

**Ghost in the house!****Exercise 1     Comprehension**

Choose the best answer for each question:

1. Why was the house in the story strange?
  - a. It looked strange from the outside.
  - b. Something unusual was happening inside.
  - c. There were lots of police, scientists and newspaper people there.
2. How many people were living in the house?
  - a. Two
  - b. Four
  - c. Six
3. What was the first strange thing that happened?
  - a. The young girl heard a loud noise.
  - b. A desk moved across the room.
  - c. The girl ran out of the room and shouted for her parents.
4. Which of these did **NOT** happen?
  - a. A policeman's chair started to move around the room.
  - b. A policeman started to talk in a strange voice.
  - c. The police finally believed the family's story.
5. How many ghosts were 'living' in the house?
  - a. Six
  - b. Eight
  - c. Ten

**Exercise 2     Short answers**

Write short answers for each question:

1. Where did the family in the story live?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. When did the strange things start happening?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Which of the family was the first to see something strange?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. How long did the ghosts stay in the house?  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Did the ghosts ever come back to the house?  
\_\_\_\_\_

## ANSWER KEY (Ghost in the house!)

### Exercise 1 Comprehension

1. b
2. c
3. a
4. b
5. b

### Exercise 2 Short answers

1. *North London*
2. *September 1977*
3. *the eleven-year-old daughter*
4. *three years*
5. *no, never*

## The Strange Story of the Mary Celeste

### Exercise 1 Comprehension

Choose the best answer for each question:

1. What happened to the first captain of the *Amazon*?
  - a. He died on the first trip.
  - b. He hit some rocks.
  - c. He caught fire in the repair yard.
2. What is the ship's 'log'?
  - a. The place where the captain sleeps.
  - b. The place where the ship is going to?
  - c. A book to record information.
3. How many people were on the ship when it sailed to Italy?
  - a. Nine
  - b. Ten
  - c. Eleven
4. Which of these is **TRUE**?
  - a. The weather turned bad on 24<sup>th</sup> November 1872
  - b. They saw a group of islands before the storm began.
  - c. They sailed to the Azores to get away from the storm.
5. What do we know about the *Mary Celeste*?
  - a. We know how the people on the ship disappeared.
  - b. We know it used to be called *Amazon*.
  - c. We know what happened after 25<sup>th</sup> November 1872.

### Exercise 2 Short answers

Write short answers for each question:

1. When was the ship called *Mary Celeste* built?

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2. What happened to the *Amazon* in the repair yard?

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3. Who chose the name *Mary Celeste*?

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4. When did the captain write in the log for the last time?

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5. What date did another ship discover the *Mary Celeste*?

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## ANSWER KEY (The Strange Story of the Mary Celeste)

### Exercise 1 Comprehension

1. a
2. c
3. b
4. b
5. b

### Exercise 2 Short answers

1. 1860
2. *it caught fire*
3. *J.H Winchester and Company*
4. *25<sup>th</sup> November 1872*
5. *5<sup>th</sup> December: ten days after the last log was written*

## The Secrets of the *Pyramids*

### Exercise 1 Comprehension

Choose the best answer for each question:

1. Why was Napoleon afraid when he came out of the King's Chamber?
  - a. He didn't like to be alone.
  - b. He had seen a ghost.
  - c. We don't know the reason.
2. Why didn't Napoleon tell his manservant what had happened in the King's Chamber?
  - a. He died before he could tell him.
  - b. He didn't think the manservant would believe him.
  - c. He didn't want the manservant to know what had happened.
3. What was strange about the cat that Bovis discovered in the pyramid?
  - a. It didn't look dead.
  - b. It didn't smell.
  - c. It was lying among the trash left by tourists.
4. What do we **NOT** know for sure about the pyramids?
  - a. You can see the future inside the pyramid.
  - b. Food stays fresh for longer inside the pyramid.
  - c. Knives stay sharp longer inside the pyramid.
5. What is the reason why the pyramids have these special qualities?
  - a. They have their own magic.
  - b. It has something to do with science and mathematics.
  - c. No one is really sure.

### Exercise 2 Short answers

Write short answers for each question:

1. When did Napoleon visit the Great Pyramid?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Did Napoleon visit the King's Chamber with his guide?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. When did Karel Drbal visit the pyramids?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Which country was Bovis from?  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Why was Drbal's discovery about razor blades important?  
\_\_\_\_\_

## ANSWER KEY (The Secrets of the Pyramids)

### Exercise 1 Comprehension

1. c
2. b
3. b
4. a
5. c

### Exercise 2

1. 1799
2. *No, he went into the King's Chamber alone*
3. *in the 1950's*
4. *France*
5. *There was a lack of razor blades at that time*

## What happened to Mrs Reeser?

### Exercise 1 Comprehension

Choose the correct answer for each question:

1. Why did Mrs Reeser's friend offer to take the letter to her?
  - a. The mailman didn't know where Mrs Reeser lived.
  - b. The mailman didn't want to go up to the seventh floor.
  - c. The mailman got no answer when he knocked at her door.
2. Why did the friend ask two workmen to break down the door?
  - a. She wanted to give the letter to Mrs Reeser.
  - b. She was afraid something bad had happened inside.
  - c. She couldn't break the door herself because the door-handle was hot.
3. What happened when they opened the door?
  - a. A lot of hot air left the room.
  - b. They saw a big fire.
  - c. They gave Mrs Reeser the letter.
4. What did they **NOT** see inside the room?
  - a. Mrs Reeser sitting in an armchair.
  - b. A small fire.
  - c. A broken mirror.
5. Why do scientists not believe that a person can catch fire without reason?
  - a. Because nothing like this had happened before.
  - b. Because the temperature would need to be over 1,500 degrees Celsius.
  - c. Because there is no scientific reason for it to happen.

### Exercise 2 Short answers

Write short answers for each question:

1. Where did Mrs Reeser live?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Who broke open Mrs Reeser's door?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What was strange about the newspaper lying near the armchair?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What temperature do you need to burn a human body to the bones?  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. In which other parts of the world had something similar happened?  
\_\_\_\_\_

## ANSWER KEY      What happened to Mrs Reeser?

### Exercise 1      Comprehension

1. c
2. b
3. a
4. a
5. c

### Exercise 2      Short answers

1. *On the seventh floor of an apartment block*
2. *Two workmen working on the same floor*
3. *It wasn't damaged at all*
4. *1,500 degrees Celsius*
5. *France, India and England*