Global stage 6 - Reading – Unit 1 – HW

Read and answer the following questions below

A Girl Called Owl

by Amy Wilson





When you have a kid, don't call it something stupid.

Don't call it Apple or Pear or Mung Bean.

Don't call it Owl.

This advice is a bit late for me. Because she did. She did call me Owl. Thirteen years ago she looked down at a tiny little baby – me – and decided that Owl would be a good way to go.

I guess she didn't know then that I would have white-blond hair that flicks around my face, like **feathers**, no matter what I do with it. That my eyes would turn from baby blue to the palest brown, almost yellow; that my nose would be on the **beaky** side.

She should have seen that last one coming though; I **inherited** it from her.

I like owls. I think they're beautiful, but you know, my head doesn't **rotate** 360 degrees. I can't fly. I don't hunt at night.

All these are questions the other kids have asked me, over the years. Mum laughs when I tell her.

'See!' she cries, looking up from whatever she's doing, a glint in her dark eyes. 'Already you stand out in the crowd. Already you are different. Isn't it a wonderful thing?'

She's beautiful, my mum. Not in a **subjective** way, like she's my mum therefore she must be beautiful. She's actually beautiful. She has these big dark eyes, **masses** of dark hair, and when she smiles, when she laughs, it's difficult not to join in.

I do try my very best not to join in.

Her name is Isolde. She wears lots of bright colours, and **tinkling bangles** on her wrists. She smells of warm things: **vanilla**, cinnamon, oranges and blackcurrants, and something deeper that's just her, I guess.

My friends love her.

Which is annoying.

Glossary

SAMPLE

LIVEWORKSHEETS

a	Owl likes her unusual name.	true / false
b	Owl thinks that she looks like an owl in some ways.	true / false
c	She doesn't look like her mum at all.	true / false
d	Other children have asked questions about her name.	true / false
e	Owl's mum thinks the other children's questions are a good thing.	true / false
f	Owl is pleased that her friends like her mum.	true / false

Where can you find the information for the questions

Question a : _____

Question b : _____

Question c: _____

Question d : _____

Question e : _____

Question f : _____

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Owl and her friend, Mallory, have just had a maths lesson. Owl was told off by the teacher for sketching owls instead of paying attention.



It was an owl. The doodle in my maths book. I draw them, over and over. Little ones, big ones, owls with crazy **whirly** eyes, owls **swooping** down from the sky. They're in all the **borders** of my lined school books. They're on Post-it notes around my bedroom. I have **sketches** of them, paintings, even little clay figures.

I'm not saying they're good. Actually, if you walked into my bedroom, you'd probably run back out again, screaming. They're a bit **intense**.

Mum loves them. *Loves* them. She thinks it's me expressing myself.

Drawing myself, over and over again.

Mallory just rolls her eyes when she sees a new one now. She bought me a card with a **puffin** on it for my birthday a couple of weeks ago.

'Maybe a change?' she wrote inside, 'Now that you're thirteen?'

But I'm not *called* Puffin.

And there had to be a reason.

A reason Mum called me Owl.

SAMPLE

g Owl draws lots of pictures of owls in her school books and in her bedroom. true / false

h Her mum doesn't like her drawings. true / false

i Her friend Mallory thinks she should continue drawing lots of owls. true / false

j Owl thinks that there must be an explanation for her unusual name. true / false

Where can you find the information for the questions

Question g : _____

Question h : _____

Question i: _____

Question j : _____

LIVEWORKSHEETS