







English Lessons

# **ANSWER BOOKLET**

Pages 1-2 opportunities for writing

Pages 3-85 comprehension questions including vocabulary, inference, prediction, explanation and retrieval and SPAG questions including, full stops, commas, inverted commas, homophones, pronouns, prepositions, similes.

### Chapter 1 Agatha

### Question 1

First, I solved the case of the Little Strangehaven School Scoffer. I told Mrs Applebottom that Ralph had eaten Thomas's Yorkie and, after she'd stopped freaking out and realized I meant a chocolate bar and not a small dog, Ralph had to miss out on his playtime.



• What do you think the word *scoffer* means in this passage?

### The person who ate the Yorkie

### Question 2

On page 2, Agatha says, 'What can I say, clients aren't always the sharpest.'

- Who are the *clients*? Thomas, Mrs Applebottom, Dipa, Sami (teacher and classmates)
- What is Agatha saying about them? That they aren't that clever

### Question 3

• Why was everyone at school a *bit annoyed*?

The school council money had been spent on an automated library system rather than a bouncy castle.

### Question 4

• What job does Jordan Wiener's dad do? The school cleaner

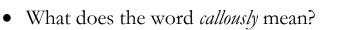


He looked back at me with big, terrified eyes that said, *I want my mummy!* 

• Give three synonyms for *terrified* Scared, frightened, alarmed etc

#### Question 6

Miss Happ threw poor Skeleton Bob callously to one side and looked round the class, her expression changing from confused to a bit annoyed.



#### Without care

#### Question 7

• What are your first impressions of Agatha Topps?

### Question 8

• Have you ever been in a situation where nobody believed that you told them? How did it make you feel?





Chapter 2 Lenny





Look at the two pictures above. The one on the left is how Agatha views Lenny when he arrives at Little Strangehaven Primary School. The one on the right is how Lenny views himself.

- What differences do you notice?
- What do you think this tells us about Agatha and Lenny?

# Question 2

I live with my mum because Dad's job is super important. He's very cagey whenever I ask him *exactly* what he does, but I've figured it out.

• What does the word *cagey* mean in this sentence? Lenny's dad doesn't want to tell him. Is a bit vague/ won't tell the full story



When Dad has time off from spying, he books into a hotel nearby and I get to stay with him there, which is quite fun. He always lets me order room service and I've got a whole collection of tiny shampoos and soaps as mementos.

I've also got a collection of Pez sweet dispensers that Mum buys to cheer me up when Dad cancels on me. At the last count, both collections are about equal.

• What does this passage tell us about the amount of time Lenny spends with his dad? His dad is often absent and tries to make

up for it buy buying Lenny gifts.

• How does this make you feel about Lenny?

### Question 4

• What is the name of the headmaster of Little Strangehaven Primary? Dr Errno

#### Question 5

• Write a description of Lenny's new headmaster.

MOOSLI is an acronym of the Most Orderly and Organized School Library Initiative

• Do you know any other acronyms?

# Question 7

I weaved my way between the rickety desks, accidentally knocking someone with my trombone, and sat down next to the girl, who had a look on her face that said, '*Wow*, who is this cool new guy in our class?'

• What do you actually think Agatha might be thinking when she first meets Lenny? That he is not very cool at all etc...

# Question 8

On page 26 Lenny says, 'You can call me Big Sick.'

• Why do you think he says this?

He thinks it is a cool name that will make the class like him and think he is cool!



# Chapter 3 Agatha

# Question 1

• Make a list of all the characters we have met in the book so far

Agatha, Lenny, Dr Errno, Mr Pardon,

Mr & Mrs Tuchus, Mrs Applebottom, Ralph, Jordan Wiener, Dipa, Sami, Thomas, Miss Happ, Rahul.

# Question 2

• What does Agatha decide she'll call Lenny? Leonard

# Question 3

• What is Lenny's actual full name? Lennox Tuchus

# Question 4

Lenny looked totally bamboozled, but before I could tell Jordan for the millionth time that everyone really *had* started ballroom dancing, Miss Happ barked at us to stop talking, settle down and do some work.

• What does the word *bamboozled* mean? Confused/ perplexed

# Question 5

• Predict what you think this second SHIVER will bring. Be as imaginative as you can - just make it CHAOTIC!





### Chapter 4 Lenny

### Question 1

• Why, on page 33, does Ernie begin inspecting his arms and legs?

He is wondering if he is going to start dancing.

# Question 2

- Who are Margaret Hatcher and Mary Poopins? The school chickens
- Bonus- do you know where their names come from?

# Mary Poppins & Margaret Thatcher

# Question 3

• Why does Lenny describe it as a *military-grade chicken*?

The chickens are attacking like an army – their eggs as weapons.

# Question 4

• What did the chickens seem like they were hell-bent on? War

# Question 6

• What synonyms can you think of for *sobbing*? Crying

# Question 7

• Why, when the rest of the class were laughing at Lenny, was Agatha staring at him very intently? She was interested and surprised because he had remembered the chaos the shiver had brought and so far it no one else but her had remembered.

# Question 8

• How do you think your class and teacher would react to a chicken attack?







# Chapter 5 Agatha

# Question 1



It would give me a chance to interrogate Lenny about the whole **SHIVERY** chicken thing.

• What does the word interrogate mean?

Question/ cross-examine/ probe for answers

# Question 2

• Lenny might not know, but do you know what the collective noun for chickens is? Flock

# Question 3

• Why do you think Agatha apologised to Mr Pardon even though she knew they were 100% innocent of the crimes they'd been accused of? Mr Pardon is an adult and the school librarian and she thinks that sometimes it is just easier to say sorry when an adult tells you off. She also doesn't think that he'd believe the truth.

# Question 4

• Why is the name Anita Parpalot a joke? (Try saying it out loud) It sounds like:

I need to parp a lot



# 'That's not the worst of it. The biology section was all in a muddle too. *The Power of Antibiotics* by Penny Silling and *Bad Bacteria* by Mike Robes

These aren't real books or real authors! Penicillin is an antibiotic and Sam Copeland and Jenny Pearson thought that it would be funny to call the author *Penny Silling*!
What does *Mike Robes* sound like that might be connected to *Bad Bacteria*? Microbes

# Question 7

• Why does Lenny think he is always cancelling their time together?

He thinks his dad is an important international spy

# Question 8

• *Ivana Pump* is the author of a book on the digestive system. Can you come up with any funny names for books?



# Chapter 6 Lenny

### Question 1

• What does Lenny's mum say she'll fix him when he gets home from school?

# A snack

### Question 2

• What relationship does Lenny think Agatha will have with him?

### She will be his assistant

### Question 3

• What club does Little Strangehaven Primary offer and what does Lenny's mum want them to introduce?

# Tiddlywinks, she wants the school to introduce chess.

### Question 4

• On page 54, what three descriptions does Lenny give of his opinion of Agatha?

A bit snarky, rubbish at commando rolls, but she seemed all right.

### Question 5

• On page 55, why is Lenny pleased that he remembered to do his bedtime wee?

Otherwise he might have done a terror-piddle in his clean sheets.

# Question 6

• On page 57, Agatha has to stifle a giggle. What is she laughing at?

Lenny's mum calling Lenny, Lenny-Loo-Loo.



'That was close,' she said, pulling off her balaclava. It must have been quite hot because her face was bright red and it looked like there was steam coming off her head.

• What is a balaclava?

A garment (usually made of wool) that is worn over the whole head and neck, with eye (and mouth) holes.

### Question 8

• From what you have read so far, what are your opinions of Lenny?



# Chapter 7 Agatha



### Question 1

• What song was Lenny singing when he skipped home? Let's Go Fly a Kite

### Question 2

• What two hobbies does Mrs Haggis take part in?

Pensioners' belly dancing and over-sixties yodelling

# Question 3

So, that evening, I climbed up on to the conservatory roof of his rather fancy-looking house with the intention of examining my evidence. Very thoroughly.

• What does the word *intention* mean?

# Aim or plan

Question 4

• Underline the nouns and the verbs in this passage. (Use a different colour for each). Bonus- also underline the pronouns.

I saw him hopping from foot to foot as he tried to open the door to the boys' toilets by pulling it instead of pushing, and my instincts told me he probably wasn't going to be the brains behind the operation.

• What does Lenny think a giraffe is?

Basically leopard-horses with massive long necks

# Question 6

• Make a list of all the things Lenny believes are exceptional about himself.

He (thinks he) can wiggle his ears/ breathe underwater

Burp on demand

Fart extremely loudly without warning

His belly button mole named Bernard

Question 7

• On page 69, what does Agatha not like to admit?

That she had had fun too.

# Question 8

 Make a list or write a paragraph about all the amazing things about you! Maybe you can wiggle your ears, or maybe you are a brilliant football player or great at chess. Maybe you can drink a whole can of fizzy drink without burping! Go on, shout about WONDERFUL YOU!





### Chapter 8 Lenny

### Question 1

• What does Jordan Wiener look like when Lenny sees him?

Particularly pencilly and extra spiky.

### Question 2

• What important piece of advice does Agatha give Lenny on page 72?

He shouldn't swallow stuff that isn't food.

# Question 3

• On page 73, why does Lenny accidentally call Dr Errno, Dr Errnose

Lenny was looking at Dr Errno's massive nostrils which made him think of his nose and call him Dr Errnose!

### Question 4

The editor of The Underpants of Chaos did not pick up on the missing punctuation in the above passage! Can you do a better job than Ben Horslen? Add in the missing capital letters, inverted commas, commas, full stops and apostrophes.

Then he stalked off down the corridor, all menacing and villainy.

'He does *not* look like someone you want to get on the wrong side of,' I said.

'Definitely,' Agatha said as we sat down at our table with the others. 'Everyone's terrified of Dr Errno, even the teachers.'

'I'm going to stay well out of his way,' I told her.

'Could be difficult,' Agatha said.



- Why do you think Agatha has put Dr Errno at the top of her list of suspects of who is behind the strange shivers?
- Do you have a hypothesis of your own as to who it might be?

Reasons to do with his terrifying appearance. That it is often the evil headmaster in stories. That he is in the school when it happens.





# Chapter 9 Agatha

### Question 1

• What are Agatha's two reasons for putting Dr Errno at the top of her list of suspects?

Her excellent spy-detective instincts told her he had a bit of an evil feel about him.

She had no other suspects.

Question 2

• What topic are Agatha and Lenny's class learning about at school?

The Romans

Question 3

• What was dazzling in its simplicity?

Agatha's (probably most-definitely) excellent plan

Question 4

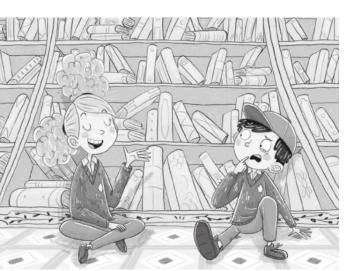
• What does the word *phenomenal* mean?

Extraordinary/ exceptional/ remarkable

Question 5

How does Lenny describe Dr Errno's nostrils?

He describes them as *awfully hypnotic* 



'True. And that's something we need to find out.'

It was at this point that we heard the library door creak and then the sound of a key in the lock.

'What was that?' Lenny whispered. 'Have we just been locked in . . . the *library*? Ugh – worst day ever. What are we supposed to do in here for entertainment?'

• From this passage what do you think is Lenny's opinion of libraries?

Lenny is unhappy about being locked in the library. In fact, he thinks it would be the worst day ever ot be locked in one. He thinks they are quite a boring place to be and can't think of anything to do in there for entertainment.

Question 7

• Who enters the library? Mr Pardon

### Question 8

• Why do you think Mr Pardon might be stressed?

He might be stressed about the new automated library system which is being introduced. Worried about his job.



# Chapter 10 Lenny

# Question 1

• What is Mr Pardon clutching to his chest?

# A giant book

# Question 2

• Why didn't the door open?

# It was locked

# Question 3

She was carrying a briefcase with a logo of an angry-looking owl with lasers for eyes. In a circle around the cyber-owl were the words MINERVA AUTOMATED LIBRARIAN SYSTEM. Dr Errno was laughing and chatting and being very un-Errno-like.

• Draw a picture of the briefcase with the Minerva logo.

# Question 4

• On page 85, why does Lenny nudge Agatha and snort? Lenny finds the name Stranglebum amusing





'And I'm very much looking forward to dragging this relic into the twenty-first century,' Ms Stranglebum said, gazing round the room.

• What does the word *relic* mean in this sentence?

That the library is ancient/very old. It belongs in the past. Outdated.

### Question 6

• On page 86, what does Ms Stranglebum call a 'graveyard of paper'?

### The library

Question 7

• What would the acronym for the Minerva Automated Library System be? MALS

### Question 8

'But that's awf-actually, that sounds awesome!' I said. I mean, who wouldn't want ROBOTS in their school library?!

• Lenny quite likes the idea of robot librarians! What do you think would be the positives and the negatives of having a robot rather than a person running a school library?



# Chapter 11 Agatha

# Question 1

• What plan did Lenny tell Agatha about in the dining hall? To rugby-tackle Dr Errno and wrestle him until he confessed

# Question 2

Lenny shot custard out of his nose in surprise. 'Matzo balls! It's happening.'

I was a whole jumble of feelings. A bit worried, of course. A bit relieved we didn't have to go through with Lenny's wrestling idea, but mainly excited that something was afoot.

• What does the phrase *something was afoot* mean?

Something was about to happen

# Question 3

• On page 96, what simile does Agatha use to describe Lenny's beard? It looked like he had a badger strapped to his face

# Question 4

• Can you come up with a simile of your own to describe Lenny's new beard? Eg, like a (toilet) brush, a carpet, a rug etc

# Question 5

• What reasons does Lenny give for not wanting a badger or a beard? Everyone will laugh at him and he has nowhere to keep a badger.

• What does the word distinguished mean?

Dignified and noble in appearance (grand, impressive, splendid)

# Question 7

• What was surprising about Agatha's beard?

It's ginger and she has whitish-blonde hair.

# Question 8

• Imagine suddenly sprouting your own beard like Lenny and Agatha! Write a paragraph describing how it feels when it starts to grow, what it looks like and your reaction. Draw a picture of yourself with a beard if you have time!



# Chapter 12 Lenny

# Question 1

• What did Lenny think Ernie looked like?

# A child werewolf

# Question 2

• What mistake does Agatha make on page 103, when Lenny says. *Er, no, I-*'

She thinks Lenny was paying attention and is talking about Dr Errno

# Question 3

While I tried to think what else our connection could be, Miss Happ shouted at everyone to either sit down and continue eating or take their dirty plates back to the hatch. With everyone busy, Agatha grabbed my elbow and we darted out into the corridor. She dragged me all the way to the end and then came to an abrupt stop.

• Sam Copeland and Jenny Pearson's editor has made another mistake! There are two commas missing in the passage above. Can you figure out where they should go and write them in?



• What is Lenny's new theory as to who is behind the shivers and how they are causing them?

Lenny thinks the shivers might be down to Dr Errno hypnotising the school with his massive hypno-nostrils.

Question 5

'Can't you cancel?'

'Um, no, I can't cancel. I haven't seen him in ages.'

'Why's that?'

'Because he's been very busy being a spy.'

'Right.'

I did not like the tone of that 'right'. But I think Agatha was probably worried about having a debrief without me.

• What do you think Agatha's tone when she says *'right'* might mean? That she does not believe Lenny's dad is a spy.

Question 6

• Who or what do you think are causing the shivers and why?



# Chapter 13 Agatha

Question 1

Why does Lenny ask if Agatha needs a poo?

Her eyes are screwed up really tight and he thinks she might look uncomfortable, like she needs one.

# Question 2

• Why does a wave of embarrassment billow through Agatha?

She doesn't want Lenny or anyone, to see her house and how she lives. She thinks it's messy and noisy.

# Question 3

# 'I hope you don't mind me dropping round.

Turns out I'm free after all. I tried to phone -'

• What do you deduce (think) has happened which means Lenny finds that he is free to go to Agatha's after all?

Lenny's dad has cancelled on him again.

# Question 4

'Minerva Automated Librarian System will have this place modernized and working efficiently in next to no time!'

• Give a synonym for *efficiently*?

Successfully, productively, well, effectively etc...

### Question 5

• On page 113, what does Mr Pardon say the new library system will be? A stupendous waster of money



• On page 115, what is Agatha surprised to see rise out of the box and why?

She is surprised to see that it is an robot librarian owl and Lenny has been right all along!

# Question 7

• What does the robot owl's selection of *My First Words* say about poor Lenny!

That he isn't very clever/ that he is below hi age standard for reading.

Question 8

• Lenny says that *Funny books are the best.*' Do you agree with him? Give reasons for your answer.



### Chapter 14 Lenny

### Question 1

• On page 127, what simile does Lenny use to describe Rahul?

A terrified bat

# Question 2

• On page 127-8, what happens to the unfortunate reception children?

Lenny forgets you can't wee when swimming in air and the reception children who are hovering below him get a bit of a sprinkling!

# Question 3

'This way!' I said, and I pushed them open and swam through.

'No! *Not* that way!' Agatha shouted. But she was too late, so it was really *her* fault that I floated outside, into the big blue sky.

I heard her yell after me, 'Oh, so *that* door you can open!', which was neither kind nor supportive.

• What does Agatha mean when she says 'Oh, so that door you can open!' Lenny struggles to open doors and finally, the one door he opens could mean they end up floating off into space! She is exasperated!



• Why does Lenny think it would be better if he was the one holding on? He thinks he is much stronger than Agatha.

### Question 5

# M1N3RVA 666.

• Who do you think owns a car with the above number plate?

### Angela Stranglebum

### Question 6

• Who is Gingerbum Snugglepuffin? Can you come up with another fun name for them?

The deceased Year 3 hamster

### Question 7

• Give a synonym for the word *plummeted*.

Dropped/ fell/ nosedived/ hurtled downwards

### Question 8

• Give a synonym for the word *treacherous*.

Dangerous/ perilous/ hazardous/ unsafe



# Chapter 15 Agatha

Question 1

• Why was Rahul getting a right telling off at the start of this chapter? He was found dangling from a school light and wouldn't come down.

### Question 2

• What does Miss Happ think the children have been doing? Playing the game *the floor is lava*.

### Question 3

'We are incredibly fortunate to have Ms Stranglebum in our school. On Monday, we shall be unveiling a library system that will revolutionize your learning here at Little Strangehaven Primary, and I am deeply ashamed that something like this could have happened. If you know anything, speak up now!'

• What does the word *revolutionize* mean?

Modernise/ transform for the better/ improve

Miss Happ said, 'Agatha Topps, if you *do* know something, you should tell Dr Errno now, or you'll be in serious trouble.'

'I'm afraid I can't help you,' I said and flashed Dr Errno my most innocent smile. It's one I've practised in the mirror specifically for interrogations like these.

'Agatha, are you sure?' Miss Happ pressed.

A good spy-detective never buckles under pressure. 'Quite sure,' I said.

Miss Happ turned her attention to Lenny.

'Lenny, do you know what happened?'

• The useless editor has missed out the inverted commas in this passage. Can you add them in so the reader can see which parts are speech?

### Question 5

• On page 138, Agatha says that Dr Errno and Ms Stranglebum *seem awfully cosy*. What do you think this means?

She is suspicious as they seem to be close and she thinks they may be discussing the shivers.

On the way out of school later, wearing a pair of trousers that were too short and a jumper that was too big and a frown that was just right, I took a deep breath and put my worries about home to one side.

• What does Agatha mean by *wearing a frown that was just right*?

Her frown is befitting/ demonstrates her mood accurately/ well.

# Question 7

• What does Agatha do on page 140 that shows she is considerate and caring? She puts the crisps and bourbons in her pocket to take home to share with her brothers and sisters.

# Question 8

• On page 140-141, Agatha tells Lenny to bring some dark clothes, a torch and a balaclava. What do you predict she has planned?

Guess about going somewhere at dark (the school).



# Chapter 16 Lenny

# Question 1

• Why does Agatha's dad say, welcome to mayhem?

He is welcoming Lenny to his home, which is busy and noisy and chaotic with all the children and dogs etc

# Question 2

Mum made a **wobbly** noise, gave me a really **tight hug** and said, 'Call me if you need anything. I'll miss you, poppet!'



• Underline the adjectives in this sentence

# Question 3

• What are the names of Agatha's siblings? Who is the eldest child?

Tom, George, Iris, Mavis, Davey, Nigel and Trevor

# Agatha

Question 4

• What problems to Scooby and Doo have?

Scooby has a bladder problem and Doo is always stealing things.

# Question 5

• On page 147, Agatha says, *'having a big family isn't always so great.'* What do you think she means by this?

She means that she doesn't get much time alone with her parents. She feels unnoticed, maybe even a little bit neglected. A large family also means that they don't have a lot of spare money.

# Question 6

• What are your opinions on big families?

'Not much time to play when you're a spydetective, Lenny,' Agatha said, and I wasn't sure if she was talking about my dad or herself.

• What do you think Agatha is revealing about herself here? That she doesn't actually play that much. She hasn't really had a friend to play with before so she's always played her spy games on her own. She has used this as an excuse to herself as to why she hasn't had friends to play with in the past.

#### Question 8

'Well, I don't care,' I said, through a mouthful of Hula Hoops. 'I like you just the way you are.'

And then the most confusing and possibly actually the *worst* thing ever happened. Way worse than growing a beard or nearly floating to certain death.

Agatha jumped up and hugged me. With absolutely NO warning whatsoever!

• Why do you think Agatha hugs Lenny here? Agatha hugs Lenny because he is telling her that he likes her just how she is. She has worried about how people might view her home life, but he thinks it's great. She has never had a friend who has said this to her before and even though hugging is not a very *Agatha* thing to do, she's so happy, she can't help herself! Short answer: he's being nice to her and she's not used to it. Chapter 17 Agatha

Question 1



was sure that there would be some incriminating evidence at school linking Dr Errno, and possibly Ms Stranglebum, to the **SHIVERS**, but, if we were going to break in, it was crucial that Lenny was clear on the plan.

• What does *incriminating* mean? Evidence that proves Dr Errno was responsible for the shivers /lays the blame with Dr Errno.

# Question 2

• What three suggestions does Lenny come up with to avoid getting caught breaking into their school?

Setting the school on fire, releasing a flock of deadly scorpions, employing killer robots with laser nipple blasters

# Question 3

What is the collective noun for scorpions? A nest

# Question 4

• On page 155, what concern does Lenny have about his torch?

The torch projects the Bat signal, so Lenny is worried that Batman might turn up and stop them. Breaking into somewhere is exactly the sort of thing Batman would try and prevent.

• What truth does Lenny tell about the camp bed on page 157 so Agatha doesn't worry about him sleeping on it? What does this tell you about Lenny?

He says that it is the most comfortable camp bed that he has ever slept on. But he has never slept on one before. This shows that Lenny is considerate towards Agatha's feelings about her home.

# Question 6

• When Agatha tries to wake Lenny up on page 158, why does he say, 'No, I don't want to eat a slug.'

He is dreaming about the conversation he had with Agatha's brothers that he had earlier about which insects they'd eat if they were starving.

# Question 7

• Lenny has *improvised* and used underpants for a balaclava. What do you think the word *improvised* means?

He has found something that will do as a balaclava on the spur of the moment/ A spontaneous decision/The underpants were unplanned, but he thought they would do/ Did his best to find something that would work.

# Question 8

• On page 159, why does Agatha tell Lenny he looks *'very spy-detectory'* even though he is wearing a pair of underpants on his head?

She tells him that because he is willing to wear underpants on his head for her. She is very grateful to have him with her on her mission and she feels very grateful for his friendship so wouldn't want to hurt his feelings by saying he looked silly. Also in her eyes, he doesn't look silly because he is her true friend.

Short answer: she sees him as her spy detective partner.

### Chapter 18 Lenny

### Question 1

The school was extra spooky in the dark, looming over us, and it gave me a funny feeling in my bum just looking at it. Not that I'm afraid of the dark, mind you. I'm just apprehensive about a lack of lighting.

• What does *apprehensive* mean?

Worried/ anxious/ uneasy/ nervous/ fearful/ concerned

### Question 2

• Why does Lenny say that he thinks Agatha wishes they'd brought the nipple-laser robots?

So they could blast them through the locked school gates.

### Question 3

• Research what a *trebuchet* is and sketch a picture of Lenny being catapulted over the school gates by one.

# Question 4

 Write down all the synonyms you can think of for *ginormous*. Huge/ enormous/ vast/ gigantic/ massive/ immense/ mammoth/ gargantuan/ monster/ humongous/ colossal/ big/ great







• What simile does Lenny use to describe himself when he tries to climb over the gates?

Like a squirrel monkey

#### Question 6

• What job does your spleen do?

It is responsible for filtering red blood cells

#### Question 7

• On page 165, why does Agatha do *a little bow*?

She successfully climbed over the gates and opened them so thinks she is deserving of applause.

#### Question 8

• At this point in the story, who do you think is the best spydetective? Give reasons for your answer.

Children give justifications for their choice



# Chapter 19 Agatha



Question 1

• What does Lenny grab hold of to help pull himself up through the window? One of the stone gargoyles.

#### Question 2

• What simile does Agatha use to describe herself on page 168?

She says she is *like a cat in the night*.

#### Question 3

• Why won't Agatha give Lenny a hi-five?

Agatha won't hi-five Lenny because they are in the middle of a mission and she's trying to be quiet so they aren't heard.

Question 4

• What simile does Agatha use to describe Lenny's style of slinking?

Agatha says Lenny is like an octopus.



'Just try not to knock anything over with those flailing limbs of yours,' I whispered, and set off down the corridor again, only to hear Lenny say, in a very whiny voice, '*Just try not to knock anything over with those flailing limbs of yours.*'

• What does the word *flailing* mean?

Flapping/ thrashing about/ waving or whirling around

#### Question 6

• On page 170, what does Agatha say they need to act during a mission and why?

Agatha says they must stay focused and alert so they are ready to react if something happens.

# Question 7

• How does Lenny react when he feels the SHIVER?

His eyes widen behind his underpant-balaclava

# Question 8

• Use your fantastic imagination to write a paragraph about what you think the next SHIVER will bring.





# Chapter 20 Lenny

## Question 1

What does Lenny try his best to do at the start of chapter 20

Lenny tries his bets to stay calm and in the spy-detective zone.

# Question 2

'What *is* that?' she said in a very wibbly-wobbly voice quite similar to the one my mum used when the plastic dinosaur she didn't know I'd swallowed appeared in the loo.

• What emotion do you think both Agatha and Lenny's mum were feeling when they used a *wibbly-wobbly* voice?

# Worry/ concern/ shock/horror/ fear

# Question 3

• What simile does Agatha use to describe the sound coming from above? Agatha says it sounds like *an army of scorpions*.

# Question 4

I drew a very long breath and braced myself to do battle with whatever was coming for us, but Agatha pulled me by the elbow (of course) into a classroom and we hid behind the door.

• Why does Lenny say, *(of course)* in the above passage? Lenny is referring to the fact that Agatha has a habit of pulling him by the elbow.



She slapped her hand over my mouth, and said, 'Stop screaming,' which was completely unnecessary because I wasn't the one who was screaming. She was. The scream I could hear was far too high-pitched to be coming from me.

• Who is actually screaming here?

Lenny is screaming! (He just doesn't realise because he thinks he's brave and in reality, he is quite scared!)

#### Question 6

They stopped at the bottom, grunting and groaning, steam coming in puffs from their squat, fat noses. They were like an army of short goblins, completely grey from head to toe, even down to their bared teeth. The one at the front pointed a gnarled finger down the corridor and off they all went, their talons clattering across the wooden floorboards.

• Draw a picture of what you think these creatures look like.

#### Question 7

• On page 174, what does Agatha say a good spy-detective would never do? Abandon a mission.

#### Question 8

• On page 175, how do you think Lenny ended up in Agatha's arms? He leapt into them because he was so scared when he saw the monster.

# Chapter 21 Agatha



#### Question 1

It folded back its wings, crossed its gnarly hands on top of its little pot belly and licked its grey lips.

• What do you think this monster could be?

Any reasonable suggestion (But it is one of the school gargoyles that has come to life).

#### Question 2

• On page 177 what simile does Agatha use to describe the monster's teeth? She says they're like a row of broken tomb stones.

#### Question 3

• What does Agatha initially think the monster might be?

#### An ogre.

#### Question 4

• How does Lenny describe Gregor?

A happy little fella and not like those other ones.

#### Question 5

• What do Lenny's ears remind Gregor of?

#### Great flappy sails

#### Question 6

• What word does Gregor use for ears on page 180? Lugholes

• What is growing between Gregor's bum cheeks? Quite a lot of moss.

# Question 8

• List the things that Gregor has put in his mouth during this chapter.

Stones, a chunk of the wall, a stray plimsoll.



Chapter 22 Lenny

Question 1

gatha raced off down the corridor. Personally, I was not one hundred per cent sold on the idea of running round a dark school full of gargoyles, but I couldn't let Agatha go alone. She might need someone strong and courageous if she got into trouble.

- What part of grammar is *Personally*, in this passage?
- A fronted adverbial

# Question 2

• Who is Gregor talking about when he says 'Ye move at an impressive speed, great-eared one!' Lenny

# Question 3

• Why does Lenny lick a door handle on page 184?

Lenny licks the door handle because Gregor gave it to him and Lenny's mum has taught him that it is rude to turn down a gift.

# Question 4

• Why do you think Lenny suggests that they could just leave the gargoyles to eat the school?

Lenny's comment suggests that he is not a big fan of going to school and might not understand why it is important.





• Why does Agatha think it is important that the school is eaten?

Agatha thinks school is important because if you want to get on in life, you need a good education.

#### Question 6

The hopeless editor has messed up again! Can you insert the missing capital letters, full stops and inverted commas in the passage below?

I held my hands up. 'Fine. We can stop the gargoyles eating the school if you really think we have to.'

'We do.' She nudged me forward. 'Go on then.'

'You want *me* to do it? I mean, I think this might be more your area of expertise.'

'Oh, for goodness' sake!' Agatha said, then took a step forward. She held her hands above her head and shouted, 'I command you all to stop eating the school building immediately!'



• On page 186, how does Agatha think the gargoyles are looking at them? She thinks they are looking at them like they want to eat them.

#### Question 8

• What does Gregor think is a 'a wee bit o' bad luck' on page 189?

Gregor thinks it is bad luck that the gargoyles are in fact Transylvanian which means that they might want to bite Agatha and Lenny's heads off.



# Chapter 23 Agatha

## Question 1

• Look at the scene below. Write a paragraph using prepositions and interesting verbs to describe where the gargoyles are and what they are getting up to. Underline any prepositions and verbs in different colours.



• Why does Agatha shout at Lenny for smelling like a chicken on Page 191, even though she realises the situation isn't his fault?

She is angry and frustrated and wants to blame somebody (that isn't her).

# Question 3

Gregor puffed up his little stone chest, balled his fists and said, 'Dinnae take one more step, or ye'll all be fer a lamping!'

• What does Gregor mean?

He's telling the Transylvanian gargoyles that if they take another step closer he will fight them.

# Question 4

• On page 192, why does Agatha decide that running wasn't a bad idea? It's the only idea.

# Question 5

• On page 194, why does Agatha think the gargoyles are happy to take a timeout?

She thinks the gargoyles are tired of all the running too. She suspects that they aren't very fit because they've been stuck sitting on the school roof for 400 years.

Someone jumped over us and raced off down the corridor, their black gown flapping behind them like wings.

'Is that . . . Batman?' Lenny said, looking down at his torch, his voice full of wonder.

• Why does Lenny think the person running down the corridor might be Batman? Batman also wears a black cape and Lenny is worried his torch might have accidentally summoned him.

Question 7

• What three suggestions does Lenny make to defeat the gargoyles?

A stun gun, a light sabre and a giant ball

# Chapter 24 Lenny

# Question 1

• What simile does Lenny use to describe Gregor on page 198?

Lenny describes Gregor to look like an oversized woodlouse.

# Question 2

• When Gregor veers off course on page 201, where are Lenny and Agatha worried he might end up?

In the staff loos

Question 3

• What simile does Lenny use to describe Gregor on page 201?

He describes Gregor like a tortoise spinning on its shell.

Question 4

# Gregor then ricocheted off the opposite wall

# straight back towards us.

• What does the word ricocheted mean?

# Bounced off/ rebounded

# Question 5

• On page 202, why couldn't Lenny and Gregor rest a while?

They can't rest because they hear the sound of talons approaching- the Transylvanian gargoyles are back.

# Question 6

• What words would you use to describe how Lenny is feeling on Page 203- to the top of page 204?

Panicked, overwhelmed, scared, worried, hopeless, dazed, knocked for six, overcome, alarmed, anxious, flustered, terrified etc..

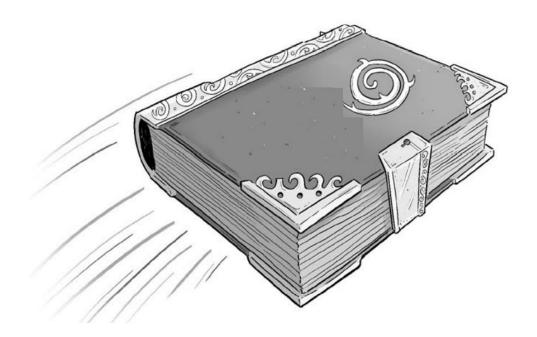


• How do you think Lenny's mood might change after the SHIVER?

Calm, less scared, relieved, thankful, happy, curious about what happened (any other reasonable answer)

# Question 8

• At the end of the chapter Agatha is holding a massive book in her hands. What do you think this book might be? Why do you think it is significant? Answer involving the cause of the Shivers.



# Chapter 25

Question 1

Why does Agatha describe their first mission as a semi-success?

She describes it as a semi-success because while they didn't bring Dr Errno to justice, they didn't get eaten by gargoyles. Also, eve though they hadn't discovered the cause of the Strangeness they did have a cluethe book.

# Question 2

• What does the Book of Chaos ask Agatha to do?

# Open i / turn its pages

# Question 3

• What does Lenny call the Book of Chaos?

# My lovely Booky Wooky

# Question 4

• Why do you think Lenny is acting so strangely towards the book?

Answers involving the book holding some strange power that is attracting Lenny to is an dmaking him want to do as it asks.

# Question 5

• On page 210, what suggestion does Lenny have for why Gregor might share a connection with him and Agatha?

He wonders if Gregor also has a belly-button mole named Bernard.



• What clue does Agatha give on page 211 that hints that one of her dogs is going to cause trouble later?

Agatha describes Doo as looking very adorable and showed no signs of the havoc he would later wreak.

# Question 7

• Give a synonym for *havoc*.

Chaos/ mayhem/ disaster/ devastation

# Question 8

• Do you think they should open the Book of Chaos? Would you? Write down a list of arguments for and against opening the book.

Answers could include:

Pros- might find out what the Book of Chaos does. It might tell them who it belongs to and therefore who is responsible for the Shivers. If they don't, they can't progress in their mission.

Cons- it might be dangerous! They don't know what will happen.





## Chapter 26 Lenny

#### Question 1

• What language does Agatha think the book might be written in? Transylvanian

#### Question 2

• What does Lenny suggest the writing might be?

# Alien

#### Question 3

• What does Lenny wish for on Page 222?

# A monkey tail

## Question 4

• Make a list of all the events the Shivers have brought so far in the story.

The ballroom dancing/ the chicken attack/ the beards/ the loss of gravity/ Gregor & the Transylvanian gargoyles.

# Question 5

But the next page was even more intriguing: there was a picture of a herd of chickens.

'Is that Margaret Hatcher?!' I shouted.

'Shhhhh! You'll wake everyone up!' Agatha said.

She hurriedly flicked through the following pages. The book was very big, but the pages were really thick, so there weren't that many.

'It's all there: the beards, the no gravity, the gargoyles . . .'

'Me? Is there a picture o' me?' Gregor asked, suddenly interested. 'How do I look?'

'Very gargoyle-y,' I said.

• What does Gregor pray for and why?

He prays for a meteor shower because he is hungry and thinks space rock is tasty.

# Question 8

• Draw one of the pages inside the book of Chaos.

Drawing of one of the scenes in the book



# Chapter 27 Agatha



# Question 1

• What does *anticlimactic* mean?

"t's blank,' I said a bit flatly, because even though it was probably a good thing there wasn't a picture of a kid burping up coconuts, or a meteor shower, it felt a little anticlimactic.

A let down/ disappointing/ not very satisfying after an exciting build up.

Question 2

• What does Lenny do on page 228, that makes Agatha realise that he is feeling the tightness too?

A little squeak

Question 3

• On page 228 what other clues are there that show that Lenny's underpants are becoming uncomfortable?

Lenny jumps to his feet, eyes bulging and a pained expression.

#### Question 4

• On page 229, what reasons does Gregor give for not wearing underpants?

He doesn't believe in them. He thinks it's best to give his bottom some air and let it breathe.

Question 5

• What happens on page 229 to make their situation worse?

Doo, the dog, steals the book.



• What word does Lenny use for his underpants on page 231 to show that he feels they are fighting against him?

## Traitors

#### Question 7

• What advice does Agatha give Lenny on page 232?

She tells him to be brave and breathe through the pain.

#### Question 8

• Why, after their underpants have ripped, are Lenny and Agatha still in trouble?

Their underpants haven't given up! They crawl across the floor and try to attack Lenny and Agatha's faces.

## Question 9

• What do you think needs to happen to stop the underpants attacking them?

They need to get the Book of Chaos back and close it.



# Chapter 28 Lenny

#### Question 1

• Even though Lenny can't see, how can he tell that Agatha is also being attacked by her underpants?

He can hear her making noises.

#### Question 2

• Why can't Gregor close the book?

Doo won't let go of it.

#### Question 3



• What is Agatha worried that Gregor has done with Doo?

Eaten him.

Question 4

• Why doesn't Lenny think *poor Doo*, on page 236-7?

Lenny thinks *poor Lenny*, not *poor Doo* because Doo was the one who ran off with the book and he was the one being throttled by his own underpants.

Question 5

What did Gregor spot before he closed the book

That the page was no longer blank. There was a picture of Lenny and Agatha being attacked by their underpants.





• How is Lenny feeling at the end of the chapter?

He's tired and wants to recover after the underpants attack. He wants to get some sleep before he sees his dad, so he is also thinking about him too. It suggests he is looking forward to seeing him.

#### Question 7

• What does *top and tail* mean?

'Come on,' she said. 'Gregor, you can top and

tail with me.'

It means that they will share a bed, Gregor will have his feet by her head and she will have her feet by his.

Question 8

• What is your hypotheses for what is happening and who is behind the Shivers at this point in the story?

Children's own answers.



# Chapter 29 Agatha



#### Question 1

• What simile does Agatha use to describe Gregor's snoring?

# Like a bulldozer.

#### Question 2

• How does Agatha feel towards Lenny on page 241?

She sees him as a friend and she likes him. When she looks at him she thinks he looks quite angelic and has a fuzzy feeling inside. (Even if he can be a bit of a dope sometimes).

#### Question 3

• What wakes the children up?

Agatha's dad shouting at them from downstairs.

Question 4

• What simile does Agatha use on page 242 to describe Lenny in his sleeping bag?

A grumpy caterpillar.

#### Question 5

• Why is Agatha surprised on page 243?

She thought the teacher would be Dr Errno, but it turns out to be Mr Pardon.

#### Question 6

• Why doesn't Agatha think Lenny is very good at reading looks?

Lenny doesn't keep quiet. Instead he asks if Mr Pardon is there about the Transylvanian gargoyles.

• On page 248, why does Agatha decide they have to go and get the book from upstairs and give it to Mr Pardon?

She can't risk her dad going up and discovering Gregor.

#### Question 8

• On page 249, after Agatha tells Lenny that he can be pretty smart sometimes, what mistake does he make?

He thinks Mr Pardon wants Gregor and not the Book of Chaos.



Chapter 30 Lenny Chapter 30 Lenny

#### Question 1

gatha slapped her hand to her forehead. 'Oh, Lenny! He doesn't want Gregor! He wants the *Book of Chaos*!'

Oh. Really?

While my brain began processing this intriguing piece of information, Gregor – who I think I'd taken a bit by surprise – sprang out of his slumber.



• What does the word *intriguing* mean?

# Interesting/ facinating

#### Question 2

• Why does Gregor jump up with his fists balled when they wake him up?

He was having a nightmare about French pigeons.

#### Question 3

• On page 251, Lenny incorrectly makes two guesses as to who is responsible for the Shivers. What were they?

Ms Stranglebum and Mr Topps (Agatha's dad).

#### Question 4

• Why doesn't Lenny think Mr Pardon can be responsible for the Shivers?

He's a librarian and he's all cute and squishy. Also, that librarians aren't the first people you'd think of for causing chaos.

• Why does Lenny think he is an excellent-spy-detective on page 252?

He thinks he remembered an important clue – when Mr Pardon said that Power lies in books.

#### Question 6

• What does Lenny suggest they could give Mr Pardon instead of the Book of Chaos?

Gregor or they could substitute it for another book.

#### Question 7

• What does Gregor do when Mr Topps comes into the bedroom?

He freezes and pretends to be a statue.

#### Question 8

• Why doesn't Agatha want to apologise to Mr Pardon?

She doesn't think she has done anything wrong and he is the bad guy!



# Chapter 31 Agatha

## Question 1

• What does Gregor say he has a bad case of and how will he fix it?

A bad case of creeping crevice moss that he'll fix with extra-strength weedkiller.

## Question 2

• What is Gregor referring to when he says it 'looks like an ancient, murky forest to me'?

His creeping crevice moss.

## Question 3

• Can you make sense of this note?

!gniht revelc uoy ,maet evitceted-yps eht edam evah uoY !enod lleW

Well done! You have made the spy-detective team, you clever thing!

#### Question 4

• Why doesn't Agatha think Lenny is taking their mission seriously?

Lenny says Dun-dun- duuunnnnn when she starts reading from the book.

Question 5

• What suggestions does Lenny give as to why Mr Pardon might want an *end-end*?

Mr Pardon might have accidentally been exposed to gamma rays. He might be the host for an alien, or he might have fallen into a vat of chemical waste.

Question 6

• What does Lenny think oblivion means?

A place where wishes are granted (heaven).

• What do you think Lenny's version of heaven tells you about him? That he really misses having his dad around.

#### Question 8

• What do we learn about Agatha from her version of heaven? That she finds her home life quite hard.



## Chapter 32 Lenny

#### Question 1

spent the rest of the weekend trying to convince my mum that I was not on 'a quick road to ruin', whatever that meant, that she hadn't failed as a parent, and that Agatha was not going to grow up to be a criminal mastermind. Although I wasn't one hundred per cent certain about that last one.

• What do you think Lenny's mum meant by 'a quick road to ruin'?

She is worried that his behaviour will get worse and he'll end up in trouble and ruin his chances of doing well in life.

#### Question 2

• What is Lenny's latest theory as to how Mr Pardon could have become an evil villain?

That poisonous ink fumes had messed with his brain lobes.

#### Question 3

• Why is Agatha angry when Lenny arrives at school?

He is late. She has also had a stressful weekend looking after Gregor. She's worried about Mr Pardon *and* she stepped on a snail which has also upset her.

#### Question 4

• What does Lenny tell Agatha to try and make her feel better about stepping on a snail?

He tells her that he once accidentally ate three woodlice.

• Why doesn't Lenny think it's a very good idea for them to head to the library?

He doesn't think Mr Pardon will let them borrow the Book of Chaos.

## Question 6

'Mr Pardon will be at school. Do librarians even exist if they're outside libraries?' Agatha continued. 'And, if he's in school, the *Book of Chaos* has to be *in the school*. And we will not stop until we find it, OK?'

Not stop? That needed some clarification.

• What other word cold you use for *clarification* in this sentence?

# Explanation

Question 7

• In the passage above, underline the prepositions.

'Mr Pardon will be at school. Do librarians even exist if they're outside libraries?' Agatha continued. 'And, if he's in school, the *Book of Chaos* has to be *in the school*. And we will not stop until we find it, OK?'

Not stop? That needed some clarification.

# Question 8

• What one allowance does Agatha make for Lenny to stop the mission?

She will only let him stop for a wee if it is absolutely necessary.



# Chapter 33 Agatha



#### Question 1

• What does Lenny tell Agatha he is known for on page 278? His upper-body strength.

#### Question 2

Anyway, halfway to the library, we were stopped in our tracks by the sound of a commotion.

• What does the word *commotion* mean?

A noise/ a disturbance/ a din/ a hullabaloo

#### Question 3

I gasped, then whispered to Lenny to make sure he was up to speed, 'Mr Pardon has been terminated.'

Lenny's face lit up. 'Oh, well that was easy. Rest in peace, Mr Pardon. Shall we go and hang out in the playground?'

• Lenny has misunderstood again. What does he think has happened to Mr Pardon?

Lenny thinks that terminated means Mr Pardon has been killed.

#### Question 4

• What does Lenny think will make books heavier?

Having lots of words in them.

• Why does Gregor bop Jordan on the nose?

Gregor was having his nightmare about pigeons and when Jordan disturbed him, he must have mistaken him for one.

#### Question 6

• What does Gregor do on page 286 which Agatha says *wasn't helpful by any stretch of the imagination*?

Gregr sits on top of Jordan's belly for a ride when Lenny and Agatha are trying to bundle Jordan into the cleaning cupboard.

#### Question 7

• Can you correct the spelling mistakes in the passage below?

'Do you think he'll be OK?' Lenny asked. 'I'm sure his dad will find him later,' I said. I held open my bag. 'Right, Gregor, climb back in. We're off to get the *Book of Chaos* from Mr Pardon before he's tempted to turn those final pages and bring about oblivion.'

#### Question 8

'Lenny, you can carry him, but you absolutely have to promise not to leave him anywhere this time.'

'Totally promise,' Lenny lied. 'Right, let's go!'

• What does the fact that Agatha says *Lenny lied* suggest might happen later?



## Chapter 34 Lenny

#### Question 1

• What does Agatha say Lenny must tune out to be a good spydetective?

Any calls of nature during periods of high action and imminent danger.

#### Question 2

# 'Good spy-detectives can tune out any calls of nature during periods of high action and imminent danger. Are you a good spy-detective, Lenny?'

• What does the word *imminent* mean?

About to happen/ impending

#### Question 3

• What does Lenny ask the Year 6 prefects for?

#### Toilet roll.

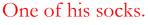
#### Question 4

• How does Lenny say the prefects react to his request?

Not very perfectly- they laugh at him.

#### Question 5

• What does Lenny use for toilet paper?





• Why doe Lenny think the Year Six Toilet Roll Mummies want to kill him?

They were groaning Kill him .... Killl Hiiimmmm

# Question 7

• How does Lenny fight off the toilet roll mummy attack?

He blasts them with water from the taps so their bandages are soaked and fall off.

#### Question 8

• On page 297, what does it transpire that Agatha has done, despite her saying that a good spy-detective would never do it in the previous chapter?



# Chapter 35 Lenny

# Question 1

• Why does Agatha call Lenny *so annoying* on page 300?

Agatha calls him annoying because he refers to her as his assistant.

# Question 2

• Why does Agatha think Gregor has headed towards the library?

Gregor has left bite marks in the wall heading in the direction of the library.

# Question 3

# I put the feeling of impending doom to one side and carried on towards the library.

• What does the word *impending* mean?

# About to happen/ imminent

Question 4

• What do Agatha and Lenny both think the other has done on page 302?

They both this that the other one has run away mid mission.

# Question 5

• What does Lenny say he could do with the power of invisibility?

Rob banks/ break into sweet shops/ sneak into the zoo and cuddle some meerkats

# Question 6

• How does Agatha suggest they use their invisibility?

To creep up on Mr Pardon, save Gregor and Little Strangehaven Primary from eternal doom.

• What would you like to do if you were invisible for a day? Children's own answers

## Question 8

• What do you think would be the negatives of being invisible? Children's own answers



## Chapter 36 Lenny

### Question 1

• What does Lenny think he can do now he's invisible?

Walk through doors

### Question 2

'Lenny . . . did you get confused and think that because you're invisible you can walk through doors?'

'No,' I lied.

'Lenny?' said Agatha. 'Are you lying on the floor?'

'No,' I said, jumping up.

• Why does Lenny lie in the above passage?

He's embarrassed that he thought that he could walk through doors because he's invisible and he doesn't want Agatha to know that's what he thought. He cares about what she thinks.

### Question 3

• What does Lenny say wasn't necessary on page 308 and why?

Spy-slinking around for clues because he was invisible.

### Question 4

• What mistake does Lenny think Agatha makes on page 311 and why does he think this?

She shouts 'the book' which alerts Mr Pardon to it and she could have just grabbed it.

# Agatha materialized next to me, blinking in surprise.

• What does the word *materialized* mean in this sentence?

# Appeared/ became visible

## Question 6

Unfortunately, Mr Pardon was the closest Pardon was the closest and the quickest (embarrassing), and he got to it first.

• Unfortunately is what type of fronted adverbial? Circle the answer.



## Question 7

• Why is it embarrassing that Mr Pardon got to the Book of Chaos first?

Lenny thinks it's embarrassing because he sees him as an old librarian who they should be able to beat in a battle of speed.

Question 8

And again we all felt the **SHIVER**. That meant one page left to Armageddon! *Dun-dun-DUNNNNN!!!!* 

• What does the word Armageddon mean?

Doom or a dramatic/ catastrophic conflict that could lead to the end of mankind, or in this case, Little Strangehaven. The end-end, Lenny would say.

## Chapter 37 Agatha

Question 1

• Why does Agatha say they weren't really in the position to deal with what the Book of Chaos unleashed next at the start of chapter 37?

Agatha, Lenny and Gregor were all tangled up in a ball on the floor.

Question 2

Lenny didn't let go. He said, 'Helf me. I can't ge' my fayce out offfff Gregor's crefish.' 'You what?' 'Ma fayce's 'tuck to Gregor'sh bumf!' 'Your face is . . . stuck to Gregor's . . . Oh WOW. That's not good!'

• What does Agatha say is 'not good'?

She is referring to the fact that Lenny has his face stuck in Gregor's bum moss.

Question 2

• Why does Lenny say he's never sleep again on page 315?

He says he won't sleep again because fo the trauma of what he has seen when his face was stuck in Gregor's burn moss.

Question 3

• Why does Mr Pardon ask them is they are ready for the ending?

For dramatic effect.

Mr Pardon snarled. 'I'm sick of being taken for granted. Of being underappreciated. For years, I've kept this library in perfect order, despite all you grubby little urchins coming in and messing things up. But for what?'

I think Lenny thought that was an actual question because he said, 'To be replaced by the Minerva artificially intelligenced library owls? Chin up, Mr P – it happens to us all.'

• What is the term given to a question where the person asking it does not require a response?

### A rhetorical question

#### Question 4

Mr Pardon turned a radishy shade of red. 'What nonsense is that idiot talking about?'

• Can you come up with a different way to describe the colour Mr Pardon turned?

Eg, flushed a bright red/ cheeks turned crimson/ scarlet

#### Question 5

'He's a right wee skyrocket, this one,' Gregor whispered.

• What is Gregor saying here?

He is saying that Mr Pardon has lost the plot/ gone mad

• What reasons does Agatha give for librarians being really important?

They open doors to other worlds, expand children's minds, help to educate and inspire whole generations.

## Question 7

I trailed off, realizing I probably wasn't helping the situation. 'There are other good jobs too, though, Mr Pardon. I'm sure you have some transferable skills.'

• What does Agatha mean when she says she 'probably wasn't helping the situation'?

She realizes that by reminding Mr Pardon how important his job is, she is going to make him feel worse about losing it and therefore probably want to finish the Book of Chaos as revenge.

### Question 8

• What did Mr Pardon use elastic bands for?

To strengthen his terribly weak wrists.



## Chapter 38 Lenny

### Question 1

• What did Lenny think Agatha meant when she shouted GO! at the start of the chapter?

To run away as fast as his little legs could carry him.

### Question 2

• What does Lenny think Mr Pardon sounds like when he says, 'Bring on the Ultimate Chaos!'?

### A WWE wrestler

#### Question 3

• Why doesn't the ultimate chaos seem that ultimate to begin with?

It starts off a a gentle breeze which was actually quite pleasant.

#### Question 4

• What does Agatha tell Lenny an air-whirlpool is commonly known as?

#### A tornado.

#### Question 5

• Who saves Lenny from being sucked into the Book of Chaos?

#### Gregor

• What do you think a *wee squall* is?

A small storm or a small sudden gust of wind.

## Question 7

Question 6

• What simile does Lenny use to describe himself on page 331?

NU U

ES

A backwards spiderman

# Question 8

• How does Lenny defeat Mr Pardon?

He smashes into him and he is sucked into the book.

## Chapter 39 Agatha

## Question 1

• Why does Agatha call herself unprofessional on page 336?

She cries and she hugs Lenny. She is overwhelmed.

# Question 2

• How do you think Agatha's opinion of Lenny has changed in this chapter?

She now sees him as heroic and realizes that he risked everything to save her.

# Question 3

• Why do you think Agatha doesn't feel like being a spy-detective anymore and just wants to be Agatha Topps?

She's been through a lot during the case and was almost sucked away from the home and the family she realizes she loves. She wants to go back to a normal life of a normal girl again.

## Question 4

• What ideas does Lenny come up with for getting rid of the Book of Chaos? Strap it into a rocket and blast it into space. Send it to the bottom of the ocean in a submarine. Get a huge drill and make a hole to the centre of the Earth and hide it there.



• Where do they decide to hide the book?

They are going to bury it in Agatha's back garden.

## Question 6

• Do you think this is a good plan? What would you do to get rid of the Book of Chaos and why?

Children's own answers with reasons.

## Question 7

• What threat does Jordan Wiener make?

He's going to watch them and prove that Gregor is alive.

## Question 8

• Why does Jordan run away down the corridor faster than a speeding bullet? He's scared when Gregor suddenly comes to life.

## Chapter 40 Lenny

### Question 1

Cleaner Wiener hadn't been lying about having a lot of work to do – the school was in a right state. On the way to our first lesson, we had to climb over desks and tables and a whole herd of papier-mâché toucans that the Year Fives had made for their Amazon art project.

• What would be a more appropriate collective noun for toucans? Flock, as they are bird. Although the correct answer is a durante.

### Question 2

• How do you think Lenny felt about his dad turning up for the meeting with Dr Errno?

He may have felt pleased/ happy that his dad has shown up because it shows he cares. Worried what he might think.

### Question 3

Most superheroes get thanked when they save the world. Not me and Agatha. We are a *cause for concern*.

Batman never has to put up with that sort of nonsense.

Anyway.

How would you feel about saving the day but no one knowing about it to thank you for being a hero? Children's own answers.

Anyway, last week I got another tiny shampoo and I'm hopeful that one day my collection might overtake all the Pez dispensers.

• What does this show about how Lenny's relationship with his dad is changing as a result of the meeting at school?

It shows that his dad is making an effort to spend more time with Lenny. The shampoos show that Lenny is spending time with him when his dad stays at a hotel.

Question 5

• How has Agatha's home life improved?

Her parents are setting aside time each evening to spend with her and talk to her about her day so she won't feel neglected.

#### Question 6

• What reasons does Lenny suggest as to why only he and Agatha could remember the Strangeness?

Destiny- they were always meant to be friends. They could feel the chaos because they both had parts of their life that were chaotic. Bernard the bell-button mole.

#### Question 7

• Which do you think is the most likely reason? Or do you have another suggestion? Children's own answers.

#### Question 8

What does this final picture make you think might happen? Children's own answers.

# **Opportunities for writing**

## Chapter 1

At Little Strangehaven the children voted to Spend money on a bouncy castle for the playground. What would your pupils buy? Children write a persuasive letter to their headteacher requesting what the school should spend  $\pounds$ 1000 pounds on.

## Chapter 2

Lenny starts a new school again. Children write an account of their first day at a new school or in a new class. They should include how they felt, what they did and who they met.

### Chapter 4

The first Shiver Lenny experiences leads to the chicken attack. Children to write this scene as either Agatha or Lenny.

### Chapter 7

Agatha is getting to know Lenny a little better. Children write a character profile as Agatha, based on her observations as Lenny. This could be done as a page in her spy-detective note book.

## Chapter 12

Children are to write a scene, as either Agatha or Lenny, where they imagine their own scene of chaos that is unleased on Little Strangehaven.

Alternatively, they can write as themselves and base it in their own school.

## Chapter 18

Write a kit list of all the things you might need if you were undertaking a spy-detective mission like Agatha and Lenny.

## Chapter 23

Children write a story where they are being attacked my gargoyles or some other monsters in their school.

### Chapter 32

Children imagine that they have had to look after Gregor over the weekend and keep him hidden and write a story where Gregor gets into all sorts of trouble.

### Chapter 35

Lenny and Agatha get to experience what it is like to be invisible for a short time before another Shiver comes. Children to write a story based on them being invisible for a day.

### Chapter 40

Write a story based on the final picture of the book, where Doo is sniffing at where the Book of Chaos has been buried in the garden.