

Title: Becoming Beethoven

Word Study

Fill in the blanks using the words.

explorer	extraordinary	curiosity	dust	buckles
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1. The baby is wearing cute little shoes with tiny _____ on them.
2. Ferdinand Magellan was a great _____ who sailed around the world.
3. He's a(n) _____ athlete who has won several Olympic gold medals.
4. No one had used the bike for a long time, so it was covered with _____.
5. Out of _____, I opened the strange box and looked inside.

Reading Comprehension

A. Circle T for true or F for false.

1. Grandma Hilde smiled a lot. T / F
2. Max loved playing the piano. T / F
3. Max found the attic interesting immediately. T / F
4. The music that he heard in the attic sounded sad. T / F
5. It took him a week to go up to the attic a second time. T / F

B. Circle the correct word(s).

1. The last time Max visited Grandma Hilde, she talked (too much / very little).
2. When he first heard the music in the attic, Max felt (scared / excited).
3. He spent a lot of time (reading comic books / listening to music).
4. When Max became Beethoven, he was (playing the piano / holding a pen).
5. When he became himself again, he (told his grandmother / wrote down the music) right away.

C. Choose the best answer.

1. Whom did Max miss?

- a. His mother
- b. His father
- c. His piano teacher
- d. His best friend

2. Which is NOT true about Grandma Hilde?

- a. She was very old.
- b. She asked Max to clean the attic.
- c. She knew a lot about young boys.
- d. She told Max he could use the piano.

3. Which is true about the things in the attic?

- a. They were all Grandma Hilde's.
- b. They had been there for many years.
- c. They had been cleaned recently.
- d. They were mostly new.

4. Whom did Christian remind Max of?

- a. Grandma Hilde
- b. His piano teacher
- c. His parents
- d. Beethoven

5. What did Christian do?

- a. He suggested Beethoven change some notes.
- b. He said Beethoven's music was perfect.
- c. He corrected Beethoven's playing.
- d. He played the music Beethoven had written.

Summary

Fill in the blanks with the words.

attic	sorrowful	goose bumps	obedient	hesitate
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Max wasn't happy about staying with his scary grandmother in Bonn. But his parents had told him to be _____, so when Grandma Hilde asked him for help, he didn't _____. Max went up into the _____ which was full of old things that needed organizing. He started exploring. Suddenly, he heard sad piano music. Frightened, Max climbed back down the ladder. The next time, when he opened an old trunk, he heard the _____ yet lovely music again. A man spoke to him, calling him "Ludwig." He and the man were both wearing old-fashioned clothes, and he was writing music. He was Beethoven—who was from Bonn—and the man was Beethoven's teacher, Christian! He heard the strange music again. Back in his own body, Max wrote down the notes he'd heard. They matched a piece of music in the trunk. He had _____. When he looked around, Grandma Hilde was there, smiling. She'd known all along. Max decided she and the attic weren't scary after all.