refute Rat's love of boating, or mainly his grand way of talking about it?

THINK

Answer provisionally: What does the crash do to Rat's grand declaration about boating? Choose the strongest interpretation you can defend from this passage alone.

WRITE

Write a short evidence-based response to: What does the crash do to Rat's grand declaration about boating? Use at least two details from the assigned passage and explain how they support your interpretation.

CLOSE

Name the single detail that most changed or sharpened your interpretation, and explain why.

STRONG ANSWER	The crash punctures Rat's grand certainty without disproving his love of boating. Physical comedy exposes the self-importance of the declaration by placing failure immediately after absolute confidence.
EVIDENCE	Use Rat's strongest claim about boating and the details of the accident that follow it.
WATCH FOR	Do not argue the crash proves boating is bad. It tests Rat's certainty and performance, not the value of the activity itself.
SOLO	Read the exact passage independently.
SUPPORTED	Use narration and sentence highlighting while reading the same passage.
LISTENING	Listen to the exact passage; visual following is optional. Same question and evidence demand.

The Wind in the Willows

Kenneth Grahame

What does the crash do to Rat's grand declaration about boating?

START ANCHOR	"This has been a wonderful day!" said he, as the Rat shoved off and took to the sculls again.
END ANCHOR	The dreamer, the joyous oarsman, lay on his back at the bottom of the boat, his heels in the air.

Use the Anchor Text Table of Contents in the Enhanced Reader to open the START anchor. Then use the dropdown to select the END anchor.

OPEN THE MARKED PASSAGE IN TUMBLELIT

SOLO: read independently. SUPPORTED: use narration + highlighting. LISTENING: listen to the exact passage. The question and evidence task stay the same.

1. MARK - Underline Rat's most confident claim about boating. Circle the physical details of the crash and his position afterward.

Draw an arrow from the grand statement to the comic result.

2. NOTICE - What does Rat sound completely certain about before the accident? How does the physical comedy change the tone of his certainty? Does the crash refute Rat's love of boating, or mainly his grand way of talking about it?
3. THINK - Answer provisionally: What does the crash do to Rat's grand declaration about boating?
4. WRITE - Write a short response using at least two pieces of evidence from this passage.

Use evidence from the assigned passage. Show what you noticed and how the text supports your interpretation.