



Name _____

Date _____

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT

Jackson hurried up to his apartment after school, skipping two or three steps at a time. When he got inside the apartment, he slammed the door shut.

“Are you okay, dear?” asked Mom. “You look as white as a ghost.”

“I’m fine now,” said Jackson. “The protesters were out again today, Mom, and they are scary!”

“Oh, dear, they sure can be,” agreed Mom. “I wish they didn’t have to do that so close to our apartment!”

“Mom, why are they protesting? Why are they so angry?” asked Jackson.

“They are upset about the war,” explained Mom. “They don’t think we should be in Vietnam.”

“What do they want the government to do about it?” asked Jackson.

“I think they want them to send the troops home,” replied Mom.

“But why are they burning the American flags?” asked Jackson incredulously.

“It does seem crazy,” Mom explained, “but they feel it is their right to burn the flag protesting what the U.S. government is doing. Burning the flag is a way of making a statement.”

“Kind of like freedom of speech?” asked Jackson.

“That’s right,” said Mom.

“Why don’t they try writing a letter to the President instead?” inquired Jackson.

“Perhaps this form of communication is more effective,” answered Mom.

Jackson shrugged his shoulders and headed up the stairs. He had a letter to write and he didn’t want to waste another minute.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. What of the following sentences below shows when the story takes place?
 - a. “I’m fine now,” said Jackson. “The protesters were out again today, Mom, and they are scary!”
 - b. “They are upset about the war,” explained Mom. “They don’t think we should be in Vietnam.”
 - c. “Mom, why are they protesting? Why are they so angry?” asked Jackson.
 - d. “Oh, dear, they sure can be,” agreed Mom. “I wish they didn’t have to do that so close to our apartment!”
2. What is the meaning of the word *incredulously* as used in the story?

a. in disbelief	c. timidly
b. remotely	d. frail
3. Which of the following sentences explains the problem in the story?
 - a. He had a letter to write and he didn’t want to waste another minute.
 - b. “What do they want the government to do about it?” asked Jackson.
 - c. “The protesters were out again today, Mom, and they are scary!”