

# “A Mystery”

## Reading Comprehension – Short Stories (4)

*Directions: Read the passage. Then answer questions about the passage below.*

“I don’t understand, ma’am” the detective said. “The robber did not jump from the window. He did not fly away. And, he **definitely** did not use the front door.”

“Well, I do not understand **either**,” the woman said, “It is a **mystery**.”

“Yes, it is,” said the detective.

“Well, is there nothing you can do?” asked the woman.

“There is nothing I can do,” replied the detective.

“I am scared,” said the woman.

“I understand,” said the detective. They stood in silence.

“Well, there is only one thing I can do now,” said the woman.

“Yes?” said the man with surprise.

“Yes,” said the woman. “I can quit baking cakes.”

“But, wait! You can’t do that! Who will bake my delicious cakes!?” the detective said with **alarm**.

“I don’t know. I am sorry,” said the woman.

“I must solve this case **immediately!**” said the detective.



### Questions:

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| <p>1) What did the robber steal?</p> <p>A. Jewelry<br/>B. Money<br/>C. Cakes<br/>D. Diamonds</p>   |
| <p>2) What does the detective not understand in the beginning of the story?</p> <p>A. What time it is<br/>B. The identity of the robber<br/>C. Who stole the cakes<br/>D. How the robber stole the cakes</p>                     |
| <p>3) What could the woman do to stop the robber?</p> <p>A. Quit baking cakes<br/>B. Quit baking cookies<br/>C. Hide her jewelry<br/>D. None of the above</p>  |
| <p>4) Why must the detective solve the case immediately?</p> <p>A. Because he understands who robbed the woman<br/>B. Because he wants the woman to continue baking<br/>C. Because he loves eating cakes<br/>D. Both B and C</p> |

### Vocabulary:

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| <p>1) The robber <b>definitely</b> did not use the front door. So, he...</p> <p>A. might have used the front door.<br/>B. certainly used the front door.<br/>C. certainly did not use the front door.<br/>D. none of the above.</p> |
| <p>2) The woman does not understand <b>either</b>. This means that the woman...</p> <p>A. and the detective do not understand.<br/>B. does not understand.<br/>C. understands.<br/>D. All of the above.</p>                         |
| <p>3) A <b>mystery</b> is something that...</p> <p>A. is unexplainable.<br/>B. is clearly understood.<br/>C. does not make sense.<br/>D. A and C</p>  |
| <p>4) If something is said with <b>alarm</b>, it is said</p> <p>A. without concern.<br/>B. quickly.<br/>C. angrily.<br/>D. with fear or distress.</p>   |
| <p>5) If something happens <b>immediately</b>, it...</p> <p>A. happens very soon.<br/>B. happens in awhile.<br/>C. happens very slowly.<br/>D. happens in a few days.</p>   |