

Quickfire Read



Mr Toomey was a wood-carver. Some said he was the best wood-carver in the whole valley. After supper, he sat in a straight-backed chair near the fireplace, smoking his pipe and staring into the flames. The village people didn't know it, but there was a reason for his gloom, a reason for his grumbling, a reason why he walked hunched over as if carrying a weight on his shoulders. Some years earlier, when Jonathan Toomey was young and full of life and love, his wife and baby had become very ill. And, because those were the days before hospitals and medicines and skilled doctors, his wife and baby died, three days apart from each other.

- 1) What is Mr Toomey's job? (Retrieve)
- 2) What do you think Mr Toomey is thinking about as he stares into the fire? (Apply)
- 3) Why might his wife and baby have survived today? (Understand)
- 4) What does the word 'hunched' mean? (Understand)
- 5) When did Mr Toomey smoke his pipe? (Retrieve)

Quickfire Read



The rabbit's name was Edward Tulane; and he was tall. He measured almost three feet from the tip of his ears to the tip of his feet; his eyes were a penetrating and intelligent blue. In all, Edward Tulane felt himself to be an exceptional specimen.... Edward's mistress was a ten-year old, dark haired girl named Abilene Tulane, who thought almost as highly as Edward as Edward thought of himself. Each morning after she dressed herself for school, Abilene dressed Edward. The china rabbit was in possession of an extraordinary wardrobe composed of handmade silk suits, custom shoes fashioned from the finest leather and designed specifically for his rabbit feet.

- 1) What does 'exceptional' mean? (Understand)
- 2) Who was Edward's owner? (Retrieve)
- 3) Why was this rabbit unusual compared to a normal pet rabbit? (Analyse)
- 4) Find and copy two things Edward could wear from his wardrobe (Retrieve)
- 5) Find and copy a sentence which shows Abilene really liked Edward (Retrieve)