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BEFORE YOU READ



1 Look at the pictures in the book.

1 Who are the main people in the first story?

.....

2 Where do the people go in the second story?

.....

3 What do the people play with in the third story?

.....

ACTIVITIES PAGES 4–12

.....

1 Put the sentences in order.

- 1 Mrs Sheridan wants Kitty to wear her lovely hat. ☐
- 2 Mrs Sheridan, Laura and Meg listen to Jose singing and playing the piano. ☐
- 3 Laura tells Laurie that she loves parties. ☐
- 4 Jose says that she wants to sing at the garden party. ☐
- 5 Laura forgets about her telephone call. ☐
- 6 The workmen arrive to put up the marquee. ☒
- 7 A man brings many pink lily flowers to the house. ☐
- 8 One of the workmen smells the flowers. ☐
- 9 Laura watches the workmen and feels happy. ☐
- 10 Laura goes out to speak to the workmen. ☐

2 Underline the correct words in each sentence.

- 1 There are hundreds and hundreds of *karaka trees* / roses in the garden.
- 2 *Mrs Sheridan* / *Meg* asks Laura to go out and speak to the workmen.
- 3 The tall man says to put the marquee *in front of the karaka trees* / *on the grass*.
- 4 Laura thinks that the workmen *are nice* / *don't like smelling flowers*.
- 5 Sadie asks *Laura* / *Mrs Sheridan* about the lilies.
- 6 Mrs Sheridan wants to have lots of lilies for the *garden party* / *living room*.
- 7 Jose sings a *sad* / *happy* song.

ACTIVITIES PAGES 13–20

3 Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)?

- 1 The Sheridan girls write out the names for the sandwiches. ☒
- 2 Laura learns from Cook that a young man is dead. ☐
- 3 Jose doesn't want to stop the garden party. ☐
- 4 The dead man's family lives far from the Sheridans. ☐
- 5 The Sheridan girls went to the cottages when they were children. ☐
- 6 Laura decides to think about the dead man after the garden party. ☐
- 7 Laura enjoys herself at the garden party. ☐

4 Who or what do the underlined words refer to in these lines from the text?

- 1 I must say, I feel a little afraid of her this morning! (page 13)
.....
Cook.....
- 2 'Have one each, my dears,' (page 14)
- 3 They were listening to the man from Godber's. (page 14)
.....
- 4 Why didn't she understand? (page 15)
- 5 She was starting to get really angry now. (page 16)
.....
- 6 She wanted to tell him about it. (page 19)
- 7 'Is it?' (page 19)
- 8 Laura thought they were like beautiful birds visiting her family's garden for the afternoon. (page 19)
.....

ACTIVITIES PAGES 21–28

- 5 Complete the sentences with the names in the box.

Laura (x3)	Laurie	Mrs Scott's sister
Mrs Scott	Mrs Sheridan	Mr Sheridan

- 1 Laura and Mrs Sheridan say goodbye to all their guests as they leave.
- 2 is tired after the party.
- 3 is sad for the dead man's family.
- 4 takes the party food to the dead man's wife.
- 5 invites Laura into the cottage.
- 6 doesn't want to talk to Laura.
- 7 feels afraid at the cottage.
- 8 Laura meets on the way home from the cottage.

- 6 Answer the questions.

- 1 Why does Laura think about the party again when she's going to the cottage?
.....
- 2 Why does Laura think the people outside the cottage are looking at her?
.....
- 3 What does Laura do when she sees the dead man's body?
.....
- 4 How does Laurie show he understands how Laura feels?
.....

ACTIVITIES PAGES 32–38

1 Match the two parts of the sentences.

- 1 Leila has never been to a ball ☒ d
- 2 The Sheridan girls aren't very excited about going to the ball ☐
- 3 Leila wants to read the names of all the dances in the programme ☐
- 4 Leila didn't want to come to the ball ☐
- 5 Leila doesn't answer the fat man's question ☐
 - a because they always go to balls.
 - b because he leaves when the music starts.
 - c but there isn't any time.
 - d because she lives in the country.
 - e but she isn't afraid any more.

2 Underline the correct words in each sentence.

- 1 The Sheridan girls *know* / *don't know* it's Leila's first ball.
- 2 Leila wants to keep the *paper* / *gloves* so she can remember everything about the ball.
- 3 *Laura's* / *Leila's* special name is Twig.
- 4 The Sheridan girls and Leila go into the Ladies room *before* / *after* they go into the ballroom.
- 5 The girls and the men *are* / *aren't* on the same side of the room.
- 6 Meg *tells* / *doesn't tell* people in the ballroom that Leila is from the country.
- 7 Leila's first dance partner is *a young* / *an old fat* man.
- 8 The *young man* / *fat man* asks Leila about the floor.

ACTIVITIES PAGES 39–45

3 Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)?

- 1 Leila tells her first dance partner that she's never been to a ball. ☒
- 2 Leila and her first dance partner talk a lot after the music stops. ☐
- 3 Leila's second dance partner asks her about the floor. ☐
- 4 Leila doesn't tell her second dance partner that it's her first ball. ☐
- 5 Leila dances again with her first partner. ☐
- 6 The fat man doesn't know it's Leila's first ball. ☐
- 7 The fat man says his first dance was thirty years ago. ☐
- 8 Leila feels sad after dancing with the fat man. ☐
- 9 After Leila dances with a young man she feels happy. ☐

4 Answer the questions.

- 1 Who doesn't seem interested in Leila's first ball?
.....
- 2 Who is waiting for Leila when she goes back inside the hall with her second dance partner?
.....
- 3 Who doesn't ask Leila about the floor?
.....
- 4 How does Leila feel at the end of the story?
.....

ACTIVITIES PAGES 48–53

1 Match the two parts of the sentences.

- 1 Aunt Beryl puts the doll's house in the garden ☒ c
 - 2 The Burnell girls think that the doll's house ☐
 - 3 Kezia really likes ☐
 - 4 Nobody speaks to the Kelvey girls at school ☐
 - 5 At school the Kelvey girls wear ☐
 - 6 All the girls stand close to Isabel and listen to the story except for ☐
- a clothes that other people give them.
 - b because they're poor.
 - ~~c~~ because she doesn't like the smell.
 - d the Kelvey girls.
 - e the lamp.
 - f is beautiful.

2 Underline the correct words in each sentence.

- 1 The doll's house is in the garden / inside the house.
- 2 Lottie and Kezia / Isabel will tell everybody first at school about the doll's house.
- 3 Isabel / Mrs Burnell is going to choose who comes to see the doll's house first.
- 4 Mrs and Mrs Burnell like / don't like the school.
- 5 The school has only rich / rich and poor girls.
- 6 Mrs and Mrs Burnell want / don't want their daughters to speak to the Kelvey girls.
- 7 The Kelvey girls' mother is a washerwoman / is in prison.
- 8 Isabel forgets to talk about the lamp / the carpets, the beds and the stove.

ACTIVITIES PAGES 54–59

- 3 Complete the sentences with the names in the box.

Kezia The Kelvey girls (x3) Else One of the girls

- 1 The Kelvey girls have jam sandwiches at dinner time.
- 2 are the only girls from school who haven't come to see the doll's house.
- 3 says terrible things to the Kelveys at dinnertime.
- 4 speaks to the Kelvey girls.
- 5 wants to see the doll's house.
- 6 run from the Burnell garden.

- 4 Answer the questions.

- 1 Why does Kezia feel sorry for the Kelvey girls at dinnertime?
.....
- 2 Why doesn't Mrs Burnell want the Kelvey girls to come and see the house?
.....
- 3 List two things Lena tells Lil Kelvey.
.....
- 4 Who tells the Kelvey girls to leave the garden?
.....

LOOKING BACK

- 5 Check your answers to *Before you read* on page 3.