

Comprehension

Answer these questions **after** you read the book. Unless the questions tell you to look in the book, answer them without going back over what you have read.

- 1 Do you think this story (A) could have happened, (B) could not have happened, or (C) really did happen?
- 2 Which of the following reflects the main idea of this book? (A) Oh what a tangled web we weave when first we practice to deceive. (B) All is well that ends well. (C) Might makes right.
- 3 Sonny Elmquist works in an all-night market. What else does Sonny do?
(A) He studies meditation. (B) He "wanders." (C) He gives parties. HINT: There is more than one answer.
- 4 On page 93, Prentice says that Mrs. Bortz is "like a spider who cannot leave her web." Is this because (A) she wants to know everything that happens, (B) she keeps busy spinning every day, or (C) her job is to check on everyone?
- 5 How would you describe Murphy's character? (A) He liked to hurt people. (B) He was jealous of Prentice. (C) He was a relatively honest man who panicked and acted foolishly.

Wanderers are people with the power to "get out" of their bodies while they are

sleeping. They then walk around and can do certain activities. In questions six and seven, answer **yes** if the wanderer could do the activity, and **no** if he could not.

- 6 watch Mr. Prentice at work in his apartment
- 7 hold a flickering candle
- 8 Reread the first two paragraphs on page 112. What is the main idea of the paragraphs? (A) The woman's husband thought she was crazy. (B) There was a white birthday cake with pink lettering and one candle. (C) The woman dreamed detailed dreams about real events.
- 9 Does the outcome of the story show that (A) Mr. Prentice should have hired adults, (B) even young boys can have responsible jobs, or (C) Alfred Hitchcock is a good director?
- 10 Turn to Chapter 20, "A Visit to Mr. Hitchcock." Jupiter summarizes Mr. Murphy's crimes. Of which crime is Mr. Murphy not guilty? (A) hitting Earl the caretaker (B) sending Mrs. Bortz to burglarize Mr. Prentice's apartment (C) sending poisoned candy to Miss Chalmers

Detail

Read these questions **before** you start to read the book. They will tell you what to look for while you are reading. After you have read over all the questions, begin reading the book. When you have finished the book, answer the questions.

- ⑧ **1** Did Mr. Prentice hire the boys (A) to annoy Mr. Murphy, (B) to check out the swimming pool, or (C) to recover his statue?
- ⑥ **2** On page 10, Jupiter thought he saw something in the corner. Did he think it was **Mr. Prentice, Pete** or **Bob**?
- ④ **3** Was Green Gate One the name for (A) the secret entrance to the salvage yard, (B) Mr. Prentice's door, or (C) the courtyard door?
- ④ **4** The Carpathian Hound was a statue that was stolen. Was it made of **crystal and gold, wood and silver, or stone and gold**?
- ④ **5** On page 42, how did Mrs. Bortz get black marks on her hands? (A) She touched something in the kitchen. (B) She opened Mr. Prentice's desk. (C) She was working in the garden.
- ④ **6** This story took place during what vacation period? **Christmas, Easter, summer**

- 7** How did the Three Investigators know that Miss Chalmers had been poisoned? (A) They saw it on the TV monitor. (B) They were hiding in the courtyard. (C) They were by the window.
- ① **8** Where was the dog hidden? (A) in the church (B) in the swimming pool (C) in Murphy's apartment
- 9** How did Sonny Elmquist know that Mr. Prentice had a mandala in his apartment? (A) Prentice told him. (B) Mrs. Bortz told him. (C) He is a "wanderer."
- 10** Why did the fire break out in Mr. Murphy's apartment? (A) He needed an alibi, so he set the fire. (B) He was smoking in bed and the sheets caught fire. (C) It was an electrical fire.

Vocabulary

These questions will help you learn some of the more difficult words in this book. If there are any words in the list which you do not know after you answer the questions, look them up in the dictionary.

1 Not a sound was audible in the room. Yet Jupiter could sense the presence of some other being. Is the opposite of *audible* **loud**, **silent** or **shrill**?

2 He looked around and saw a shadow. "A phantom," he whispered. Do *phantom* and *ghost* mean **(A)** the same thing **(B)** different things, or **(C)** religious things?

3 The *investigators* chased the intruder out of the apartment house and into the courtyard; but the stranger was too fast and got away. The boys decided to conduct a thorough investigation to look into the matter. Do *investigate* and *investigators* have the same **root** or **suffix**?

4 *Investigate* and *investigators* have different _____ **roots**, **prefixes**, **suffixes**

5 Courtyard is a compound word. Does it mean **(A)** a judge's yard, **(B)** the open area near a building, or **(C)** a hallway?

6 "I've been robbed!" said Mr. Prentice when someone stole his statue.

"Who is the burglar?" everyone wanted to know. A burglar is a _____. **robber**, **driver**, **worker**

7 Miss Chalmers unwrapped her parcel and found a box of chocolates. Another word for *parcel* is _____. **(A)** groceries, **(B)** suitcase, or **(C)** package

8 Mr. Prentice looked extremely grim as he bent down to look at Miss Chalmers. "She's been poisoned!" he said. Does *grim* mean **smiling**, **serious** or **cheerful**?

Read page 47. Then answer questions nine and ten.

9 Is a mandala **(A)** an orderly diagram used for meditation, **(B)** a map, or **(C)** a book of illustrations?

10 Gods that people worship are also called _____. **deities**, **kings**, **books**

deities	phantom
cosmos	ransom
mandala	parcel
stucco	courtyard
burglar	grim
rectory	stomped
robust	larceny
psychic	occult
audible	jowls
intruder	harassment

Survey

Answer these questions **before** you read the book. When directions are given, follow them carefully. You will be surprised how much you can tell about a book before you read it!

Turn to the title page and answer questions one and two.

1 Since Alfred Hitchcock's name has always been associated with good ^⑦mysteries, would you expect this book to be about **(A)** sports, **(B)** suspense, or **(C)** science fiction?

2 The author of this book is _____.
^⑨**Robert Arthur, M. V. Carey, Jack Hearne**

Skim pages 3, 4 and 5. Then answer questions three and four.

3 Does the author set a scary scene by describing **(A)** a cold night, a black cat, a dead body, **(B)** a chilly night, carefully closed drapes, a black cat, or **(C)** a chilly night, a black cat, a woman's screams? ^⑭

4 Mrs. Bortz is a character who is important to the development of the ^⑮story. Mr. Prentice calls her a "nosy old crone." Will you **admire**, **dislike**, or **feel sorry** for her as the story progresses?

Skim the introduction by Alfred Hitchcock on page vii and answer questions five, six, seven and eight.

5 Is Jupiter Jones **(A)** a fat boy who has difficulty making up his mind, ^⑥**(B)** a boy who generally goes along with what the others want to do, or **(C)** the investigator who is the leader?

6 Pete Crenshaw is "quick and athletic." Does this mean that Pete ^⑭**(A)** probably gets most of the "action" assignments, like following suspects, **(B)** is always off playing ball, or **(C)** is on a football team?

7 Bob Andrews is described as "a bookish fellow." Does this mean ^⑭**(A)** he writes books, **(B)** he likes to read books, or **(C)** he is a bookbinder?

8 The Three Investigators live _____.
^⑥**(A)** on the West Coast **(B)** in the Rocky Mountains **(C)** near a river

Look at the pictures on pages 11, 35, 60, 82 and 101. Then answer **true** or **false** to the following two questions.

^⑬**9** The drawings show everyday happenings.

^⑬**10** The boys are involved in unusual adventures.

Activity

If you enjoyed this book and would like to share it with others, choose one of these things to do when you go for your book conference.

1 Try some experiments with glass or crystal objects submerged in water. Try placing a clear jelly glass first in a clear glass bowl and then a pail of water. Can you make the jelly glass seem to disappear? Can you make a clear lucite object also disappear under water? Is the object harder to spot if the bowl is placed near sunlight, or is it harder to spot if the light is dimmer? Try placing the bowl near a lamp, or near a fluorescent light. Is the effect different when the light changes? Report your findings to your class.

2 Reread the description of a mandala on page 47. Find examples of mandalas in library books. Bring some drawings to show your Interest Center. Try to choose mandalas whose meanings you can share with others. (You may find the god of war dressed for battle, or the god of music holding a harp, or other early instrument.)

3 In the story, Sonny Elmquist was a very unusual fellow. He looked just like other people, but he had strange and psychic abilities that others do not have. Try to find out more about "wanderers" like Sonny. Your librarian should be able to help you locate other books on psychic

phenomena or parapsychology. Read about other people who have had unusual experiences in this area. Write a report about one of the people you read about. Keep a list of the special scientific terms and words you come across, and write down the meanings of the terms.

Answer Key

VOCABULARY

- 1 **silent**
- 2 **A**
- 3 **root**
- 4 **suffixes**
- 5 **B**
- 6 **robber**
- 7 **C**
- 8 **serious**
- 9 **A**
- 10 **deities**

Answer Key

SURVEY

- 1 **B**
- 2 **M.V. Carey**
- 3 **B**
- 4 **dislike**
- 5 **C**
- 6 **A**
- 7 **B**
- 8 **A**
- 9 **false**
- 10 **true**