

Teaching text: Just Helping My Family

Cracking the questions

Question	Answer	CD/Mark	Useful strategies
1. How many people were in the house?	Five	2b 1 mark	<i>Question focus: find information in the text.</i> Strategies: - Carefully read the question, marking key words. - Consider where in the text you'll find the answers. - Scan the text for the information.
2. Why do you think Justin might have found it hard to alert the neighbours?	- It was the middle of the night. - There was no one at home. - They lived too far away.	2d 1 mark	<i>Question focus: use inference and deduction to improve comprehension.</i> Strategies: - Carefully read the question, marking key words. - Scan the text for the word "neighbours" (or, as this is an American text, "neighbors"). - Carefully read the sentence. - Consider possible reasons.
3. "Justin, 12, immediately leapt into action, getting his brothers, 5-year-old William, 6-year-old Diego and 9-year-old Emilio out of the house." (paragraph 4). (a) Underline the verb the writer chose to show how quickly Justin acted. (b) Suggest a different verb that would have the same meaning.	(a) 'leapt'. (b) Sprang, flew, jumped.	2a 2 marks	<i>Question focus: give meaning of words.</i> Strategies: - Carefully read the question, marking key words. - Scan the text for the verb. - Consider alternatives. - Check that they can have the same meaning in this context. Award 1 mark for each part of the question.
4. Using information from the text, tick one box in each row to show whether each statement is a fact or an opinion. Justin risked his life to save his siblings. Emilio woke up and saw fire on the curtains. Justin took his three younger brothers outside. He rescued his sister. He was scared. He was a hero. He said he just did what anyone would do.	Justin risked his life to save his siblings. O Emilio woke up and saw fire on the curtains. F Justin took his three younger brothers outside. F He rescued his sister. F He was scared. O He was a hero. O He said he just did what anyone would do. O	2c 2 marks	<i>Question focus: summarise main ideas from more than one paragraph.</i> Strategies: - Carefully read the question, marking key words. - Scan the text, looking for evidence about each statement. - Carefully read the information in context and decide whether each one is a fact (there are no alternative views) or an opinion (where some people might think something different). Award 1 mark for four or five correct answers. Award 2 marks for six or seven correct answers.

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5. Number these events to show the order of Justin's actions. <table><tr><td>Order of events</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>He dialled 911.</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>He got his brothers out of the house.</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>He carried his sister out of the house.</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>He tried to alert the neighbours.</td><td></td></tr></table>	Order of events		He dialled 911.		He got his brothers out of the house.		He carried his sister out of the house.		He tried to alert the neighbours.		<table><tr><td>Order of events</td><td>4</td></tr><tr><td>He got his brothers out of the house.</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>He carried his sister out of the house.</td><td>3</td></tr><tr><td>He tried to alert the neighbours.</td><td>2</td></tr></table>	Order of events	4	He got his brothers out of the house.	1	He carried his sister out of the house.	3	He tried to alert the neighbours.	2	2c 1 mark	Question focus: summarise main ideas from more than one paragraph. Strategies: - Carefully read the question, marking key words. - Skim read the whole text to remind you of the story. - Scan the text for evidence of each of the statements and establish the order.
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6. Do you think Justin was a hero? Yes / No Explain your answer using quotations from the text.	Yes - He risked his own life to rescue his sister. He was safe and he "ran back into the burning house" (paragraph 7) to get Brooklynn. No - He shouldn't have gone back into the burning building, especially when he ran back "to call 911" (paragraph 9). That was just dangerous. - He did what anyone would have done. As he says, "I was just helping my family and stuff" (paragraph 11).	2d 2 marks	Question focus: explain inferences and justify with evidence. Strategies: - Carefully read the question, marking key words. - Skim the text while considering the question. - Scan the text to find relevant quotations. Award 1 mark for an explanation that matches the initial response. Award the second mark for a suitable quotation/reference from the text.																		