Name: Date: Score: / 6

The Lighthouse Keeper's Daughter: Comprehension

Fiction story · about 200 words

Read the story. Then answer each question. Circle the best answer or write your answer on the lines.

The Lighthouse Keeper's Daughter

In 1880, twelve-year-old Hattie lived with her family at a lighthouse on a rocky island off the coast of Maine. Every evening, her father climbed the winding stairs to light the great lamp, and every morning he cleaned the soot from its glass.

One winter, Father rowed to the mainland for supplies. A storm blew in before he could return. Wind howled, and enormous waves crashed over the rocks. Hattie's mother was sick in bed, and her little sisters were frightened. Hattie knew that ships were out on the water. If the light went dark, they might crash onto the rocks.

For four weeks, the storm raged, and Father could not get back. Hattie climbed the tower every night. She trimmed the wicks and filled the lamps with oil. She cleaned the glass each morning. Between trips up the stairs, she cared for her mother and sisters and fed the chickens.

When the sea finally calmed, Father rowed home, fearing the worst. Instead, he saw the light burning steadily. He found Hattie asleep in a chair at the top of the tower, an oil can still in her hand. He wrapped a blanket around her and whispered, "You kept the light."

1. **Main idea:** What is the story mostly about?

   A. a girl keeps a lighthouse running during a long storm B. a father learns to row
   C. a family moves to Maine D. a ship crashes on the rocks

2. **Detail:** Where did Hattie live?

   A. in a city apartment B. at a lighthouse on an island off Maine C. on a farm in Ohio D. on a ship

3. **Inference:** Why couldn't Father return?

   A. He got lost. B. His boat was stolen. C. A storm made the sea too dangerous. D. He forgot.

4. **Inference:** Why did Hattie keep the light burning?

   A. to keep the house warm B. to signal her father to stay away C. to read at night
   D. so ships would not crash onto the rocks

5. **Detail:** How long did the storm last?

   A. four weeks B. one year C. two days D. one night

6. **Character:** Name two words that describe Hattie. Explain one.

ANSWER KEY

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6. **Character:** Name two words that describe Hattie. Explain one.
   brave and responsible; she climbed the tower every night and cared for her family.