

Quick Check

Neighborhood Mystery

Name _____ Date _____

Instructions: Read each question carefully and choose the best answer.

1. Why didn't Alan ask anyone about these strange happenings?
 - (A) It would spoil the mystery.
 - (B) He didn't know whom to ask.
 - (C) People would think he was strange.
 - (D) His parents might find out about the mystery.
2. Why did Alan stop when he saw Maria pull out a violin case from her locker?
 - (A) He had never seen one before.
 - (B) He had one just like it at his house.
 - (C) He didn't know she knew how to play the violin.
 - (D) The case was like those that were carried into the house.
3. Why did Alan sneak over to the house across the street?
 - (A) to see Maria
 - (B) to play his guitar
 - (C) to solve the mystery
 - (D) all of the above
4. Read this sentence: *Alan **froze** when he saw Maria pull a case from her locker.* What does the word **froze** mean in this sentence?
 - (A) He was very cold.
 - (B) He couldn't think.
 - (C) He was very frightened.
 - (D) He was extremely surprised.
5. What is **mariachi** music?
 - (A) music played by symphonies
 - (B) Boston Pops music
 - (C) Mexican folk music
 - (D) music not played on instruments
6. What happened just after Alan decided to solve the mystery himself?
 - (A) He sneaked over to the house across the street.
 - (B) He went to school to find Maria.
 - (C) He started guitar lessons.
 - (D) He joined a mariachi band.

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Name _____ Date _____

7. What was the first thing Alan heard when he was outside the house that Sunday night?
 - Ⓐ music
 - Ⓑ silence
 - Ⓒ dogs barking
 - Ⓓ a strange language
8. What did Alan learn when he went into the house across the street?
 - Ⓐ He liked mariachi music.
 - Ⓑ He learned the Spanish names for several instruments.
 - Ⓒ He learned that some Spanish words look and sound like English.
 - Ⓓ All of the above
9. What can you tell about Alan, the narrator of this story?
 - Ⓐ He is very curious.
 - Ⓑ He is frightened easily.
 - Ⓒ He is shy and withdrawn.
 - Ⓓ All of the above
10. What seemed odd to the narrator about the people arriving at the neighbor's house at the beginning of the story?
 - Ⓐ the clothing they wore
 - Ⓑ the cases they were carrying
 - Ⓒ that they came every Sunday night
 - Ⓓ all of the above
11. **Extended Response:** If it were a year later, what might Alan do when he sees people going into the house across the street on Sunday nights?
12. **Extended Response:** Why did the author write this story?

Quick Check Answer Sheet

Neighborhood Mystery

Main Comprehension Skill: Sequence Events

1. Ⓒ *Cause and Effect*
2. Ⓓ *Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions*
3. Ⓒ *Cause and Effect*
4. Ⓓ *Vocabulary*
5. Ⓒ *Vocabulary*
6. Ⓐ *Sequence Events*
7. Ⓓ *Sequence Events*
8. Ⓓ *Story Elements*
9. Ⓐ *Analyze Character*
10. Ⓓ *Story Elements*
11. Answers will vary somewhat but should include the following: *he would be joining them to learn more about playing mariachi music on his guitar and to practice playing.*
12. Answers will vary but should include the following idea: *the author wrote an entertaining story that also informed readers about mariachi bands.*