

Can you find and highlight the following words in the text?

inspired	affected	grandmother's	embark
graduated	main	Portugal	translated

With a partner discuss the meanings of these words using clues in the text. Try substituting synonyms (words with a similar meaning) into the sentence and see if they still make sense. Can you put them into sentences of your own?

J.K. Rowling Fact File

Biography

J.K. Rowling is the best-selling living author in the UK and her books are popular all over the world. Rowling has described writers such as Jane Austen and C.S. Lewis as those who have inspired her the most.

She was born Joanne Rowling on 31st July 1965, in Gloucestershire. She enjoyed writing fantasy stories from an early age, reading them to her younger sister. As a teenager, Rowling began studying French and Classics at Exeter University. Having graduated, she moved to London to work as a researcher for Amnesty International, an organisation which works to protect human rights around the world. She also lived and worked in Manchester.

It was in 1990, when Joanne was on a delayed train journey from Manchester to London that the idea for a series of books came into her head. During the writing of the first Harry Potter book, Joanne's mother died and this huge loss affected her writing. Rowling decided to include more detail about the loss of the main character's parents as she knew how it felt. Rowling used her life as inspiration for many other ideas in the book, for example, her parents met at Kings Cross Station, which is where Harry Potter catches the train to school.

After living and working as an English teacher in Portugal, Rowling moved to Edinburgh with her daughter. Those early days of living in Scotland weren't easy for Joanne - she had no job but dedicated her time to finishing her book. When the story was finally completed, it was sent to 12 different publishing houses, all of which turned it down. In 1997, the book was finally published by Bloomsbury under the name J.K. Rowling. As Joanne didn't have a middle name, she incorporated her grandmother's name, 'Kathleen' into her initials.

Name:

Joanne Rowling

Born:

31st July 1965

Place of birth:

Gloucestershire, UK

Occupation:

Writer, Author



Termly Focus: Vocabulary



1. What does the word *inspired* suggest about the Joanna's opinion of C.S Lewis and Jane Austin?

2. What does the author mean by the word *graduated* in paragraph 2?

3. What does the word *delayed* tell you about the train Joanna was waiting for?

4. Give the meaning of the word *incorporated* in this sentence?

As Joanne didn't have a middle name, she incorporated her grandmother's name, 'Kathleen' into her initials.

5. Circle the phrase has the closest meaning to the word *published*.

print a book

write a book.

plan a book

sell a book

6. What does the word *embark* mean? Tick one box.

a. Finish a course of action

b. climb

c. start a course of action

d. try out an action

7. Circle the phrase which means 'projects'.

Pieces of work

Journey by rail

vehicles

journey by road

8. Why had her books been translated into 65 languages?
