

Who Did Patrick's Homework?

Working with the text (Page 11)

Answer the following questions. (Refer to that part of the text whose number is given against the question. This applies to the comprehension questions throughout the book.)

Question 1:

What did Patrick think his cat was playing with? What was it really? (2)

Answer:

Patrick thought that his cat was playing with a little doll. In reality it was an elf i.e., a man of the tiniest size.

Question 2:

Why did the little man grant Patrick a wish? (2)

Answer:

Patrick saved the little man's life from the cat as he did not hand him over to the cat. Out of gratefulness, the elf promised to grant a wish to Patrick.

Question 3:

What was Patrick's wish? (3)

Answer:

Patrick hated doing his homework. So when the little man promised to grant him a wish, Patrick asked the elf to do all his homework for 35 days, until the end of the semester.

Question 4:

In what subjects did the little man need help, to do Patrick's homework? (5, 6)

Answer:

The little man was particularly weak in English, Maths and History. Hence, he asked Patrick's help while doing the homework of these subjects.

Question 5:

How did Patrick help him? (7)

Answer:

Patrick sat beside the little man and stayed up late nights to guide him while doing the homework. He brought books from the library and read out those books to the little man.

Question 6:

Who do you think did Patrick's homework — the little man, or Patrick himself? Give reasons for your answer. (9, 10)

Answer:

In reality, Patrick did all the homework by himself. He had to help the little man over and over again with proper guidance and brought books from the library to do the homework.

Working with language (Page 11-12)

Question A:

Fill in the blanks in the sentences below with the words or phrases from the box. (You may not know the meaning of all the words. Look such words up in a dictionary, or ask your teacher.)

| | | | |
|-------------|--------------------|------------------|--------|
| out of luck | mystery | true to his word | chores |
| semester | between you and me | look up | |

1. Some people find household _____ a bore, but I like to help at home.
2. Who stole the diamond is still a _____.
3. This _____ we are going to have a class exhibition.
4. _____, the elf began to help Patrick.
5. Can you _____ this word in the dictionary?
6. I started early to be on time, but I was _____. There was a traffic jam!
7. She says she's got a lot of books, but _____ I think most of them are borrowed.

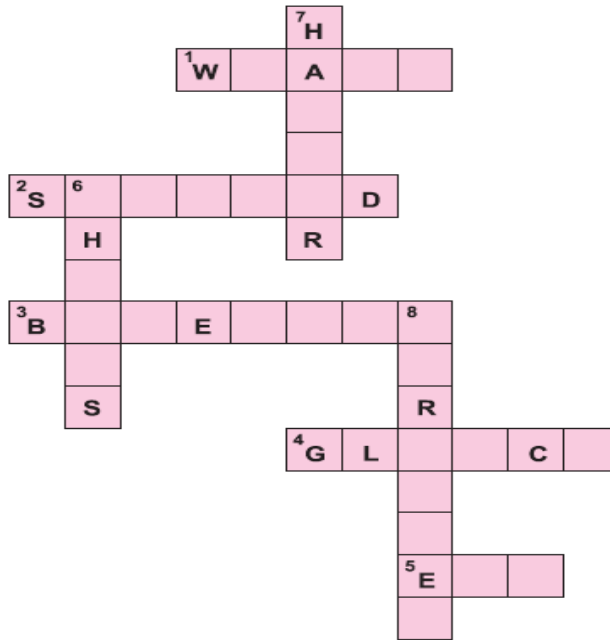
Answer:

1. Some people find household ***chores*** a bore, but I like to help at home.
2. Who stole the diamond is still a ***mystery***.
3. This ***semester*** we are going to have a class exhibition.
4. ***True to his word***, the elf began to help Patrick.
5. Can you ***look up*** this word in the dictionary?
6. I started early to be on time, but I was ***out of luck***. There was a traffic jam!

7. She says she's got a lot of books, but **between you and me** I think most of them are borrowed.

Question B:

Use the clues given below to complete this crossword puzzle.



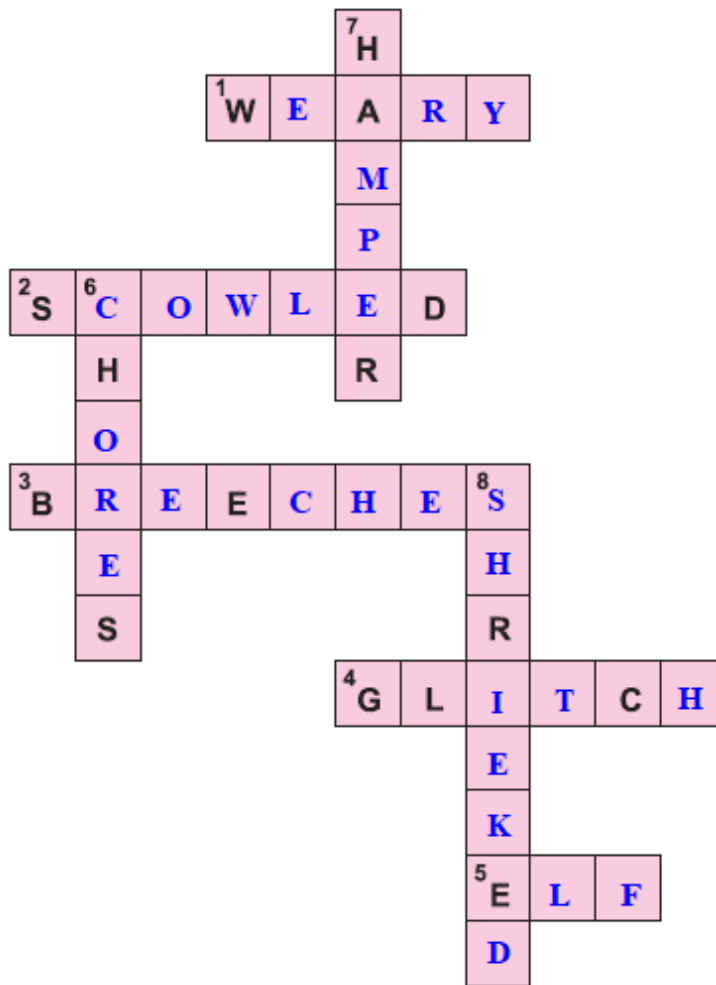
Across

1. very tired
2. had an angry look on the face
3. short trousers
4. a fault in a machine that prevents it from working properly
5. a small and naughty boy-fairy

Down

6. work that must be done everyday, often boring
7. a basket with a lid
8. gave a short, high-pitched cry

Answer:



Speaking (Page 13)

Question A:

In the story Patrick does difficult things he hates to do, because the elf pretends he needs help. Have you ever done something difficult or frightening, by pretending about it in some way? Tell your classmates about it.

Or

Say what you feel about homework. (The words and phrases in the boxes may help you.) Do you think it is useful, even though you may not like it? Form pairs, and speak to each other.

For example:

You may say, "I am not fond of homework."

Your partner may reply, "But my sister helps me with my lessons at home, and that gives a boost to my marks."

| | | |
|------------------|------------------|----------------------------|
| (not) be fond of | (not) take to | (not) develop a liking for |
| (not) appeal to | (not) be keen on | (not) have a taste for |

| | | |
|---------|-----------|-----------------|
| support | assist | with the aid of |
| help | be a boon | give a boost to |

Answer:

I: I am not fond of reading books.

My partner: But my brother told me that reading books gives a boost to your vocabulary.

I: My friend is not so keen on scoring good grades in the exams.

My partner: But my sister said that she would assist me in my lessons to score well in the exams.

I: I have not developed a liking for playing football.

My partner: But my cousin assured me that he will help me to learn how to play football.

I: My younger brother has taken to playing chess.

My partner: But my brother does not support me to play indoor games.

I: I have appealed to my Physical Training teacher to allow me a day's break from the drill session.

My partner: But playing outdoor games can be a boon for your health.

I: I have always had a taste for delicious food.

My partner: But my mother says that I should clean my bare hands with the aid of soap and water before touching the food.

Writing (Page 13-14)

Question A:

This story has a lot of rhyming words, as a poem does. Can you write out some parts of it like a poem, so that the rhymes come at the end of separate lines?

For example:

Patrick never did homework. "Too boring," he said.

He played baseball and hockey and Nintendo instead.

Answer:

- The man of the smallest size
He was sincere and wise
- Patrick loved to play sports, not work
He wasted his time and had pending homework

- The elf promised to help and wore a high tall hat
Patrick saved him from the naughty cat

Question B:

Look at these sentences.

1. "Too boring," he said.
2. Cleaned his room, did his chores.

When we speak, we often leave out words that can easily be guessed. We do not do this when we write, unless we are trying to write as we speak (as in the story).

So, if we were to write carefully, we would say:

- "Homework is too boring," he said.
- He cleaned his room and did his chores.

Answer:

Read the sentences carefully.

Question C:

Rewrite the following incomplete sentences carefully, so that the reader does not have to guess what is left out.

1. more and more books
2. too difficult
3. got up late, missed the bus
4. solved the mystery

Answer:

1. My sister loves reading more and more books.
2. Maths is too difficult to understand.
3. Last Friday, my brother got up late, he missed the bus for college.
4. The detective solved the mystery of the crime scene.

Question D:

Look at this cartoon by R.K.Laxman. Read the sentence given below the cartoon. Discuss the following questions with your partner.

- What is it about?
- Do you find it funny? If so, why?

- Do you think a cartoon is a serious drawing? Why or why not?



Get on with your homework — the sums, the composition, history, geography, chemistry, physics — and stop reading *The Laws Against Child Labour!*

Answer:

1. It depicts a father's concern for the betterment and improvement of his son.
2. Yes, the cartoon exhibits a funny tone. The father orders his son to finish his homework. But he stops the boy from reading the laws against child labour.
3. A cartoon mostly depicts the day-to-day activities of life with funny images. Although the above cartoon is a serious drawing, it draws our attention to a common problem that affects one and all.