

Practice text: Clarice Bean – Utterly Me

Cracking the questions

Question	Answer	CD/mark	Useful strategies
1. Where is Clarice going at the beginning of the extract?	Downstairs To the kitchen	2b 1 mark	<p>Question focus: retrieve information.</p> <p>Strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carefully read the question, marking key words. Consider where in the text to look for the answer. Carefully read the paragraph to find your answer.
2. Find and copy a word or a group of words that show that the kitchen is not a happy place to be.	"The kitchen is full of bad mood".	2g 1 mark	<p>Question focus: identify how meaning is enhanced through the author's choice of words.</p> <p>Strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carefully read the question, marking key words. Consider where in the text to look for information Carefully read that part of the text, considering the answer.
3. What does the author mean by saying that Grandad "hasn't plugged himself into his hearing aid"?	Grandad hasn't put in his hearing aid.	2g 2 marks	<p>Question focus: explain how meaning is enhanced through the author's choice of words.</p> <p>Strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carefully read the question, marking key words. Consider where in the text to look for the words. Carefully read the relevant section of the text while considering the impact of the words.
4. "Minal is a <u>niggling gnat</u> ". What do the underlined words tell us about Minal? Tick one. <input type="checkbox"/> He's a pet insect. <input type="checkbox"/> He hurts Clarice. <input type="checkbox"/> He annoys Clarice. <input type="checkbox"/> He sleeps in Clarice's room.	He annoys Clarice.	2a 1 mark	<p>Question focus: explain the meaning of words in context.</p> <p>Strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carefully read the question, marking key words. Consider where in the text to look for the words. Scan the text to find the words. Carefully read that part of the text, thinking about what the words might mean.
5. "I pile lots of gubbins against the door." Suggest a different word the author could have used instead of "gubbins".	Stuff/things/belongings	2a 1 mark	<p>Question focus: explain the meaning of words in context.</p> <p>Strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carefully read the question, marking key words. Consider where in the text to look for the words. Scan the text to find the words. Carefully read that part of the text, thinking about what the words might mean.

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6. How many brothers does Clarice have?	Two (Kurt and Minal).	2b 1 mark	<p><i>Question focus: retrieve information.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carefully read the question, marking key words. Consider where in the text to look for the answer. Carefully read the paragraph to find your answer.
7. Tick all the statements that you know are true. <input type="checkbox"/> The dog has taken Clarice's slipper. <input type="checkbox"/> Mum is busy cooking. <input type="checkbox"/> Clarice has successfully kept Minal out of her room. <input type="checkbox"/> The family is in the kitchen. <input type="checkbox"/> Grandad is arguing with Kurt. <input type="checkbox"/> Clarice is reading.	The dog has taken Clarice's slipper. The family is in the kitchen. Clarice is reading.	2c 2 marks	<p><i>Question focus: summarise ideas from more than one paragraph.</i></p> <p>Strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carefully read the question, marking key words. Consider where in the text to look for the information. Carefully read that part of the text and tick the things that you know are true. <p>Award 1 mark for one or two correct answers (and no more than one incorrect one). Award 2 marks for three correct answers (and no incorrect ones).</p>
8. (a) What time of day does this part of the story take place? (b) Explain how you know.	(a) In the morning. (b) Clarice is reading a cereal packet (and that's most likely to happen at breakfast time).	2d 2 marks	<p><i>Question focus: make inferences from the text.</i></p> <p>Strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carefully read the question, marking key words. Consider where in the text to look for information. Carefully read that part of the text, considering the answer. Scan the rest of the text, looking for words and phrases that will confirm what you thought. Use these ideas in your answer. <p>Award 1 mark for each part of the question.</p>
9. Tick the statement that is the best description of Clarice's family. <input type="checkbox"/> They're very calm and organised. <input type="checkbox"/> They're quite noisy and disorganised. <input type="checkbox"/> They all hate each other. <input type="checkbox"/> They're always friendly and supportive of each other.	They're quite noisy and disorganised.	2c 1 mark	<p><i>Question focus: summarise ideas from more than one paragraph.</i></p> <p>Strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carefully read the question, marking key words. Skim read the text, thinking about the question. Jot down or underline any clues in the text. Reread the choice in the questions and think about which one is the best summary.