**📚 Reading Comprehension Activity – Year 6**

**Text: *The Midnight Fox* (Fictional Extract)**

**Answers**

1. **Word Meaning**  
   *What does the word “gleamed” suggest about the fox’s eyes?*  
   ➤ It suggests the fox’s eyes were shining or reflecting light, making them appear bright and possibly magical or mysterious.
2. **Retrieval**  
   *Where was Tom when he saw the fox?*  
   ➤ He was standing under the moonlit trees in a clearing.
3. **Inference**  
   *Why do you think Tom’s heart was “thudding in his chest”?*  
   ➤ Because he was excited, scared, or amazed by seeing the black fox, especially since he thought it was only a legend.
4. **Prediction**  
   *What do you think Tom will do next? Why?*  
   ➤ He might try to follow the fox to find out more about it or tell someone what he saw, because he is curious and shocked by the encounter.
5. **Explanation (Authorial Choice)**  
   *Why do you think the author described the world as “paused” when the fox looked at Tom?*  
   ➤ To show how powerful and magical the moment was for Tom, making it feel like time stood still. It emphasizes the importance of the encounter.
6. **Summarising**  
   *Summarise what happens in the text in two sentences.*  
   ➤ Tom sees the legendary midnight fox in a moonlit clearing. After a brief, intense moment, the fox silently disappears into the shadows.
7. **Authorial Intent**  
   *Why do you think the author chose to call the fox “legendary”? What effect does this have on the reader?*  
   ➤ It makes the fox seem rare, mysterious, and important. It creates a sense of wonder and makes the reader feel the event is special or magical.