

Rainbow Readers

Title: Chopin's Heart

Word Study

Fill in the blanks using the words.

growled	baguette	twinkling	bruised	medicine
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1. The wolves growled at each other just before they began to fight.
2. This cough medicine tastes absolutely terrible!
3. There are millions of stars twinkling in the night sky.
4. I stopped at the bakery and bought a baguette.
5. The baseball hit him so hard that it bruised his leg.

Reading Comprehension

A. Circle T for true or F for false.

1. Young Lily's home is in Chicago. T / F
2. Grandmother once worked for Frederic Chopin. T / F
3. Chopin missed Poland but was unable to return. T / F
4. The first Lily was an old woman when she helped Ludwicka. T / F
5. The carriage driver was badly hurt by robbers. T / F

B. Circle the correct word(s).

1. At the beginning of the book, young Lily feels (worried and sad / tired and ill).
2. Lily is trying to (remember / write down) Grandmother's stories.
3. Chopin was (kind / mean) to the first Lily and her mother.
4. The trip to Poland was (short and very exciting / long and mostly boring).
5. (Lily / Ludwicka) carried the heart in a box.

C. Choose the best answer.

1. Grandmother says that telling the story might _____.
 - a. tire her out
 - b. make Lily sad
 - c. cheer Lily up
 - d. be like medicine

2. How was the weather during the trip to Poland?
 - a. Hot
 - b. Snowy
 - c. Cold
 - d. Rainy

3. What did the first Lily hear as she was climbing over the fence?
 - a. Russian soldiers
 - b. Robbers
 - c. A carriage
 - d. A dog

4. Which is NOT true about the first Lily?
 - a. She was not a very strong woman.
 - b. Grandmother was named after her.
 - c. She brought the heart to a house in Poland.
 - d. She met Ludwicka and Louissette in Poland.

5. What did Grandmother want to do as soon as she was better?
 - a. Hear Chopin's music
 - b. Tell Lily more stories
 - c. Go to Chicago
 - d. Write down her stories

Summary

Fill in the blanks with the words.

vowed	goose bumps	sneak	funeral	carriage
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Lily is visiting Paris with her mother. She's feeling various emotions, especially sadness for her sick grandmother. Grandmother begins to tell a story that gives Lily goose bumps. It is about her own grandmother's grandmother, who was also named Lily. That Lily was the daughter of Frederic Chopin's housekeeper. At that time, Russia controlled Poland, Chopin's native country. He died, and after the funeral, his sister, Ludwicka, asked Lily to help her bring his heart back to Poland. Ludwicka had vowed to grant her brother this wish. Lily would have to sneak across the border because Russian soldiers would try to stop her if they knew. It was a long journey. Along the way, their carriage was attacked by robbers and lost a wheel. Finally, they reached the border. Lily climbed over a fence alone and brought Chopin's heart to the house of Ludwicka's friend. They had succeeded! Grandmother tells Lily that she has great strength—like the first Lily. And two weeks later, Grandmother is healthy again.