

THE HORRIFIC TALE OF GREAT UNCLE STILTON

4

The Return to Grubberly Hall

Looking at the text

ANSWERS IN RED

**** Well Done - You've finished the whole book.****

LEARN **exonerate*** means to **absolve, vindicate** or to **clear** e.g. The judge had to exonerate the child as she was too young to realise that lifting the handbrake was dangerous. **Exoneration** occurs when a person who has been convicted of a crime and is later proved to have been innocent of that crime

1. What three reasons are given for Sarah counting the steps to the octagonal room?

It helped her **to overcome the fear of the place.**

It helped her **realise that the whole episode was well and truly in the past.**

It helped her **to recognise that a whole new life had begun.**

2. Why do you think, “Nothing was said”, after Sarah had finished looking round the octagonal room?

Nothing needed to be said because they had been through the whole story before and Sarah and Gary had an understanding/knew each other so well that they probably recognised what each other was thinking.

ACCEPT They didn't want to talk about what had happened any more.

3. What reasons are given for Stilton, “somehow clawing his way back to life” ?

The reasons are given for Stilton, “somehow clawing his way back to life” are **to explain himself and maybe say sorry.** **ACCEPT ALSO** that he didn't want to haunt anyone.

4. You have read some of the autobiography before. Do you think it helps **exonerate** Stilton? **YES/NO**
ACCEPT EITHER

Discuss this first with other people and then make notes in the space provided.

How much is Stilton to blame for his own misery?
ACCEPT ANY ANSWER THAT CAN BE REASONABLY JUSTIFIED.
Whose lives did Stilton affect? Say what he did. e.g. Gary's mum - widowed
ACCEPT ANY ANSWER THAT CAN BE REASONABLY JUSTIFIED.
How much is Stilton to blame for the misery of others? Was some of it their fault?
ACCEPT ANY ANSWER THAT CAN BE REASONABLY JUSTIFIED.
Can you think of anything Stilton did to try to put matters right?
ACCEPT ANY ANSWER THAT CAN BE REASONABLY JUSTIFIED.

EXTENSION WORK

SPEAKING AND LISTENING Discuss: To what extent are we responsible for our own actions?

ASSESS BASED ON SPEAKING AND LISTENING CRITERIA