

Rumpelpumpkin

BY DAGMAR TAYLOR

How much of the story did you understand?
Here is a chance to test yourself.



Exercise 1

Look at the story of *Rumpelpumpkin* in your copy of *Spotlight* magazine.
Read the statements and decide if they are true (T) or false (F).

	T	F
A. Gwen's father owes Mr King a lot of money.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
B. Gwen learned how to make MDMA at school.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C. Gwen's father wants to make a fresh start and go to university.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
D. Gwen gives the little man her earrings and her phone.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
E. The little man expects Gwen to guess his name.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Exercise 2

Find words in the text that match the definitions below.

A. A decorative light that has several parts like branches for holding light bulbs. _____

B. The inside surface of a room that you can see when you look above you. _____

C. An amount of something that is kept secretly. _____

D. A feeling of violent anger that is difficult to control. _____

E. A programme of study in all the main subjects that children in state schools in the UK must follow. _____

F. One of the three periods in the year during which classes are held in schools and universities. _____

G. A talk that is given to a group of people to teach them about a particular subject, as part of a university or college course. _____

Exercise 3

Let's focus on examples of informal English in the story.
What do the bolded words and expressions mean?

A. "Right, **Missy**," croaked Mr King.
Why would someone address a woman or girl as "Missy"?

B. "I want a kilo by tomorrow morning or your old man's a **goner**."
What does Mr King mean with "goner"?

C. "I'm only **messin' with** you," the little man said.
What does "messaging (with you)" mean?

D. "Tell your dad **we're good**," said Mr King.
What does Mr King mean when he says "we're good"?

Answers

1.
A. true
B. false
C. false
D. false
E. true

2.
A. chandelier
B. ceiling
C. stash (fml.)
D. rage
E. national curriculum
F. term
G. lecture

3.
A. "Missy" is used to talk to a young girl, especially to express anger or affection.
B. Mr King is threatening Gwen's dad. A "goner" is a person that has no chance of continuing to live.
C. to tease someone or play a joke on someone
D. to no longer owe money to someone or to each other