

## **The Mystery at the Old House**

**Directions:** Read the story. Choose the correct verb form to complete each sentence. Then answer the questions at the end.



### **Part A: Complete the Story (Choose the correct form)**

#### **The Story:**

Last Saturday, Maria and her friends \_\_\_\_\_ (decide/decides/were deciding) to explore the old house on Maple Street. When they \_\_\_\_\_ (walk/walks/were walking) to the house, dark clouds \_\_\_\_\_ (cover/covers/were covering) the sky.

Maria usually \_\_\_\_\_ (avoid/avoids/was avoiding) scary places, but today she \_\_\_\_\_ (feel/feels/felt) brave. Her friend Carlos \_\_\_\_\_ (carry/carries/is carrying) a flashlight right now as they get near the door.

When they \_\_\_\_\_ (arrive/arrives/arrived) at the entrance, a person \_\_\_\_\_ (knock/knocks/was knocking) from inside. The group \_\_\_\_\_ (stop/stops/stopped) immediately. While they \_\_\_\_\_ (wait/waits/were waiting) outside, the door slowly \_\_\_\_\_ (open/opens/opened).

A woman \_\_\_\_\_ (appear/appears/appeared) and \_\_\_\_\_ (say/says/said), "I \_\_\_\_\_ (live/lives/am living) here now. I \_\_\_\_\_ (clean/cleans/was cleaning) the windows when I heard voices."

They \_\_\_\_\_ (laugh/laughs/laughed) with relief! Now Maria \_\_\_\_\_ (know/knows/knew) that not all mysteries \_\_\_\_\_ (have/has/had) scary endings. She \_\_\_\_\_ (believe/believes/is believing) this experience \_\_\_\_\_ (teach/teaches/taught) her something important.

### **Part B: Comprehension Questions**

After reading the story, answer these questions:

1. Why did the group stop at the entrance?

**2.** What was the woman doing when she heard the voices?

**3.** How does Maria usually feel about scary places?

**4.** What lesson does Maria learn from this experience?