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| Excerpts from the Text | Verbal Deliberation on the Text |
| 1. Natural disasters can bring out the best and the worst in people.
 | The text begins by comparing two types of people. It feels like the author is judging me.  |
| 1. Some people take the opportunity to loot shops or steal cars or set fire to buildings.
 | This seems like the worst choices that we can make. I don’t know what ‘looting’ is, but it sounds bad.  |
| 1. Others try to save lives and make a terrible situation better.
 | I’m glad that the text also comments on the best choices we can make. I notice that there is a superlative here (‘better’) |
| 1. When Hurricane Katrina struck New Orleans in the morning of 29th. August 2005, it was the sixth strongest Atlantic hurricane ever recorded, and the third most powerful to hit the USA.
 | What about the other five? Why do we always hear about things that happen in the United States? Aren’t people in other countries important? This is a good way to review superlatives, though (‘strongest’, ‘most powerful’) |
| 1. John Keller, an ex-marine with military experience in Iraq, was 38 years old when the hurricane hit, over two metres tall and weighing 118 kilos.
 | Even though this is about an American soldier, this sounds interesting. I think he made a positive choice. I’m not sure if the 2 metres tall refers to the hurricane or John Keller. That’s confusing.  |
| 1. Keller knew that he could survive. He could have simply got into a boat and paddled his way to safety.
 | I don’t know what ‘paddle’ means, but it seems that Keller didn’t choose to survive. I think what the author means by ‘survive’ is ‘escape danger.’. He either died or he made another choice. I wonder what it was. |