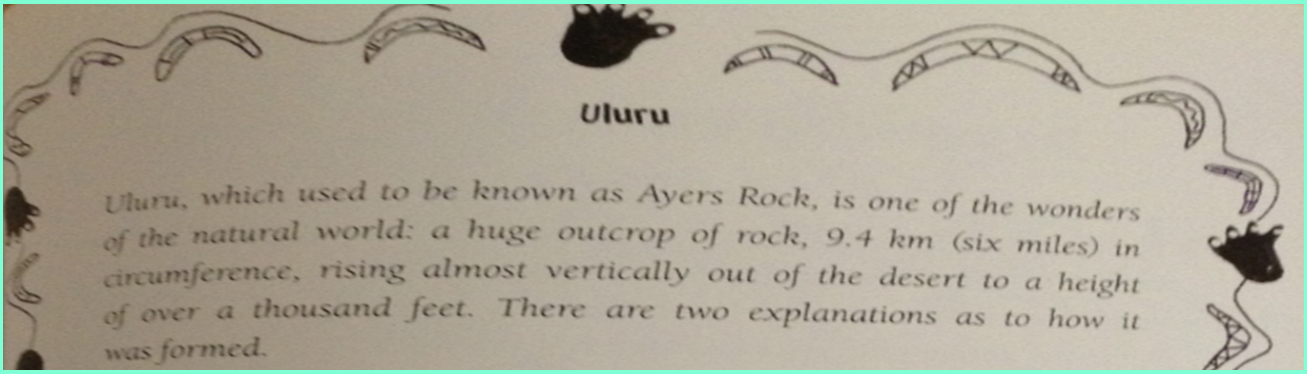
Third reading - question the author

LO: To check my understanding as I read the story.

What have you remembered about the text?
You could:
- draw a mind map
- write a fact-file
- write your own argument for/against tourists climbing Ayres Rock



Uluru

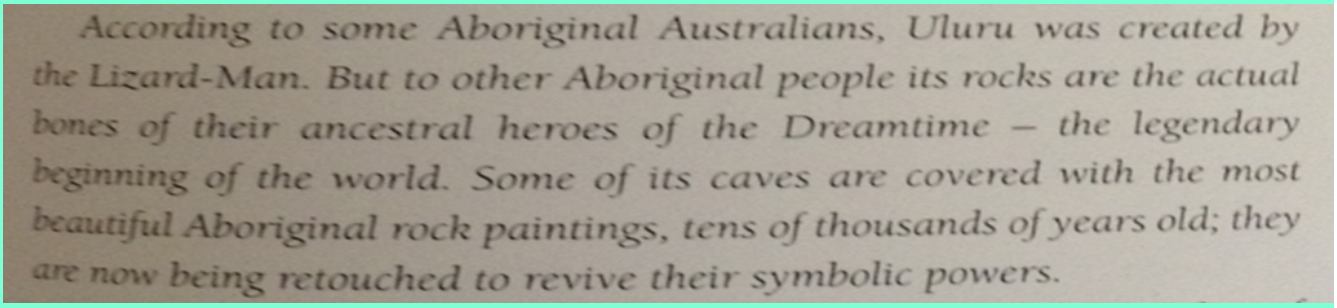
Uluru, which used to be known as Ayers Rock, is one of the wonders of the natural world: a huge outcrop of rock, 9.4 km (six miles) in circumference, rising almost vertically out of the desert to a height of over a thousand feet. There are two explanations as to how it was formed.

Uluru is a famous Australian landmark which is one of the wonders of the natural world. I know other natural wonders such as ... I love the illustrations around the borders of this page - they're Aboriginal symbols which is what Aboriginal art is full of.

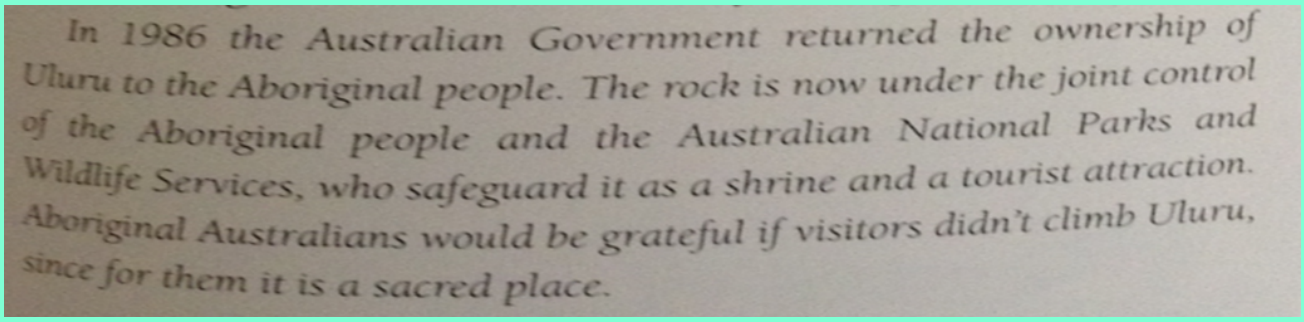
I'd love to walk around this mammoth rock which is an incredible six miles in circumference! I'm fascinated to discover how this rock was created.

According to scientists, Uluru is the top of a buried hill. They say that about 130 million years ago, the sea flooded into central Australia, turning Uluru into an island, and that the waves pounding the shore of the island formed great caves. Then the sea ebbed away, leaving Uluru surrounded by sand.

Scientists are often a good source of knowledge and they have their theory on how Uluru was created. Just imagine this incredible rock and caves being created 130 million years ago.


According to some Aboriginal Australians, Uluru was created by the Lizard-Man. But to other Aboriginal people its rocks are the actual bones of their ancestral heroes of the Dreamtime – the legendary beginning of the world. Some of its caves are covered with the most beautiful Aboriginal rock paintings, tens of thousands of years old; they are now being retouched to revive their symbolic powers.

There are different views shared by Aboriginal Australians as to how Ayres Rock was created. Beautiful Aboriginal paintings, which are tens of thousands of years old, cover some of the caves and these are being lovingly restored.


In 1986 the Australian Government returned the ownership of Uluru to the Aboriginal people. The rock is now under the joint control of the Aboriginal people and the Australian National Parks and Wildlife Services, who safeguard it as a shrine and a tourist attraction. Aboriginal Australians would be grateful if visitors didn't climb Uluru, since for them it is a sacred place.

The Aboriginal Australians were rightly given ownership of this incredible rock thirty-five years ago and it is now looked after jointly with the Australian National Parks. As with all sacred places, this landmark should be given the respect it deserves.

https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2019/jul/11/tourists-are-rushing-to-climb-uluru-before-ban-takes-effect

What do you think about this article written in 2019?

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Third reading - question the author

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