

# English

## Comprehension The Haunting of Hollow Manor

### What do I do?

In a comprehension assessment, you will be given a text to read, followed by questions. This text could be from a wide range of styles. It could be a story, poem or a non-fiction passage, such as an information text. Depending on the style of exam paper, you may be asked to write a full answer or choose from a number of multiple options.

### Top Tips!

- Read the passage first to get a feel of the text.
- Try to imagine the text in your head and picture what it might look like.
- Some questions that require a more detailed answer will need you to use a quote from the text to support your answer -> point, evidence, explain

### What skills do I need to improve?

**Doing lots of practice questions will help with becoming familiar with question types but what else can you do to improve in this area?**

- READ, READ, READ! Reading a variety of different materials will help to prepare you for the exam.
- Try to include newspaper articles, poetry and pre-19th century texts in your list of materials to read.
- When you've read a chapter, ask someone to ask you questions about it - discussion about what you've read will help you to understand it better and will enable you to understand other opinions and ideas.
- Why not see if you can continue the story by writing your own ending?

## The Haunting of Hollow Manor

- 1 Stood proudly on the hill like a silent sentinel, its weathered walls guarding the secrets that lay within, Hollow Manor had been uninhabited for some time now. Its windows, like vacant eyes, stared out into the night, reflecting the pale glow of the moon.  
The overgrown ivy clawed at the manor's once-grand facade, clinging to the walls like a spider's intricate web.
- 5 Standing rigid, her heart beating fast in her chest, Sophia noticed that the air around the house was thick with an eerie silence, broken only by the distant hoots of owls and the occasional rustling of unseen creatures lurking in the shadows. A shiver ran down her spine and she looked back at the twinkling lights of home longingly. She knew that it was a mistake even approaching the old house but didn't want to seem cowardly in front of her classmates. A picture was all she needed.
- 10 As she reluctantly entered the manor through a tiny gap between the rotten door and the crumbling wall, every floorboard, like a betrayal in the making, groaned underfoot; its protests echoing through the long-forgotten hallways, as though the very foundations resented her intrusion.  
Sophia noticed that within this realm of perpetual twilight, furniture draped in dusty sheets stood frozen in time, a strange but terrifying calm filled the air. Why did she come alone?

Can you write your own spooky story?  
Share it with us on Facebook or  
Instagram @tutortastic!

# English

## Comprehension The Haunting of Hollow Manor

### What do I do?

Read the following questions carefully and answer as best you can.

1 In the first line, the author states that the manor '*stood proudly*' on the hill.

a) What literary device has been used, in the above quote, by the author? (1 mark)

b) '*Stood proudly on the hill like a silent sentinel, its weathered walls guarding the secrets that lay within, Hollow Manor had been uninhabited for some time now.*'

Name **two** other literary devices used that are **not the same** as your previous answer and explain how they are effective. (4 marks)

2 The only character in this extract is Sophia. Explain what impression you get of Sophia's personality and why you think she is visiting Hollow Manor. Use quotes from the text to support your answer. (4 marks)

3 Read lines 5-10. Sophia clearly feels nervous. Find **two pieces** of evidence that show this. Explain carefully how each example shows Sophia's hesitancy to enter the manor. (4 marks)

# English

## Comprehension - Mixed Questions (Written Answers)

### Answers

1 In the first line, the author states that the manor '*stood proudly*' on the hill.

a) What literary device has been used, in the above quote, by the author? (1 mark)

**The author has used personification.**

b) '*Stood proudly on the hill like a silent sentinel, its weathered walls guarding the secrets that lay within, Hollow Manor had been uninhabited for some time now.*'

Name **two** other literary devices used that are **not the same** as your previous answer and explain how they are effective. (4 marks)

**Students could mention any of the following in their response:**

- **Simile:** '*...like a silent sentinel*'
- **Alliteration:** '*weathered walls*'
- **Sibilance/Alliteration:** '*silent sentinel*'

**To gain all four marks available, the response must include two examples of literary devices with supporting statements as to how they are effective.**

2 The only character in this extract is Sophia. Explain what impression do you get of Sophia's personality and why you think she is visiting Hollow Manor. Use quotes from the text to support your answer. (4 marks)

**Students should mention that Sophia cares what her peers/friends think of her and that perhaps she's trying to prove something to them. She's brave but determined to get a picture of whatever is in the abandoned manor.**

**Key words about her personality could include: brave, naive, determined, impressionable.**

**Key quotes could include: 'didn't want to seem cowardly in front of her classmates' or 'a picture was all she needed'. Responses should link back to Sophia's personality and what kind of person she's perceived to be. Individual responses will differ.**

3 Read lines 5-10. Sophia clearly feels nervous. Find **two pieces** of evidence that show this. Explain carefully how each example shows Sophia's hesitancy to enter the manor. (4 marks)

**Students should mention two quotes with two explanations for the full marks to be awarded.**

**Key pieces of evidence could include: 'looked back at the twinkling lights of home longingly', '...knew it was a mistake', 'standing rigid', 'shiver ran down her spine', '...reluctantly entered', 'heart beating'.**