

“Bella Hides”

Reading Comprehension – Short Stories

Directions: Read the story. Then answer the questions below.



Bella is hiding. She is behind the sofa with her pet puppy, Sir.

Bella is hiding from her mom. She does not want to go to the doctor.

“Bella?” calls Bella’s mom in a sweet voice. “Where are you?”

Bella’s mom looks in the closet. She looks in the kitchen. She looks next to the bookcase. Bella always hides when she is scared.

Bella is very quiet. Sir begins to jump around behind the sofa.

Bella’s mom hears the noise. She looks behind the sofa with a smile. She holds out her hand.

“Don’t be scared,” says Bella’s mom. “The doctor just wants to check your ears.”

“Will I have to get a shot?” asks Bella.

“No,” says her mom.

That makes Bella feel better. Bella grabs her mom’s hand. They go to see the doctor.

Questions:

1) Why is Bella hiding?

- I. She is looking for her puppy.
- II. She is scared.
- III. She is doesn’t want to go to the doctor.

- A. I only
- B. I and II
- C. II and III
- D. I, II, and III

2) Who or what is hiding with Bella?

- A. her mom
- B. her sister
- C. her puppy
- D. her friend

3) Who is looking for Bella?

- A. her mom
- B. her puppy
- C. the doctor
- D. her sister

4) Where does Mom find Bella?

- A. in the kitchen
- B. in the closet
- C. next to the bookcase
- D. behind the sofa

Answers and Explanations

- 1) **C**
in paragraph 1 we learn that Bella is hiding with her puppy, so she cannot be looking for him. This eliminates **option (I)**. In paragraph 4, we find out that “Bella always hides when she’s scared.” This supports **option (II)**. In paragraph 2, we learn that Bella is hiding because she does not want to go to the doctor. This supports **option (III)**. Therefore **(C)** is correct.
- 2) **C**
In paragraph 1, we learn that Bella is hiding behind the couch with her puppy, Sir. Therefore **(C)** is correct. The story does not contain information to support choices **(A)**, **(B)** and **(D)**. Therefore they are incorrect.
- 3) **A**
In paragraph 3, Bella’s mother calls “Where are you?” to Bella. This lets us know that Bella’s mother is looking for Bella. Therefore **(A)** is correct. The story does not contain information to support choices **(B)**, **(C)** and **(D)**. Therefore they are incorrect.
- 4) **D**
In paragraph 6, we learn Bella’s mother finds Bella behind the sofa, letting us know that **(D)** is correct. In paragraph 4, we learn that she looks “in the closet,” “in the kitchen,” and “next to the bookcase,” but still cannot find Bella. Therefore **(A)**, **(B)** and **(C)** are incorrect.
- 5) **D**
In paragraph 5, we learn that Bella’s puppy, Sir, “begins to jump around behind the sofa.” In the next paragraph we learn that Bella’s mom hears the noise, looks behind the sofa, and finds Bella. Therefore **(D)** is correct. The story does not contain information to support choices **(A)**, **(B)** and **(C)**. Therefore they are incorrect.
- 6) **B**
Paragraph 4 tells us that Bella always hides when she is scared. Therefore **(B)** is correct. The story does not contain information to support choices **(A)**, **(C)** and **(D)**. Therefore they are incorrect.
- 7) **A**
In paragraph 7, Mom tells Bella that she is going to the doctor to have her ears checked. Therefore **(A)** is correct. The story does not contain information to support choices **(B)**, **(C)** and **(D)**. Therefore they are incorrect.
- 8) **B**
Paragraph 10 tells us that Bella feels “better” when her mother tells her she will not have to get a shot when she visits the doctor. Therefore **(B)** is correct. The story does not contain information to support choices **(A)**, **(C)** and **(D)**. Therefore they are incorrect.