

## The Vacuum Cleaner – Page 2: Questions

Look at paragraph 1, beginning: *Shooting out from its hiding place...*

- 1) Find the phrase: ***like a cheese baguette from the mouth of an ancient brass cannon...*** (1 mark)

This is an example of: (Tick **one**)

- a) Sulphur
- b) San Francisco
- c) Synonym
- d) Simile
- e) Satsuma

- 2) What was the ***doomed rubber toy?*** (1 mark)

- 3) Why did the animal fly down the hallway? (1 mark)

(Tick **one**):

- a) It had to make a sandwich in the kitchen.
- b) It was time to give Sophie a kiss.
- c) It wanted to capture Sophie's bouncy ball.
- d) It needed some exercise.
- e) It wanted to get some stones from a quarry.

- 4) Why were the creature's eyes described as ***determined?*** (1 mark)

5) In this paragraph, what is the meaning of the word **quarry**? (1 mark)

(Tick **one**):

- a) A large, deep pit from which stone is extracted.
- b) A creamy Mexican dish made from sweet potato.
- c) A brightly painted kitchen door.
- d) An animal pursued by a hunter or predator.
- e) A type of all-in-one nightwear for style conscious children.

6) Find and copy **one word** which tells us that the creature was very unusual and remarkable. (1 mark)

Now look at paragraph 2, beginning: *Sophie squealed...*

7) Why do you think that Sophie cried out? (1 mark)

8) What followed the creature down the hall? (1 mark)

9) How do you know that the creature had not been in existence for very long when this story takes place? (1 mark)

- 10) In the table below, there are **five** pairs of synonyms. (1 mark)  
Each of the two synonyms in the pair is in a different column.

**Draw a line** between the two words in each of the five pairs.  
You will need to draw **five** lines.

quiver	bony
boss	slither
skeletal	tremble
move along smoothly from side to side	dutiful
faithful	master

Now look at paragraph 3, beginning: *In that split second...*

- 11) Sophie's dad used to make her laugh when he did the housework. What did he do that she found so funny? (1 mark)

- 12) What is a ***split second***? (1 mark)  
(Tick **one**):

- a) A pair of trousers with a rip in one knee.
- b) A kind of creamy banana pudding.
- c) A very small duration of time.
- d) Someone who helps both of a pair of duellers.
- e) An elaborately worked piece of gold jewellery.

- 13) What particular thing reminded Sophie of her dad's antics? (1 mark)

Now look at paragraph 5, beginning: *A terrific crash...*

- 14) What caused Sophie to think about the present again? (1 mark)
- 15) Find and copy **one word** which tells us that Sophie loved her bouncy ball. (1 mark)
- 16) What did the creature do to Sophie's bouncy ball? (1 mark)
- 17) Find the phrase: ***the aggressor was calmed...*** (2 marks)  
Explain what this means.
- 18) What did the creature do before it settled down? (2 marks)
- 19) Find the phrase: ***it lay still, lifeless and innocent...*** (1 mark)  
Why was the creature not really ***innocent***?

Now look at paragraph 6, beginning: "Sophie, what on earth..."

20) What did Sophie's mother want to know? (1 mark)

21) As well as curiosity, what else was Sophie's mum feeling? (1 mark)

22) About what in particular was Sophie's mother worried? (1 mark)

Now look at paragraph 7, beginning: The door to the kitchen opened...

23) What had Sophie's mum been doing in the kitchen? (1 mark)

(Tick **one**):

- a) reading
- b) frying
- c) roasting
- d) cleaning
- e) baking

24) Sophie admitted to playing with the vacuum cleaner when she had not. Why do you think she didn't tell the truth? (1 mark)

**Total marks /26**