

Comprehension- Main Idea

Name: _____

Date: _____

Grade: _____

English Language

One Stormy Day

Language For Living Bk 1 pg.39

Read the passage twice. Then answer all questions in complete sentences unless otherwise indicated.

Yesterday was the worst day of my life. I don't think I am a coward really, but I was terrified. I hope never again to have such an experience.

The day began as usual. We got ready for school and Peter, strange to say, was late for once. The sky was rather cloudy, and Mummy said, 'Better take your raincoats'. I picked up mine, but Peter hates any sort of coat – he says they look 'sissy' and keep him too hot. But I'm sure he was sorry not to have his, because torrents of rain came pouring down just as I reached the school gate, and I know he must have been drenched to the skin by the time he had walked from the bus-stop to his school.

Assembly and morning classes went on as usual, though the rain fell without stopping. At break time it held up for a while, but the playing fields were soaked, and the garden was flooded. Then about midday came a message that a storm was approaching the island, and that schools were to be closed. We were hurriedly dismissed, ***and I lost no time*** in making my way home. The sky was now very dark, almost black. Peter arrived soon after me, and daddy decided not to go back to the shop after lunch. He and Peter inspected the windows and the outer doors, and made sure that all the fastenings and hinges were secure. Mum and I pasted strips of paper over the panes of glass. Susie was rather puzzled by all this, as she had never heard of a storm warning before. We collected water in jugs and pails and put candles, lamps and matches on a handy table. We shut Sloopy in the kitchen, and waited, all gathered in the living room.

All this time the wind has been rising, though only a little rain fell. Then a terrific flash of lightning pierced the sky, and the peals of thunder that came with it made poor Susie burst into tears. Rain beat on the roof, wind shook the house. We could not even hear each other speak. I tried to seem brave, but to be truthful, I was not far from following Susie's example. She buried her head in Mum's lap, and even Mum looked nervous. Peter said, 'It's alright. Dad says this is a storm, not a real hurricane'. But I noticed that his hands shook a little when he opened a window. Dad had told him that a window or door on the leeward side of the house must always be open during a storm.

Wind and rain, thunder and lightning went on for about an hour. Then gradually the noise grew less, and Peter suddenly shouted, 'I can see blue sky!' We joined him at the window. What a sight! Leaves, twigs and even small branches littered the ground, our kitchen garden was under water, and the fence was tottering at a drunken angle. But the heavy clouds had parted and were moving away. Everything was very still. The storm was over.

Questions

1. Why did Peter not take his raincoat?

(1pt.)

2. What was the first sign of the coming storm?

(1pt.)

3. What does Ann mean by lost no time (1.7)?

(2pts.)

5. What was the first sign that the storm was ending?

(1pt.)

6. How do you know that the wind was very strong?

(2pts.)

7. Which member of the family did not help in getting ready for the storm? Why not?

(2pts.)

8. What damage was done to the Robinson's home?

(2pts.)

9. Which member of the family was most frightened? Why?

(1pt.)

10. Which one was least frightened?

(1pt.)

11. Why was Peter the first to realize that the storm had ended?

(2pts.)

Total =15 Marks