

Comprehension-3

Answer Key

A. Read the following passage carefully.

The Riddle House stands on a hilltop in Little Hangleton. Much mystery has arisen around it. Fifty years ago, its inhabitants, the Riddle family, were killed in a most mysterious manner, leaving no signs of bodily harm, seeming almost as if they had been frightened to death. The villagers instantly suspected Frank Bryce, the Riddles' stiff and misanthropic gardener, and even after he was questioned and found innocent, the villagers still mistrusted him, and the village boys often bothered him.

One night, fifty years later, the elderly Frank is refilling his hot water bottle to ease the soreness of his joints, when he sees a bright light inside the Riddle House, and he immediately knows that the boys have set a fire. He limps over to the house, lets himself in with his spare key, walks up the dusty staircase, and stands in the hallway next to a room, where he overhears a conversation between two voices, one high pitched controlling one, another nervous submissive one. Frank overhears the controlling one, who reveals his name to be Lord Voldemort, telling the other one, whom he calls Wormtail, that he must wait for the Quidditch World Cup to end before capturing a boy named Harry Potter.

Wormtail suggests using a different boy, but Lord Voldemort refuses. Wormtail pleads his loyalty by reminding his master that he brought him Bertha Jorkins, whose information proved quite useful before they had to kill her to prevent her from talking. Frank is horrified at this news, and is frightened when a thick, twelve-foot long snake slithers past him and into the room and begins hissing back and forth with Lord Voldemort. At this, Lord Voldemort calls Frank into the room and kills him in a single flash of green light; at that moment miles away, the boy named Harry Potter awoke in the night.

Harry Potter, a fourteen-year-old wizard, wakes to feel the scar on his forehead throbbing in pain. He looks around his dark room in alarm, remembering that the last time his scar hurt him was when Lord Voldemort was nearby. Lord Voldemort was the leader of the dark side of wizardry, the murderer of Harry's parents, and the reason why Harry even has the scar. After murdering Harry's parents, Lord Voldemort turned on Harry with the same curse, which miraculously rebounded and stripped Voldemort of his power, leaving Harry with a scar and no parents.

Harry paces the room, debating what to do. He cannot tell the Dursleys, his relatives with whom he lives, because they detest his presence as well as magic. He cannot tell his best friend Hermione, because she would find it alarming and want him to inform Dumbledore. He cannot tell his other best friend, Ron, because Ron would think it was a false alarm. Finally, Harry decides to write to Sirius Black, his godfather whose escape Harry assisted in Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban. Black has been wrongly imprisoned for killing thirteen people in addition to turning Harry's parents over to Voldemort. Harry and his friends discovered that this work had actually been done by Peter Pettigrew who is also known as Wormtail. Black was innocent. Harry writes him a short letter and walks down to breakfast.

On the basis of your understanding answer the following question:

1. What was the initial suspicion of the villagers regarding the mysterious deaths of the Riddle family?

- A) The family committed suicide.
- B) Frank Bryce was involved in the deaths.
- C) The deaths were caused by a wild animal.
- D) The family moved away mysteriously.

2. Why did the villagers continue to mistrust Frank Bryce even after he was found innocent?

- A) He was unfriendly and kept to himself.
- B) He had a criminal record.
- C) He left the village frequently.
- D) He refused to work for anyone else.

3. What triggered Frank Bryce to investigate the Riddle House on the night of the incident?

- A) He heard strange noises.
- B) He saw a bright light inside the house.
- C) He noticed smoke coming from the house.
- D) He was asked by the villagers to check the house.

4. What does the presence of the snake in the room suggest about Lord Voldemort?

- A) He had a pet snake.
- B) He could communicate with serpents.
- C) He was afraid of snakes.
- D) He used snakes to protect himself.

5. What is the significance of Harry's scar hurting in the middle of the night?

- A) Harry was having a nightmare.
- B) Voldemort was nearby or active.
- C) Harry was falling ill.
- D) The scar was infected.

6. Why did Harry decide to write to Sirius Black instead of his friends?

- A) Sirius Black was the only one who would understand the situation.
- B) He didn't want to worry his friends.
- C) He was afraid his friends wouldn't believe him.
- D) He thought Sirius Black would not take action immediately.

7. Why was Harry hesitant to tell his relatives about his scar hurting?

- A) They were scared of magic.
- B) They were indifferent to his well-being.
- C) They hated talking about Voldemort.
- D) They were not at home.

8. What does the word "submissive" mean in the context of Wormtail's demeanor?

- A) Dominant
- B) Resilient
- C) Meek
- D) Assertive

9. The word "misanthropic" used to describe Frank Bryce's character likely means:

- A) Sociable
- B) Outgoing
- C) Reclusive
- D) Compassionate

10. What is the closest meaning of the word "debating" as used in the context of Harry's internal struggle?

- A) Ignoring
- B) Contemplating
- C) Deciding
- D) Doubting