

THE HORRIFIC TALE OF GREAT UNCLE STILTON

4

"Auld Lang Syne"

Looking at the text

ANSWERS IN RED

LEARN: you may already know these words.

repetition deliberately repeating a word, a phrase or more. (It can be an effective rhetorical strategy for achieving emphasis.)

synonym a substitute word. It is usually so similar that it means the same as another word e.g. **sad** is a synonym for **unhappy**. You can find synonyms on a PC by right clicking over a word then scrolling down to **synonyms** >. You will find even more if you use a **Thesaurus**.

1. Explain why Sarah tried not to think of anything negative before falling asleep.

Sarah tried not to think of anything negative because **she did not want to have another nightmare.**

2. "Sarah knew then that something was seriously wrong. She quickly made her way downstairs and was asked to sit on the couch."

This is a deliberate use of **repetition**. Where did these words occur before in this story?

These exact words occurred in Chapter one **when Lisa Sharpe woke her up to tell her that her parents had been involved in a plane crash.**

3. We are told that, "they watched TV intently". What word is the best **synonym** for, 'intently'?

CIRCLE THE BEST SYNONYM sheltered **closely** privately frequently

4. What caused Sarah to panic when she was watching the news bulletin?

Sarah panicked because she was desperate to find out/couldn't work out/was unsure what her mother was saying.

5. What **words and phrases** show how happy Sarah and Gary were?

The words and phrases that show how happy Sarah and Gary were are

'Gary beamed in the reflected joy that came from his girlfriend's face' and, 'The smile that she went to sleep with was still there when she woke up'

6. What examples of alliteration/assonance/onomatopoeia are there as Sarah meets up with her parents?

Examples of alliteration/assonance/onomatopoeia are, **crackled and clicked with flashes and flickers.**

7. 'taken aback' means to surprise someone. What surprised Sarah's father as they left the airport?

Sarah's father was surprised by Sarah's attitude to him - **he thought she was abrupt /brusque/ sharp/rude.** He had not realised how much she had matured while they had been apart.

8. What does Mr Pounder call **Sarah** and **her mother** when he says, "She's all 'growed' up!"

Sarah	our baby	Sarah's mother	darling
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9. What single word describes the **silence** after Sarah had told her tale? **stony**

10. Explain why, "They all howled with laughter", when Mrs Knight said, "Say, 'cheese,' everybody!"

They all howled with laughter when she said cheese because **Sarah had just made a joke about being called 'Sarah Pounder-Stilton?'** Stilton is a cheese. (A pound is the equivalent of 450gms)

11. How would you explain the interaction between Sarah and her father? Why is she critical of him? What has changed since she met the Knights and the family has been reunited? How is their brief discussion resolved

NB There are 3/4 answers to this question

Sarah's interaction with her father shows how she has changed. She feels able to criticise his attitude.

She criticises him because he refers to the Knights as, "people like this". Sarah sees them as 'ordinary'.

She's experienced a different kind of life living with the Knights and wants them all to get along. She points out that *they* might be seen as 'posh'.

The discussion is resolved when Sarah and her father smile at each other – probably because they both recognise that she is right.

12. Sarah tells her mother how much she loves her, do you think that is an understandable reaction to what has happened or do you think this section is all a bit too 'gushing' and over emotional? Say why.

ACCEPT any reasonable answer.

Sarah's mother is perhaps excessively affectionate/sentimental; however after their experiences her reaction is probably understandable.

13. In many cultures **crows** are used to symbolise something – they are often seen as **an omen for death** OR for good fortune. They are used as a kind of **metaphor** here.

Now you've read the chapter, what do you think the crows that Sarah and Gary see might represent? The flapping, crows are an omen representing the two social workers and the foster carers who are about to arrive. They could also represent the good fortune that is about to transpire.

14. One social worker is described as 'pompous'. What is the best **synonym** for 'pompous'?

CIRCLE THE BEST SYNONYM

arrogant

pope-like

irritating

unusual

15. Explain in your own words why the social workers made an, "embarrassed exit".

The social workers made an, "embarrassed exit" because they insisted that Mr and Mrs Pounder were not suitable parents for Sarah.

16. Mr Pounder uses 'et cetera' a Latin phrase meaning 'and the rest' Write the short version **etc.**

17. There is an element of **repetition** from Chapter 1 on the last page. What two words are repeated?

RIGHT

WRONG

EXTENSION WORK –

ASSESS DISCUSSION/PRESENTATION using SPEAKING AND LISTENING CRITERIA

ASSESS FICTION WRITING, NON-FICTION WRITING USING WRITING CRITERIA