

Fiction: Comprehension Practice 1

Read the short story. Then answer the questions that follow.

The Closet Creature

By Kelly Hashway

1 Bump! Bump! Scratch!

Adam opened his eyes and pulled the covers up to his chin. He stared around his room, searching the darkness for the thing that was making those scary sounds.

5 The closet door moved as something banged on it from the inside.

"Who's there?" Adam asked in a shaky voice.

The closet slowly began to open. Adam jumped out of bed and ran to the closet door, slamming it shut with his palms. He grabbed his desk chair and propped it against the door handle. Then he ran out of his
10 room and down the hall. His brother's door was wide open, and Adam jumped onto David's bed.

"Adam?" David asked in a groggy voice. "What are you doing in here?"

Adam tugged on David's arm. "There's something in my closet!"

"You probably had a bad dream. Go back to bed."

15 Adam yanked the blankets off the bed. "It wasn't a dream. I was awake, and the closet door started opening by itself!"

David sighed. "Fine. But when we don't find anything, you have to promise to leave me alone for the rest of the night."

Adam nodded. David reached into his desk drawer and pulled out a
20 flashlight. Then they headed to Adam's room. Adam stopped in the
doorway. He could hear something scratching his closet door.

"Do you hear that?" Adam asked.

David nodded. He walked over to Adam's bed and pulled the case off
one of the pillows. He opened the pillowcase.

25 "You open the door very slowly, and I'll grab whatever it is."

Adam slid the chair to the side and pulled the closet door open a
crack. Something banged against the door, trying to force it open.
Adam took a deep breath and opened the door a few more inches. A
small furry creature ran right into the pillowcase.

30 "I got it!" David said, closing the pillowcase and holding it in the air.

"What is it?" Adam moved closer as David peeked inside.

David put the pillowcase on the bed and an orange cat climbed out.
Adam scooped the cat up. "Apricot? How did you get trapped in my
closet?"

35 David laughed. "The poor cat. If I was locked in your closet with your
stinky shoes, I'd be banging on the door to get out, too!"

"Poor, Apricot," Adam said. "You were probably more scared than I
was."

Q1. Circle the correct answer.

1) What genre does the passage belong to?

- a) informational text
- b) stories with familiar settings
- c) fantasy

Q2. Write down three characters that were mentioned in the story?

Q3. What part of speech is the word 'shaky' in the sentence below?

"Who's there?" Adam asked in a shaky voice.

- a. noun b. verb c. adjective d. adverb

Q4. Read these statements and tick two boxes that we know are TRUE from the passage.

David used a box to catch whatever was inside the closet.

☐

David took a ribbon out of his desk drawer.

☐

An orange cat climbed out of the pillowcase.

☐

Adam was terribly scared from the noises.

☐

Q5. Give a reason why Adam, David and Apricot start with a capital letter? _____

Q6. Read lines (17 - 20) and write down a phrasal verb that means "to get out". _____

Q7. Refer to lines (25 - 29) and number the events below in the correct order.

_____ Something hit the door.

_____ Adam opened the door a few more inches.

_____ Adam slid the chair to the side.

_____ A tiny creature ran into the pillowcase.

Q8. Read lines (13 - 16). How do you think Adam felt when he yanked the blankets off the bed and why?

Adam's feeling:

Explanation:

Q9.

a. Do you think David was kind to his brother? Tick the correct answer.

Yes

☐

No

☐

b. Give evidence from the text to support your answer in question 9 (a).
