

Name _____ Date _____

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

1. Who is telling this story?
 - Ⓐ Qynn, the girl with a brown ponytail
 - Ⓑ Aunt Terra, the woman with curly black hair
 - Ⓒ Sarah, the girl with short black hair
 - Ⓓ Sarah's mom, the woman in the photograph
2. Which of the following details is from the plot's introduction?
 - Ⓐ the photograph of Sarah's mom
 - Ⓑ the hidden room in the office
 - Ⓒ the small book with yellowed papers
 - Ⓓ the girls sitting in Sarah's bedroom
3. Which of the following words help the reader understand the meaning of **bizarre**?
 - Ⓐ weird, unusual
 - Ⓑ happy, joyful
 - Ⓒ sad, gloomy
 - Ⓓ exciting, thrilling
4. Which of the following details is part of the rising action of the plot?
 - Ⓐ Qynn and Sarah sit in Sarah's bedroom doing research.
 - Ⓑ Qynn and Sarah follow Aunt Terra down the hallway.
 - Ⓒ Qynn and Sarah take their objects from the hidden room.
 - Ⓓ Qynn and Sarah hide their finds and head down for dinner.
5. What causes Qynn and Sarah to search the office?
 - Ⓐ They remember Sarah's dad has history books in the office.
 - Ⓑ Aunt Terra tells them she is putting their clues in the office.
 - Ⓒ They follow Aunt Terra and see her sneaking out of the office.
 - Ⓓ Sarah's dad tells them to stay out of the important stuff in his office.

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6. How do the illustrations help set different moods in the story?

- Ⓐ The illustrations of Sarah's room are dark, creating a spooky mood at the beginning of the story.
- Ⓑ The illustrations of the office are bright and yellow, creating a safe and warm mood for the climax of the story.
- Ⓒ The illustrations of the office are dark and shadowy, creating a spooky mood for the climax of the story.
- Ⓓ The illustrations for the whole story are bright and colorful, creating a lighthearted mood for the entire story.

7. Which major event happens first?

- Ⓐ Sarah finds the fake books.
- Ⓑ The girls find a photo of Sarah's mom.
- Ⓒ Qynn sneaks into the office.
- Ⓓ The girls tell Aunt Terra their story.

8. Which of the following is the climax of the story?

- Ⓐ The girls divulge their secrets to Aunt Terra.
- Ⓑ The girls find a hidden room where Aunt Terra hid their things.
- Ⓒ The girls do research on the computer in Sarah's bedroom.
- Ⓓ The girls try to figure out the meaning of the key, scissors, and lantern.

9. Why did the author write this story?

- Ⓐ to entertain readers with an adventure about Qynn and Sarah
- Ⓑ to inform readers about the history of Porter's Mill
- Ⓒ to persuade readers to move to Porter's Mill
- Ⓓ to entertain readers with a story of Aunt Terra's history

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10. Read the following sentence:
*I start **combing** through the shelves looking for clues.* What is the meaning of **combing** in this sentence?

- Ⓐ giving secret or unknown information
- Ⓑ carefully searching to find something
- Ⓒ inviting a person to come closer
- Ⓓ pulling a brush through one's hair

11. **Extended Response:** In which scene do Qynn and Sarah solve their problem? How is this scene related to the scenes that come before it in the story? Write two or more sentences describing how you would write the climax of the story differently but in a way that still makes sense with the previous scenes.

12. **Extended Response:** Compare and contrast how the two main characters, Qynn and Sarah, react to the strange events they are experiencing, using examples from the story. Which character are you more like, and why?

Quick Check Answer Sheet

The Hidden Room

Main Comprehension Skill: Analyze Plot

1. Ⓐ Character Point of View
2. Ⓓ Analyze Plot
3. Ⓐ Vocabulary
4. Ⓑ Analyze Plot
5. Ⓒ Cause and Effect
6. Ⓒ Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions
7. Ⓓ Sequence Events
8. Ⓑ Analyze Plot
9. Ⓐ Author's Purpose
10. Ⓑ Vocabulary
11. Answers will vary. Example: Qynn and Sarah solve their problem in the scene where they pull on the handle and open the secret door to the hidden room, and there they find their missing objects. This scene had to come after the scenes in the rising action because the solution comes after the problem. If I wrote this scene, I would have the girls finding the hidden room after hearing children's laughter and finding the secret handle on a shelf behind a photograph of children. This makes sense with the rising action of the girls following Aunt Terra and searching the office but seems to me as if it would be more exciting.
12. Answers will vary. Example: Qynn is curious about everything that is happening, and wants to figure it all out. She charges forward into mysterious situations to find clues. For example, she immediately follows Aunt Terra and decides they should search the office. Sarah is also curious, but she seems frustrated. She doesn't want to go into scary places to figure it all out; she just wants it to go away. She doesn't want to go in the office and tells Qynn that her Aunt Terra probably has a reason for keeping secrets. Even though she is less eager than Qynn, she still helps her friend on all the adventures. I am more like Sarah because creepy things make me nervous, and I would probably just want it to go away. But if my friends needed me, I would help them, no matter how scared I might be.