

## Before-reading questions

- 1 *Reader's own answer.*
- 2 *Reader's own answer.*
- 3 *Reader's own answers.*

## During-reading questions

### CHAPTER ONE

- 1 Gum is Sylvia's Great-Uncle Matthew. He likes to travel the world and find fossils.
- 2 He finds her on a ship. There was an accident and her parents died.
- 3 Because Sylvia wanted her to have a Russian name. Petrova's father was Russian.

### CHAPTER TWO

- 1 Because "Brown" is Sylvia's second name, but the children are not Sylvia's family.
- 2 Because Gum only left them money for five years, and there is not much money left now.
- 3 Because they have a very nice car. Petrova likes reading about cars.

### CHAPTER THREE

- 1 Because Doctor Jakes teaches people about books.
- 2 They vow to put the name "Fossil" / their names in history books.
- 3 Doctor Jakes, Doctor Smith and Theo Dane speak to Sylvia. Doctor Jakes and Doctor Smith want to teach the children. Theo wants the children to go to a dancing school.

### CHAPTER FOUR

- 1 They have dancing, singing and acting classes.
- 2 **Example answer:** Because they are pretty, dancer's feet. Posy is very good at dancing.
- 3 Because they all think about Nana in ballet shoes.

### CHAPTER FIVE

- 1 Helping Mr Simpson at the garage on Sunday afternoons.
- 2 Because they are sisters – they can learn their parts together quickly.
- 3 Doctor Jakes helps her to understand Mytyl. This helps her to act the part well.

### CHAPTER SIX

- 1 She can get acting and dancing work and make money.
- 2 He buys their necklaces from Gum. The girls need money for Pauline's audition dress.
- 3 Because Winifred was better than her in the audition.

### CHAPTER SEVEN

- 1 Because Sylvia did not pay for Pauline to go there.
- 2 Because Pauline started asking Winifred to do things for her, but Pauline could do the things herself with her own arms and legs.
- 3 **Example answer:** Pauline cannot ask people to do things for her, and she cannot shout at people. She must always be kind to others. She is not special – other girls / Winifred can be Alice, too.

### CHAPTER EIGHT

- 1 They add the words "and make money for Sylvia".
- 2 She takes her book about aeroplanes.
- 3 They have to learn to fly across the stage for their parts in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

### CHAPTER NINE

- 1 She wants to buy theatre tickets.
- 2 Pauline is playing a boy and he looks rich.
- 3 She has to act in front of lots of cameras.

## CHAPTER TEN

- 1 Manoff is a famous ballet dancer. He teaches in Czechoslovakia.
- 2 He wants Pauline to move to Hollywood to make films.
- 3 He is surprised because he was away for a very long time and the girls are not babies now – they are a lot older.

### After-reading questions

- 1 **Example answer:** The boarders are very kind to Petrova and her sisters and, later in the book, they are as important to Petrova as her family. Mr Simpson is her best friend.
- 2 **Example answer:** Because she is always thinking about dancing and she wants to dance everywhere. Posy loves dancing more than anything in the world.
- 3 **Example answer:** Sylvia has money problems in the story. She wants the girls to put a lot of their money in the bank now because she wants them to have money later. Maybe Gum will not send them any more money. Maybe Sylvia will not always be there to help the girls. But Pauline wants Sylvia, Nana and her sisters to have (and enjoy) her money now because they need it.  
*Reader's own answer.*
- 4 *Reader's own answer.*
- 5 **Example answer:** Pauline is going to Hollywood to make films. Petrova is going to live with Gum, and she will study aeroplanes. Posy is going to Manoff's dancing school in Czechoslovakia.  
*Reader's own answer.*

### Exercises

#### CHAPTER ONE

- 1 1 false
- 2 true

- 3 false
- 4 false
- 5 true
- 6 false

#### CHAPTERS TWO AND THREE

- 2 1 youngest
- 2 ugly
- 3 dark
- 4 normal
- 5 cry
- 6 well

#### CHAPTER FOUR

- 3 1 **When** did the girls begin school lessons with the doctors? **At nine o'clock**
- 2 **How** long did the girls dance in blue dresses for? **For an hour**
- 3 **Who** was very good at acting? **Pauline**
- 4 **Which** boarders brought a beautiful Christmas tree to the house? **Doctor Jakes and Doctor Smith**
- 5 **What** did everyone do all Christmas afternoon? **They played games.**
- 6 **Why** were the children sad at the end of the day? **Because it was the end of Christmas.**

#### CHAPTERS FIVE AND SIX

- 4 1 c 2 e 3 d 4 a 5 f 6 b

#### CHAPTERS SIX AND SEVEN

- 5 1 One day, Pauline's teacher, Miss Jay, wanted **to speak** to her.
- 2 Pauline was very happy **to finish** her audition.
- 3 "I don't want **to keep** my money in the bank," said Pauline.
- 4 "Pauline wants me **to have** too much of it," said Sylvia.

- 5 Pauline began **to change**. She was good on the stage, but she was not very nice behind the stage.
- 6 Pauline started asking Winifred **to do** things for her.

## CHAPTER EIGHT

- 6 1 Petrova planned to fly an **aeroplane** one day.
- 2 The girls made their **vow** on every one of their birthdays.
- 3 Pauline **auditioned** and got the part of Pease-blossom.
- 4 One day, Pauline and Petrova got a big **surprise**.
- 5 In bed that night, Pauline, Petrova and Posy talked about the **performance**.
- 6 "I could dance their **parts** better than them," said Posy.

## CHAPTERS NINE AND TEN

- 7 1 Petrova
- 2 Pauline
- 3 Posy
- 4 Pauline
- 5 Posy
- 6 Petrova

## CHAPTER TEN

- 8 1 Sylvia was surprised at Posy.
- 2 Sylvia had many other things to think about.
- 3 Manoff's performance was wonderful.
- 4 Posy was not at home, but nobody saw her leave.
- 5 He had grey hair and a big bag in one hand.
- 6 Petrova looked at her sisters and smiled.

## CHAPTERS ONE TO TEN

- 9 1 They **wore** (wear) dark green coats and hats.
- 2 The doctors **brought** (bring) in a beautiful Christmas tree.

- 3 Doctor Jakes **taught** (teach) Petrova to understand Mytyl.
- 4 Pauline **thought** (think) about Winifred's brothers and sisters.
- 5 Pauline **flew** (fly) off her bed and on to the floor.
- 6 Pauline **bought** (buy) two tickets for the ballet.

## Project work

*Reader's own answers.*