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?

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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?

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