 Past the Shallows

Family Counselling Session

Joe has decided that before he leaves he wants to get together with his father and brothers to get a few things off his chest.

Each student in the class will take on a character (Dad, Joe, Miles, Harry, counsellor).

As your character you need to write a 500 word statement outlining your feelings about what has happened in the family. You can include any or all of the following:

* the accident and death of Mum
* Grandpa’s death and the sale of the house
* having to work on the boat
* being left at home
* Dad’s treatment of the children
* difficulties of raising three boys alone

The student who is the counsellor is responsible for creating questions that each character can answer.

Once each group has completed their preparation, they are to hold the counselling session. Decide which character speaks first, they read their statement and each of the characters can respond, with the counsellor asking further questions. This process is repeated until all characters have spoken.

At the end of the counselling session, each student writes a 500 word reflection on what they have learnt about the relationships within the family.

Both written pieces are submitted to the teacher.