

Chapter 2: The Red Room

Fill in the blanks

1. The young man is _____ years old and does not believe in _____.
2. To prove ghosts don't exist, he decides to spend the night in the _____ Room of _____ Castle.
3. The three old caretakers warn him about the room's history of _____ and _____.
4. The young man describes the caretakers as looking like _____ themselves.
5. In the corridor, he mistakes a _____ for shadows of people.
6. Inside the Red Room, he lights multiple _____ and checks behind the _____ for safety.
7. At _____, the candles begin blowing out _____, as if crushed by invisible hands.
8. Even the _____ extinguishes, plunging him into total darkness.
9. Overcome by terror, he _____ and falls unconscious, waking up with a _____ the next morning.
10. The fear preys on the _____ and amplifies even the simplest _____.

Choose the correct meaning for each word.

1. Gloomily
 - a) Sadly
 - b) Happily
 - c) Brightly
 - d) Loudly
2. Apprehensive

- a) Confident
- b) Carefree
- c) Anxious
- d) Angry

3. Monotonous

- a) Exciting
- b) Boring
- c) Musical
- d) Fast

4. Crutch

- a) A weapon
- b) A type of chair
- c) A musical instrument
- d) A support for walking

5. Extinguish

- a) To light up
- b) To put out
- c) To hide
- d) To throw

6. Solitude

- a) Being alone
- b) Being in a crowd
- c) Being lost
- d) Being angry

7. Lurk

- a) To sing loudly

- b) To run away
- c) To sleep
- d) To hide and wait

8. Abruptly

- a) Slowly
- b) Carefully
- c) Suddenly
- d) Repeatedly

9. Humid

- a) Dry
- b) Cold
- c) Moist
- d) Hot

10. Skeptical

- a) Doubtful
- b) Believing easily
- c) Fearful
- d) Excited

Multiple Choice Questions

1. Why does the young man decide to spend the night in the Red Room?
- a) He is sceptical about ghosts and wants to prove they don't exist.
 - b) He inherited the castle and must inspect the room for legal reasons.
 - c) He is a ghost hunter and wants to capture evidence of paranormal activity.
 - d) He was dared by friends and cannot back down without losing his reputation.

2. How do the three elderly caretakers contribute to the eerie atmosphere?
- a) They secretly follow him to the Red Room to play pranks and scare him.
 - b) They openly threaten the young man, warning him he will not survive the night.
 - c) They refuse to speak to him, communicating only through gestures and whispers.
 - d) Their aged appearance, odd behaviour, and ominous warnings make them seem ghost-like.
3. What precautions does the young man take in the Red Room to calm his nerves?
- a) He invites one of the caretakers to stay with him for company.
 - b) He brings a weapon, locks the door, and recites prayers for protection.
 - c) He ignores the warnings and sleeps soundly, trusting his disbelief in ghosts.
 - d) He lights all the candles, checks behind curtains, and uses furniture as a barricade.
4. What phenomenon in the Red Room terrifies the young man the most?
- a) A ghostly figure appears and speaks to him in an ancient language.
 - b) The walls bleed, and distant screams echo from the castle's history.
 - c) The room shrinks gradually, making him feel trapped and suffocated.
 - d) The candles and fireplace extinguish inexplicably, plunging him into darkness.
5. What does the young man conclude is the true horror of the Red Room?
- a) Fear itself—irrational, overwhelming, and primal—haunts the room.
 - b) The caretakers are secretly manipulating events to drive visitors mad.
 - c) The room is cursed by a vengeful spirit seeking revenge for past wrongs.

- d) The castle's architecture creates optical illusions that play tricks on the mind.
6. How does the young man react when the candles begin blowing out?
- a) He panics, trips over furniture, and flees the room in terror.
 - b) He meditates to calm himself, refusing to let fear take control.
 - c) He laughs, assuming it's a draft, and relights them without concern.
 - d) He accuses the caretakers of sabotage and demands an explanation.
7. What literary device is emphasized in the line, "Fear! It is the fear itself that is beyond reason"?
- a) Metaphor, comparing fear to an unseen predator.
 - b) Personification, as fear is given human-like qualities.
 - c) Foreshadowing, as it hints at the young man's eventual fate.
 - d) Irony, because the man expected ghosts but found something worse.
8. Why does the young man mention the deaths of previous visitors to the Red Room?
- a) To foreshadow his own impending death.
 - b) To mock the superstitions of the caretakers.
 - c) To highlight his bravery in facing a known threat.
 - d) To suggest the room is physically dangerous, not just haunted.
9. How does the setting (Lorraine Castle) contribute to the story's theme?
- a) Its bright, modern design contrasts with the dark events that occur.
 - b) Its ancient, shadowy corridors amplify the sense of isolation and dread.
 - c) It is a well-known tourist attraction, making the haunting a public spectacle.
 - d) It symbolizes wealth and power, making the haunting seem like a punishment.

10. What lesson does the young man learn by the end of the story?
- a) Courage means ignoring fear rather than confronting it.
 - b) Elderly people possess secret knowledge about the spirit world.
 - c) Ghosts are real, and science cannot explain supernatural phenomena.
 - d) Human imagination can create terror even in the absence of real threats.