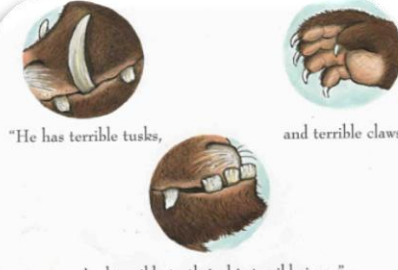




## 1.6 Using a tool to think: *The Gruffalo*

To use our tool to 'think' let's analyze *The Gruffalo*, a bestseller among children. The story presented below is a shortened version of the original, which includes not only a fox, but also an owl and snake. Since the verbal exchanges between these animals and the mouse are practically the same, for the sake of brevity the story here includes only the fox. Your task is simple: [1] Read the story; [2] find out what it means.

A mouse took a stroll through the deep dark wood.  
A fox saw the mouse and the mouse looked good.  
"Where are you going to, little brown mouse?  
Come and have lunch in my underground house."  
"It's terribly kind of you, Fox, but no —  
I'm going to have lunch with a gruffalo."




"He has terrible tusks,  
and terrible claws,  
And terrible teeth in his terrible jaws."

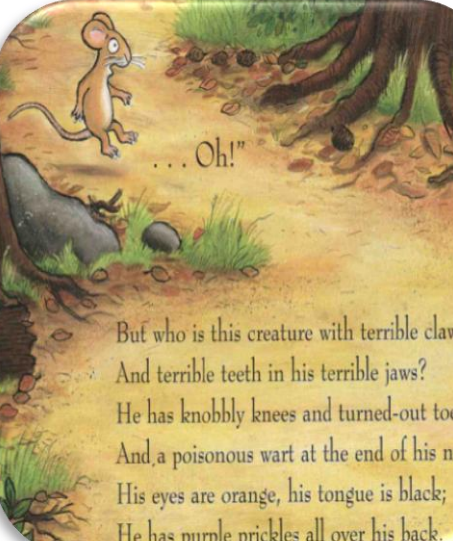


"Where are you meeting him?"  
"Here, by these rocks,  
And his favourite food is roasted fox."

"Roasted fox! I'm off!" Fox said.  
"Goodbye, little mouse," and away he sped.




"Silly old Fox! Doesn't he know,  
There's no such thing as a gruffalo?"





... Oh!"

But who is this creature with terrible claws  
And terrible teeth in his terrible jaws?  
He has knobbly knees and turned-out toes  
And a poisonous wart at the end of his nose  
His eyes are orange, his tongue is black;  
He has purple prickles all over his back.




"Oh help! Oh no!  
It's a gruffalo!"

"My favourite food!" the Gruffalo said.  
"You'll taste good on a slice of bread!"




"It's Fox," said the mouse. "Why, Fox, hello!"  
Fox took one look at the Gruffalo.  
"Oh help!" he said, "Goodbye, little mouse,"  
And off he ran to his underground house.

"Well, Gruffalo," said the mouse. "You see?  
Everyone is afraid of me!  
But now my tummy's beginning to rumble.  
My favourite food is — gruffalo crumble!"



"Gruffalo crumble!" the Gruffalo said,  
And quick as the wind he turned and fled.



All was quiet in the deep dark wood.  
The mouse found a nut and the nut was good.

