Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone

Read the passage below and answer the given questions.

As he pulled into the driveway of number four, the first thing he saw – and it didn't improve his mood – was the tabby cat he'd spotted that morning. It was now sitting on his garden wall. He was sure it was the same one; it had the same markings around its eyes. 'Shoo!' said Mr. Dursley loudly. The cat didn't move. It just gave him a stern look. Was this normal cat behaviour, Mr. Dursley wondered. Trying to pull himself together, he let himself into the house. He was still determined not to mention anything to his wife. Mrs. Dursley had had a nice, normal day. She told him over dinner all about Mrs. Next Door's problems with her daughter and how Dudley had learned a new word ('Shan't!'). Mr. Dursley tried to act normally. When Dudley had been put to bed, he went into the living- room in time to catch the last report on the evening news:

‘And finally, birdwatchers everywhere have reported that the nation's owls have been behaving very unusually today. Although owls normally hunt at night and are hardly ever seen in daylight, there have been hundreds of sightings of these birds flying in every direction since sunrise. Experts are unable to explain why the owls have suddenly changed their sleeping pattern.' The newsreader allowed himself a grin. 'Most mysterious. And now, over to Jim McGuffin with the weather. Going to be any more showers of owls tonight, Jim?'

‘Well, Ted,’ said the weatherman, ‘I don’t know about that, but it’s not only the owls that have been acting oddly today. Viewers as far apart as Kent, Yorkshire and Dundee have been phoning in to tell me that instead of the rain I promised yesterday, they've had a downpour of shooting stars! Perhaps people have been celebrating Bonfire Night early– it's not until next week, folks! But I can promise a wet night tonight.'

Mr. Dursley sat frozen in his armchair. Shooting stars all over Britain? Owls flying by daylight? Mysterious people in cloaks all over the place? And a whisper, a whisper about the Potters … Mrs. Dursley came into the living- room carrying two cups of tea. It was no good. He'd have to say something to her. He cleared his throat nervously. 'Er – Petunia, dear – you haven't heard from your sister lately, have you?' As he had expected, Mrs. Dursley looked shocked and angry. After all, they normally pretended she didn't have a sister.

'No,' she said sharply. ‘Why?’

'Funny stuff on the news,' Mr. Dursley mumbled. 'Owls … shooting stars … and there were a lot of funny-looking people in town today …

'So?' snapped Mrs. Dursley. 'Well, I just thought … maybe … it was something to do with … you know … her lot.' Mrs. Dursley sipped her tea through pursed lips. Mr. Dursley wondered whether he dared tell her he'd heard the name 'Potter'. He decided he didn't dare. Instead, he said, as casually as he could, 'Their son – he'd be about Dudley's age now, wouldn't he?'

'I suppose so,' said Mrs. Dursley stiffly.

’What's his name again? Howard, isn't it?'

 'Harry. Nasty, common name, if you ask me.'

'Oh, yes,' said Mr. Dursley, his heart sinking horribly. 'Yes, I quite agree.' He didn't say another word on the subject as they went upstairs to bed. While Mrs. Dursley was in the bathroom, Mr. Dursley crept to the bedroom window and peered down into the front garden. The cat was still there. It was staring down Privet Drive as though it was waiting for something. Was he imagining things? Could all this have anything to do with the Potters? If it did … if it got out that they were related to a pair of – well, he didn't think he could bear it. The Dursleys got into bed. Mrs. Dursley fell asleep quickly but Mr. Dursley lay awake, turning it all over in his mind. His last, comforting thought before he fell asleep was that even if the Potters were involved, there was no reason for them to come near him and Mrs. Dursley. The Potters knew very well what he and Petunia thought about them and their kind … He couldn't see how he and Petunia could get mixed up in anything that might be going on. He yawned and turned over. It couldn't affect them …

How very wrong he was. Mr. Dursley might have been drifting into an uneasy sleep, but the cat on the wall outside was showing no sign of sleepiness. It was sitting as still as a statue, its eyes fixed unblinkingly on the far corner of Privet Drive. It didn’t so much as quiver when a car door slammed in the next street, nor when two owls swooped overhead. In fact, it was nearly midnight before the cat moved at all.

**Source: Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone**

**Author: J.K. Rowling**

**Answer these questions. (Look at the passage again if you need to.)**

**Choose the best answer.**

1. Why was Mr. Dursley sure that it was the same cat?
2. The cat had the same type of spots on its body
3. The cat’s fur was similar to the one he saw previously
4. The cat had green eyes
5. The cat had the same markings around its eyes
6. What did Mrs. Dursley talk about over the dinner table?
7. About Mrs. Next Door’s problems with her daughter
8. About how Dudley had learnt a new word (‘Shan’t!’)
9. Both option A and B
10. None of the above
11. When Dudley had been put to bed, what did Mr. Dursley do?
12. Talked about the incidents that happened to him that day
13. Asked Mrs. Dursley about Dudley’s report book
14. Went into the living room to watch his favorite tv-show
15. Went into the living room to catch the last report on the evening news
16. Although owls normally hunt at night and are hardly ever seen in daylight, there have been hundreds of sightings of these birds flying in every direction since sunrise. What change in the usual behavior of owls did the Bird-watchers report?
17. Change in their hunting pattern
18. Change in their flying pattern
19. Change in their sleeping pattern
20. Change in their eating pattern
21. What was Mrs. Dursley’s reaction when Mr. Dursley asked if she had heard from her sister lately?
22. She looked delighted and shocked
23. She was surprised
24. She pretended that she didn’t know her
25. She looked shocked and angry
26. What unusual incidents did Mr. Dursley notice that day?
27. Owls flying by daylight and a heavy rainfall
28. Owls flying by daylight, shooting stars all over Britain, and a heavy rainfall
29. Shooting stars all over Britain, owls flying by daylight, and mysterious people in cloaks
30. Mysterious people in cloaks, owls flying by daylight, and a heavy rainfall
31. What was the name of Mrs. Dursley’s nephew?
32. Howard
33. Harry
34. Harvey
35. Harold
36. What was Mr. Dursley’s last comforting thought before he fell asleep?
37. That if the Potters were involved there was a reason for them to come near him and Mrs. Dursley
38. That if the Potters were involved there was no reason for them to come near him and Mrs. Dursley
39. That the Potters didn’t know what he and Petunia thought about them and their kind
40. That he could see how he and Petunia could get mixed up in anything that might be going on
41. The downpour of shooting stars had been viewed in which of the following places?
42. Yorkshire, Sheffield and Dundee
43. Dundee, Yorkshire and Kent
44. Kent, Yorkshire and Manchester
45. Dundee, Manchester and Kent
46. The cat was sitting as still as a statue, its eyes fixed unblinkingly on the far corner. What was the cat staring at?
47. Bedroom window
48. Mr. Dursley
49. Privet Drive
50. Car flap
51. ‘As he pulled into the driveway of number four’. What does ‘number four’ mean in the context of the given statement?
52. The fourth driveway of the house
53. Street number four
54. Driveway of shop number four
55. Driveway of house number four
56. The first thing he saw -and it didn’t improve his mood – was the tabby cat he'd spotted that morning. He was sure it was the same one, it had the same markings around its eyes. Which one of the following statements is correct based on the information in the above passage?
57. Mr. Dursley was glad to see the same cat on his garden wall that he’d spotted that morning
58. There was something unusual that Mr. Dursley had noticed about the tabby cat that morning which had an impact on his overall mood
59. He wasn’t fond of tabby cats as they had the same kind of markings around their eyes which seemed unappealing to him
60. Mr. Dursley’s mood wasn’t affected by the presence of the tabby cat
61. Mrs. Dursley had had a nice, normal day. She told him over dinner all about Mrs. Next Door’s problems with her daughter. Which one of the following best explains the statement above?
62. Mrs. Dursley was the kind of woman who spent most of her time spying on her neighbours
63. Mrs. Dursley was a kind lady who cared about her neighbours
64. Mrs. Dursley was a social woman and spent most of her time serving her neighbours
65. Mrs. Dursley spent most of her time at home doing her daily chores
66. Experts are unable to explain why the owls have suddenly changed their sleeping pattern. The news reader allowed himself a grin. What does ‘allowed himself a grin’ mean in the context of the given statement?
67. The news reader was surprised by the change in the sleeping pattern of owls
68. The news reader had smiled mysteriously while reading the news
69. The news reader pursed his lips while reading the news
70. The news reader was happy while reading the news
71. ‘And now over to Jim McGuffin with the weather. Going to be any more showers of owls tonight, Jim?’ Which one of the following statements is correct about Jim McGuffin?
72. Jim McGuffin was the news reader who had forecasted the rain
73. Jim McGuffin was the bird-watcher who had reported the unusual behavior of the nation’s owls
74. Jim McGuffin was amongst the viewers who reported the downpour of shooting stars
75. Jim McGuffin was a television weatherman whose forecasted rain became shooting stars across some areas of Great Britain
76. ‘Funny stuff on the news,’ Mr. Dursley mumbled. ‘Owls… shooting stars… and there were a lot of funny-looking people in town today…’ What does ‘funny-looking people’ mean in the context of the statement above?
77. The people Mr. Dursley came across today had a good sense of humour
78. The facial appearances of people were quite funny
79. The people in the town were having a lot of fun
80. There seemed to be a lot of strangely dressed people in cloaks which looked funny
81. ‘Er – Petunia, dear – you haven’t heard from your sister lately, have you?’ As he had expected, Mrs. Dursley looked shocked and angry. After all, they normally pretended she didn’t have a sister.

Which one of the following is correct based on the information in the above passage?

1. Mrs. Dursley loved her sister and stayed in contact with her from time to time
2. Mr. Dursley was concerned about Petunia’s sister and they both shared a good relationship with Potters
3. Mrs. Dursley pretended she didn’t have a sister because she was jealous of her
4. Mrs. Dursley pretended she didn’t have a sister because she thought her sister’s family was peculiar.
5. The Potters knew very well what he and Petunia thought about them and their kind. He couldn’t see how he and Petunia could get mixed up in anything that might be going on. What do you infer by the word **‘how’** in the statement above?
6. Mr. Dursley couldn’t see the ‘possibility’ of him and Petunia getting mixed up in anything that was about to happen
7. Mr. Dursley could see the ‘possibility’ of him and Petunia getting mixed up in anything that was about to happen
8. Mr. Dursley was concerned whether he and Petunia had harmed the Potters in any way
9. Mr. Dursley was afraid that the Potters would harm them
10. Which of these is a verb?
11. Move
12. Unusually
13. Shan’t
14. Mysterious
15. What type of words are the following?

Tabby; Nice; Mysterious; Funny

1. Adverbs
2. Adjectives
3. Nouns
4. Pronouns
5. Which of these is an adverb?
6. Spotted
7. Learnt
8. Oddly
9. Phoning
10. What type of words are the following?

 kent; owls; cloaks; birds

1. Adverbs
2. Verbs
3. Pronouns
4. Nouns
5. Which of these is a conjunction?
6. It
7. Over
8. Although
9. Suddenly
10. What type of words are the following?

 didn’t; don’t; shan’t; haven’t

1. Conjunctions
2. Verbs
3. Adverbs
4. Contractions
5. What type of words are the following?

his; he; it; them

1. Nouns
2. Pronouns
3. Verbs
4. Adjectives
5. Which of these is a preposition?
6. Lay
7. Over
8. Might
9. Quiver

**In this passage, there are some spelling mistakes. On each numbered line there is either one mistake or no mistake. Find the group of words with the mistake in it and select its letter from the choices given. If there is no mistake, select N.**

1. A litle, dark-haired child named Charles Chaplin was frequently

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| A litle, | dark-haired child | named Charles Chaplin | was frequently |
| A | B | C | D | N |

1. spotted loitering outside the theaters' back entrance in London

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| spotted loitering | outside the theaters' | back entrances | in London |
| A | B | C | D | N |

1. about the year 1900. Although he appeared underwieght and famished,

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| about the year | 1900. Although he | he appeared underwieght | and famished, |
| A | B | C | D | N |

1. his blue eyes were fierse. He hoped to land a job in the entertainment industry.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| his blue eyes were | fierse. He hoped to | land a job in the | entertainment industry. |
| A | B | C | D | N |

1. He could dance and sing. He was riased in the theatre by music

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| He could dance | and sing. He | was riased in the | theatre by music |
| A | B | C | D | N |

1. hall performers who were also his parents. And even thogh his

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| hall performers | who were also | his parents. | And even thogh his |
| A | B | C | D | N |

1. own boyhood was very difficult, he had a gift for making people lough.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| own boyhood was | was very difficult, | he had a gift for | making people lough. |
| A | B | C | D | N |

1. His own father had passed away from exsessive drinking.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| His own | father had | passed away from | exsessive drinking. |
| A | B | C | D | N |

**In this passage, there are some mistakes of capital letters and punctuation. On each numbered line there is either one mistake or no mistake. Find the group of words with the mistake in it and mark its letter on your answer sheet. If there is no mistake, mark N.**

1. The ability of birds to migrate is one of its biggest mysteries. birds

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| The ability of birds | to migrate is one | of its biggest | mysteries. birds |
| A | B | C | D | N |

1. migrate from northern Asia Europe and America to southern,

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| migrate from | northern Asia | Europe and America | to southern, |
| A | B | C | D | N |

1. warmer Places every year throughout the autumn and early winter.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| warmer Places | every year throughout | the autumn | and early winter. |
| A | B | C | D | N |

1. During the early spring and summer they travel back. Unless

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| During the | early spring and | summer they travel | back. Unless |
| A | B | C | D | N |

1. poor weather causes a delay, they are always on time Long flights

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| poor weather | causes a delay, | they are always on | time Long flights |
| A | B | C | D | N |

1. across hills, forests plains and wide sections of water expose

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| across hills, | forests plains | and wide sections | of water expose |
| A | B | C | D | N |

1. them to several hazards and sufferings. occasionally,

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| them to | several hazards | and sufferings. | occasionally, |
| A | B | C | D | N |

1. unforeseen storms develop; and send them flying off track.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| unforeseen storms | develop; and | send them flying | off track. |
| A | B | C | D | N |

**In each question you have to choose the best word, or group of words, to complete this passage so that it makes sense and is written in correct English. You should choose one of the four answers and mark its letter on your answer sheet.**

1. There are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ components to good health.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| few | enormous | several | better |
| A | B | C | D |

1. It entails healthy eating, a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ schedule, sound sleeping

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| plan | timetable | punctual | regular |
| A | B | C | D |

1. practices and decent eating \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Numerous outside elements also

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| traits | habits | scheme | arrange |
| A | B | C | D |

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ your wellbeing in addition to these intrinsic characteristics.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| affect | effect | plan | set up |
| A | B | C | D |

1. Due to the clean air, physical activity and \_\_\_\_\_\_ food, people in the

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| organized | delicious | nutritious | rotten |
| A | B | C | D |

1. villages maintain their physical strength. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , those who live in

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Consistently | Contrarily | Consequently | Equally |
| A | B | C | D |

1. metropolitan regions \_\_\_\_\_\_ unhealthy diet, are less mobile and have

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| disservice | disapprove | favour | oppose |
| A | B | C | D |

1. trouble managing stress. In the same vein, urban areas offer a superior \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of living and healthcare.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| substandard | standard | structure | method |
| A | B | C | D |

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