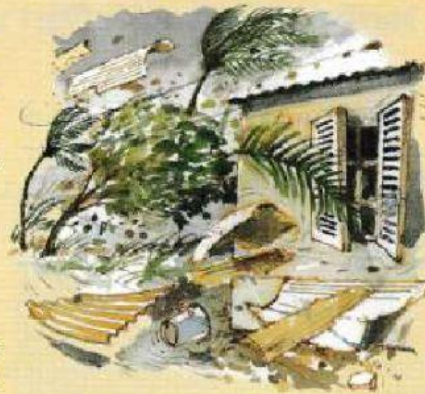


Main Idea and Supporting Details

Directions: Read the story below and answer the questions that follow at the bottom. Number your answers.

A hurricane to remember (Part one)

- 1 I was only a little girl at the time of the big hurricane. Of course my little brother and I were delighted as school had been let out because of the pending storm. I will always remember the name of that storm for as long as I live and the fury with which it descended on us. The smiles did not last very long on our faces. They were quickly replaced by fear.
- 2 We did get some warning about the oncoming storm. That morning at daybreak a light rain began to fall. Then the sky became unusually dark. About an hour later the rain began to fall a little harder and the wind started to pick up. By mid-morning the rain was a steady drone on the rooftop and the wind was howling with a high pitched wail.
- 3 We knew then that we were about to experience the full wrath of the storm. One of the shutters that my dad had hung to protect the window suddenly came loose. It banged furiously against the window. We could hear objects pounding loudly against the house as the wind tossed them about like paper outside. Through a tiny hole in the bathroom window, we saw our prized plum tree fall to the ground. The noise of it falling was so loud that my little brother pitched right into my surprised mother's arms. Daddy ushered us into the hallway and closed all the bedroom doors so that we could be a little more protected.
- 4 As if on cue, the lights went out. A blackness so thick enveloped us that it seemed as if we could reach out and touch it. Daddy quickly turned on the flashlight that he had among our emergency supplies. It cast long scary shadows on the wall.





Questions

- 1 Write the sentence from paragraph one that tell us that the children were happy to be dismissed early from school.
- 2 What three things let the family know that a storm was on the way?
- 3 What can the sound of the wind be compared to in paragraph two?
- 4 What is the main idea in paragraph three? Identify two details which support this main idea.
- 5 Which word in paragraph three shows that the plum tree was valuable to the family?
- 6 How do you think the children felt when the lights went out? Why?