

Name: _____

Date: _____

ONE FEARFUL NIGHT

By: Sharmane C. Miller

The howling wind whistled through the open bedroom window. Shadows of all shapes and sizes danced on the walls as Linda lay frozen in her bed. Her teeth were chattering from the cold air that filled her room and the fear that gripped her added to her anxiety.

"She clutched her pillow tightly and began to recite a short prayer, *"Now I lay me down to sleep ..."* Suddenly, a gust of wind rushed in. The assignment she had left on her computer desk scattered all over the floor. She sunk deeper into her sheets and pulled the blanket over her head.

"Why me?" She thought to herself. "Why is this happening to me?" She knew she would have to get up to bolt her window or face freezing. However, her body would not cooperate. Finally, after much thought, she took a deep breath, threw off her blanket and darted to the window. The violent wind caused the window to bang furiously against the pane. Linda nervously fastened the latch and closed the curtains. It was quiet once again.

Hurriedly, Linda climbed into bed and quickly pulled the covers over her head once again. Without a second thought, she continued the prayer she had started earlier, *"I pray the lord my soul to keep"* With those words, Linda drifted off to sleep.

1. What two things caused Linda's teeth to chatter?

2. "Linda lay frozen in her bed." Explain the meaning of this sentence.

3. "Shadows of all shapes and sizes danced on the walls." Which two words in this sentence suggest the time that the story took place?

4. Why was Linda finally able to go sleep?

5. Which might have happened if Linda didn't find out what caused the loud noise? Put an x next to the correct answer.

_____ she might have stayed awake in fear

_____ she might have stayed awake feeling safe

_____ she might have stood by the window singing

6. Put the following events in the order as they happened in the story using numbers 1-4.

_____ Paper flew all over the room

_____ Linda squeezed her pillow

_____ Linda closed the window

_____ Linda pulled the blanket over her head.