

Reading: The Cat That Stayed

Read the story, then circle the letter next to the correct answer for each question.

The Cat That Stayed

The cat turned up on a Tuesday, sitting on the doormat as though it had an appointment.

Dad said no. He said it very clearly, twice, and then he said it again while putting down a saucer of milk.

By Friday the cat had a name. Nobody agreed on it. Dad called it "the cat." Meera called it Biscuit. Their grandmother called it something that meant "small trouble," which everyone agreed suited it best.

It slept in the laundry basket. Every morning it knocked a pen off the table, watched it fall, and walked away. When it rained, it sat by the window making a low complaining noise, as though the weather were somebody's fault.

Dad still says the cat is not staying. He says it while trimming its claws.

1. On which day did the cat first turn up?
☐ (A) Monday ☐ (B) Tuesday ☐ (C) Friday ☐ (D) Sunday
2. Where did the cat sleep?
☐ (A) On the doormat ☐ (B) In the laundry basket ☐ (C) By the window
☐ (D) Under the table
3. What did the grandmother's name for the cat mean?
☐ (A) Biscuit ☐ (B) Little cloud ☐ (C) Small trouble ☐ (D) Rainy day

4. What did the cat do every morning?
- ☐ (A) Knocked a pen off the table ☐ (B) Hid in the laundry basket
- ☐ (C) Sat on the doormat ☐ (D) Drank a saucer of milk
5. What do Dad's actions tell us about how he really feels?
- ☐ (A) He is frightened of the cat ☐ (B) He has grown fond of it, whatever he says
- ☐ (C) He wants Meera to give it away ☐ (D) He has not noticed the cat at all
6. "as though the weather were somebody's fault" suggests the cat seemed —
- ☐ (A) frightened ☐ (B) sleepy ☐ (C) annoyed, as if blaming someone ☐ (D) grateful
7. What is this story mostly about?
- ☐ (A) A family slowly accepting a cat that decided to stay
- ☐ (B) A family searching for a lost cat ☐ (C) A cat learning to catch mice
- ☐ (D) Meera asking her father for a pet

Answer Key: 1) B · 2) B · 3) C · 4) A · 5) B · 6) C · 7) A