Reading Comprehension – Book 1 Answers

The Green Cross Code

1. sight, sound 2. 'where drivers can see you' 3. the distance from one side of the road to the other is shorter if you go straight across; it lessens the danger from vehicles suddenly appearing; it is easier for drivers to predict your movements (allow for child's own wording and interpretation as long as the answer is logical) 4. between parked cars; on sharp bends; close to the top of a hill 5. (any three from:) subway, zebra/puffin/pelican/toucan crossing, footbridge, island, patrolled crossing 6. back from the edge 7. (either or both:) can't see approaching traffic; drivers can't see you.

Games Glossary

children before they start

1. dictionary 2. True 3a. after 'overarm pass' and before 'ring' 3b. after 'hamstring' and before 'hitting T' 4. first two letters are the same, third letter 'c' (in backstop) comes before third letter 't' (in bat) 5. forehand (stroke) 6. hamstring 7. basketball 8. (two of:) 'cooldown', 'warm-up', 'stretching' 9. verbs: definitions contain verbs (hitting, catching, throwing).

The baby of the family

1. older sibling 2. jealous 3a. too young; too tired to walk 3b. important, centre of attention; successful 4. 'short' or 'sweet' 5. better/calmer, as she is venting her feelings and releasing her pent-up emotion 6. the child's spoiling and babyhood; the baby will grow older and be less 'sweet' 7. 'pie' and 'toys'.

Invasion

1. the first person 2. 'I decided to keep quiet' 3. (accept any accurate response) 4. to enter by force and completely take over 5. a close neighbour or friend nearby; from a nearby house 6. all ready to put into action 7. wild 8. digressing 9. (accept any response that is in keeping with the story).

Octoture

1. funny, rhyming 2. 'octopus' 3. 'chickenpoctopus' 4. spots 5. 'doctor' and 'octopus' 6. chocolate 7. Olly 8. 'knocktopus'.

Odd Girls

1a. T 1b. ? 1c. T 1d. ? 1e. F 1f. ? 2. after 3. Mary Minns 4. Zara Good (and/or Joanne Green) 5. 'pals' 6. Sue's 7. to rhyme with 'wood' and 'rock' respectively.

Teeth

1. incisors 2. no 3. twenty 4. 'adult teeth' 5. milk (teeth), deciduous (teeth) 6. canines 7. by using sub-headings 8. information, non-fiction.

Pelican

1. pelican 2. emphasises subject: the poet's love of words 3. brain/head 4. she liked the sound of them 5. solid 12-sided shape; deciduous tree with winged seeds; sweet-smelling flower with thorny stem; red pepper, often in powdered form; lizard whose colour may change 6. beak only small; its name has two syllables rather than three 7. (expect:) 'Molly' and repetition of 'words'; list of favourites; focus on pelican's name rather than other aspects; final word is 'word'.

Jorvik Viking Centre, Coppergate

pointer in the pupil boots.
pointer in the pupil boots.
archaeology 2. relating to the study of relics 3. York 4. sight, sound, smell
archaeology 2. relating to the study of relics 3. York 5. (belt) buckles, jewellery
street musicians 6. London 7. 7pm 8. (any two of:) combs, (belt) buckles, jewellery
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it makes the visitor information easier to find.

City sounds heard after dark

1. end word of each set of three lines rhymes or AAA, BBB, CCC, DDD 2. 'sweesh' 3. the words sound like the cars speeding past 4. pop songs, some old songs, disco music; in the city streets 5. 'josh': joke, fool around; 'jaw': talk, chat, natter 6. people have broken into the park or have accidentally got locked in 7. second verse; 'fly' rhymes with 'sky', 'cry' and 'by'; the second verse, like the new line, refers to things that are high up (aircraft, rooftop cats) 8. (look for two of:) content and sound describing an aspect of city life; 'dum-di, dum-di, dum-di, dum' rhythm; matching end-of-line rhyme (verse 1: -ars; verse 3: -or/aw/oar; verse 4: -ark).

1a. stage directions (to players)
1b. to distinguish them from characters' speeches
1c. to save space, be concise
2. four
3. the Emerald City
4. a heart
5. he is afraid/his heart beats
fast
6. the wizard (of Oz)/Oz
7. (such as:) trees, landscape, yellow road; toy dog, oil can.

House on Fire!

1. it's Christmas (Eve) 2. speaking ironically/sarcastically, he means there have been better

Christmases/this is not a good one 3. dinner gongs and slippers are old-fashioned; no home telephone or mobile phone; 'firemen' – not gender-neutral 'fire fighters' 4. the call to Ernie Jenkins 5. the most appropriate to the circumstances; the only urgent need 6. something to drink/eat 7a. to try and put the fire out 7b. no; it was too dangerous, or yes; it was sensible to try anything to put the fire out quickly 8. excited: they were happily throwing snowballs and casually discussing who to phone.

The Story of Helen Keller

1. 'blind' 2a. T 2b. T 2c. F 2d. F 2e. T 3. excited, elated, as she was no longer shut in and isolated, but could now communicate 4. felt their faces and clothing 5. touched their hands 6. Braille 7. herself and her life (an autobiography).

Rebecca

1. 'perished miserably' 2. dislike 3. bad behaviour 4. a banker 5. Rebecca's slamming the door below it (vibration) 6. 'She looked like that' 7. jump (with shock/surprise) 8. children at the funeral decided not to slam the door in future 'as often they had done before' 9. to give a warning of potential dangers 10. 'inly'.

Steam Train Stories

Roberta, Phyllis 2. tired 3. includes description and direct speech, is in the past tense
 hooks to link carriages 5. £5 fine 6a. hold, of 6b. would 7a. someone fooled her/misled her for fun 7b. I bet she never forgot.

1. small **2.** it 'grabbed' the house 'in its jaws' **3.** on top of a cliff **4.** that the roof will be blown off **5.** younger **6.** snoring **7.** capital G on second 'grumble' **8.** sailors **9.** mother carried an oil lamp **10.** "Can't sleep a wink".

Tom finds happiness

1a. in bold 1b. intro: present tense, extract: past tense 2. an adjective 3. both in water and on land 4. chimney sweep 5. (any two of:) tired, hungry, beaten, sent up dark chimneys 6. friends (mates, pals) 7. just right (not too hot, not too cold) 8. (one, such as:) comfortable, content, happy, carefree.

The milkmaid and her pail

she is daydreaming or in a world of her own 2. tell off 3. 'poultry' 4. 'a fine silk gown'
 tossed her head 6. outmoded occupation and dress; archaic words, such as pail,
 tossed her head 6. outmoded occupation and dress; archaic words, such as pail,
 a-courting 7. bucket, think, dress 8. don't count on/assume success/riches till you have achieved them/have them in your hand – look for understanding and interpretation as well as the ability to answer in a clear sentence.