

Matilda
Roald Dahl

The Reader of Books

1. Page 1. Why do parents convince themselves their own child is so brilliant? 1 mark
2. Page 2. When do teachers get their 'own back' on the parents? 1 mark
3. Why does Roald Dahl compare Matilda to a scab? Find and copy out the part that explains this 2 marks
4. At one age was Matilda's speech perfect? 1 mark
5. What does her father want Matilda do rather than read? 1 mark
6. Page 6. What word is used to show Mrs Wormwood is addicted to bingo? 1 mark
7. When would Matilda go to the library? Why did she have to go on her own? 2 marks
8. Why does Matilda say she liked the book: the Secret Garden? 2 marks
9. Page 9: Mrs Phelps was more stunned than ever. Why? 2 marks
10. Page 11. How long did it take Matilda to finish the book: Great Expectations? 1 mark
11. Page 12. "it was a formidable list". What do you think 'formidable' means? Clue: it does not mean long! 1 mark
12. What does a good writer do according to Mrs Phelps? 1 mark
13. Which hot drinks would Matilda have as she read? 1 mark
14. What are your first impressions of Matilda from this chapter?

Mr Wormwood the Great Car Dealer

1. Page 16. Mr Wormwood liked to boast. Find the part where this is written. What does it mean to 'boast'? 2 marks
2. What kind of things does Mr Wormwood do to the cars? 2 marks
3. Page 19. Why do you think Mr Wormwood's face goes red? 2 marks
4. Last page. It says Matilda resented being told constantly she was stupid. What do you think 'resented' must mean? 1 mark

5. What do you think of Mr Wormwood? Think of three different words and back yourself up using what has happened in the book. 3 marks

The Hat and the Superglue

1. How did Matilda get her father's hat down? 1 mark
2. Mr Wormwood 'didn't want to get scalped'. What do you think 'scalped' must mean? 1 mark
3. Page 29. Mrs Wormwood was 'turning pink'. Why did she turn pink? What has Matilda said? 1 mark
4. What did Mrs Wormwood do to remove the hat? 2 marks
5. Why was Mr Wormwood cross with Matilda at the end of the chapter? 2 marks
6. Do you think Mr Wormwood deserved to have his hat stuck to his head? Why? Explain fully 3 marks

The Ghost

1. Page 32. Matilda was 'absorbed' in her book. Find this part. What do you think 'absorbed' means? 1 mark
2. Page 35. 'Matilda froze in horror'. What does this tell you about how Matilda was feeling? 2 marks
3. Why did Matilda decide not to cry? Find and copy the part that answers this question. 1 mark
4. Why does Fred change his mind and lend his parrot to Matilda? 1 mark
5. Why did Matilda want the parrot? 2 marks
6. Why was Mr Wormwood going 'greyer'? 2 marks

Arithmetic

1. Why did Matilda 'dish out punishments' on her parents? 2 marks
2. Why was Michael asked to get something to write with? 1 mark

3. What does Mr Wormwood say he has in his head that allows him to calculate quickly? 1 mark
4. Why was there silence? 1 mark
5. Why did Mr Wormwood's face go red? 1 mark
6. Why is Mr Wormwood convinced that Matilda must be a cheat? 1 mark
7. Why did Mrs Wormwood not have energy to cook dinner? 1 mark
8. If you were Matilda's father and she had worked out the sums for you, what would have been nicer things to say to her? 3 marks

The platinum blond man

1. At the start of the chapter, Matilda is plotting against her father again. Why? 2 marks
2. How did Mr Wormwood keep his hair shiny and strong? 1 mark
3. Why did Matilda not fill the whole bottle up with the blonde hair dye? Find and copy the part that tells you 1 mark
4. Page 53. Find the other word that is used for 'eating'. 1 mark
5. Page 54. Why did Matilda keep her face low over her cornflakes? 2 marks
6. Mother 'stopped dead'. She was not really dead but why do you think this word was used? 2 marks
7. Where did Mrs Wormwood get the mirror from? 1 mark
8. Why is Mr Wormwood's hair going to fall out? 1 mark
9. How does Matilda explain to her father what has happened to his hair? 1 mark

Miss Honey

1. Why was Matilda late starting school? What does this say about her parents? 2 marks
2. How is Miss Honey described? Why do you think the author describes her in this way (what impression does it give you of her?) 2 marks
3. How is Miss Trunchbull the opposite? 2 marks

4. What advice does Miss Honey give the children about Miss Trunchbull? 2 marks
5. Which times table were the class to focus on that week? 1 mark
6. Why was Miss Honey amazed by Matilda? 2 marks
7. Page 70. Why do you think Miss Honey lies to Lavender and says she will catch up to be like Matilda? 2 marks
8. What type of poem is Matilda asked to read? 1 mark
9. Why does Matilda think books should have 'funny bits' in them? 1 mark
10. Which book does Matilda say is her favourite? 1 mark
11. Give three different words to describe Miss Honey. Use the text to back up each of the words you have given. 3 marks

The Trunchbull

1. Why does Miss Honey think Matilda possesses 'qualities of brilliance'? Give three different reasons. 3 marks
2. Page 76. Why is it a mystery why Miss Trunchbull got her job as headmistress? 2 marks
3. How did Miss Trunchbull know Mr Wormwood? 1 mark
4. Do you think Miss Trunchbull will continue to like Mr Wormwood? Why? 2 marks
5. Page 80. Miss Honey decides she is not going to be 'browbeaten'. Find this word and read the part it is in. What do you think 'browbeaten' must mean? 1 mark
6. Why does Miss Honey want Matilda in the top class? 1 mark
7. Why does Miss Trunchbull think Miss Honey wants Matilda out of her class? 1 mark
8. Why was Miss Honey depressed at the end of this chapter? 2 marks

How do you think Miss Trunchbull managed to get her job as the headteacher?

The Parents

1. Why did Miss Honey get books from the other classrooms? 1 mark
2. Why did Miss Honey go to the Wormwood's house? 2 marks
3. Why was Miss honey about to lose her temper with the Wormwoods? 2 marks
4. Why does Mr Wormwood think university is not a good idea? 1 mark
5. What kind of people have been to university? 2 marks
6. If you were Miss Honey, how would you try to convince the Wormwoods how brilliant their daughter is? Write three lines of speech
3 marks
7. What must have Miss Honey been thinking when she left their house? Write three lines as if you were Miss Honey. 3 marks

Throwing the Hammer

1. Page 95. Why would you not, at first, know how brilliant Matilda is? 2 marks
2. Who became Matilda's friend? 1 mark
3. What is the Chokey like? Describe it fully using the text carefully. 3 marks
4. Why did Hortensia end up in the Chokey? 2 marks
5. Page 102: Matilda and Lavender were 'enthralled'. Find the word 'enthralled' on the page and work out what it means. 1 mark
6. Why was Julius thrown out of the window? 1 mark
7. Why was Amanda in trouble? 1 mark

Bruce Bogtrotter and the Cake

1. Why would the parents not believe what was happening at school? 1 mark
2. What had Bruce done? 1 mark
3. What kind of cake was it? 2 marks

4. Why did Miss Trunchbull have the gigantic cake? 2 marks
5. Page 124. Why did Miss Trunchbull shout out 'silence'? 1 mark
6. Why was Miss Trunchbull not happy at the end of this chapter? 2 marks
7. What do you think of Bruce? Give three words to describe him and back up each word giving evidence from the text. 3 marks

Lavender

1. What advice does Miss Honey give the class about Miss Trunchbull? Name three things. 3 marks
2. What does Lavender volunteer to do ? 1 mark
3. Page 133. Why was Lavender 'tingling with excitement'? 2 marks
4. Why did Lavender decide not to tell anyone of her plan? 1 mark
5. Why did Lavender have pond weed? 1 mark

The Weekly Test

1. 'at two o'clock sharp'. Why does the author use the word 'sharp' here? 1 mark
2. The children 'chirruped'. Find this word on the first page of the chapter. What do you think it means? 1 mark
3. What food did Nigel have on his shirt? 1 mark
4. How had the food ended up on his shirt? 1 mark
5. How had the children learnt the word 'difficulty' so easily? 1 mark
6. Page 142. Miss Trunchbull 'stationed' herself. Find the word 'stationed' and work out what it means in this line. 1 mark
7. Why does Miss Trunchbull think the ears will not come off? 1 mark
8. Why is Miss Trunchbull not happy with Mr Wormwood? 2 marks

The First Miracle

1. Why does Miss Trunchbull compare children to insects? 1 mark

2. page 155. Dahl calls Miss Trunchbull a 'mighty female giant'. What impression does this create of the headteacher? 2 marks
3. What amazing thing did Matilda do in this chapter? 2 marks
4. Why did she do it? 1 mark
5. Why do the children say to Miss Trunchbull that she must have knocked the glass over herself? 1 mark
6. Imagine you are Matilda. Write three lines to show the thoughts in your head after the glass tipped over. 3 marks

The Second Miracle

1. Why did Matilda not go out with the other children at the start of the chapter? 2 marks
2. Why does Miss Honey think Matilda will not be expelled? 1 mark
3. Why does Miss Honey not understand at first what Matilda is trying to tell her? 2 marks
4. At the end of the chapter, Miss Honey is 'awestruck'. What could this word mean? 1 mark

Miss Honey's Cottage

1. Name the different shops Matilda and Miss Honey passed as they walked home. 3 marks
2. Page 173. Why does Miss Honey say they have to be careful? 2 marks
3. Page 174. Matilda has a 'lack of conceit'. Find this part on the page. What must 'conceit' mean? 1 mark
4. How is Miss Honey's cottage described? Find and copy the phrases. What impression does this give you of her home? 3 marks
5. Whose home do you think Matilda prefers? Hers or Miss Honey's? Why? Explain your view fully. 3 marks

Miss Honey's story

1. Why does Matilda think Miss Honey does not get paid much? 2 marks
2. Page 188. Why do you think the silence was 'embarrassing'? 2 marks

3. Page 189. Find and copy the phrase that shows Miss Honey is amazed by how wise Matilda is. 1 mark
4. How did Miss Honey end up living with Miss Trunchbull? 2 marks
5. Why can't Miss Honey talk about how Miss Trunchbull treated her? 1 mark
6. Why do you think the author does not reveal straightaway that the aunt was Miss Trunchbull? 2 marks
7. What do you think 'forgery' must mean? 1 mark

The Names

1. Why does Matilda want to go home instead of practising her powers? Find and copy the part that tells you. 1 mark

The Practice

1. What did Matilda do with the cigar? 1 mark
2. Why did she keep practising with it? 1 mark

The Third Miracle

1. What advice does Miss Honey give the different children before their lesson with Miss Trunchbull? 2 marks
2. Why does Miss Trunchbull peer inside the water jug? 1 mark
3. Why does Miss Trunchbull say to Miss Honey that she has taught them nothing? 1 mark
4. What does Miss Honey say to defend herself? 1 mark
5. What was the piece of chalk doing? 1 mark
6. It says Matilda's eyes were 'glittering like two stars'. Why do you think the author uses this simile? To create what impression on the reader? 1 mark
7. Why did Miss Honey hug Matilda at the end of the chapter? 2 marks
8. Do you think Miss Trunchbull got what she deserved? Why? 3 marks

A New Home

1. Why did the deputy headteacher go to Miss Trunchbull's home? 2 marks
2. How did he manage to get into the house? 1 mark
3. What did Miss Honey receive in the post? 1 mark
4. Page 224. What reason is given for why Matilda loved her afternoons with Miss Honey? 1 mark
5. Which country are the Wormwoods going to? 1 mark
6. Why are they leaving? 2 marks
7. What do you think Matilda will achieve in the future? Think of three different things. 3 marks