THE STORY OF TRACY BEAKER



Before-reading questions

- 1 Reader's own answers.
- **2** Example answer: A children's home is a place for children with no parents to look after them. Maybe the children's parents are not able to look after their child or maybe they are dead.
- **3** Reader's own answers.

During-reading questions

CHAPTER ONE

- 1 Tracy has to write about herself, her school, her favourite things and her life.
- **2** Tracy is in the children's home because her mum's boyfriend hit her.
- **3** *Example answer*: Foster families get more money because "difficult children" might be angry, sad, and sometimes more difficult to look after.

CHAPTER TWO

- **1** She wants Tracy to stop being horrible to Peter.
- **2** Louise told Justine about Tracy's problem which is why they are no longer friends.
- **3** Tracy sees Peter.

CHAPTER THREE

- 1 He wet the bed and he is going to wash his sheets in the bathroom.
- **2** A writer is coming to visit the children's home. The writer is going to write an article about the children's home and the children.
- **3** Tracy wants to get fostered and maybe the writer can help her.

CHAPTER FOUR

- The writer does not look very professional to Tracy.
- **2** *Example answer*: Cam is interested in the children and their lives. She does not tell them what to do.
- **3** *Example answer*: The Quiet Room is for angry, sad or naughty children.

CHAPTER FIVE

- 1 You play paper games by writing on paper. *Example answer*: Peter likes playing these games because he played them with his grandmother.
- **2** *Example answer*: People write letters about Tracy because she is sometimes difficult and naughty.
- **3** *Example answer*: Tracy often goes near McDonald's and she thinks about eating there. But she cannot go inside because she does not have any friends or family to go inside with her, or any money.

CHAPTER SIX

- 1 Tracy is worried because maybe her mother will arrive at the children's home and Tracy will not be there.
- **2** It is Justine's blood. Tracy hit Justine because Justine said horrible things to her.

CHAPTER SEVEN

- 1 Cam gives Tracy her Mickey Mouse pen. Tracy is very happy.
- **2** Tracy feels sad for Justine because her dad did not come and see her.

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After-reading questions

- 1 *Example answer*: Tracy becomes kinder to other people. She helps Peter and she becomes his friend. She gives Justine the Mickey Mouse pen because Justine looks sad.
- **2** Example answer: Tracy is both good and bad. She is nice to Peter and Justine at the end of the story. But she gets angry very quickly.
- **3** Example answer: Tracy's life is boring, but she wants it to be more interesting. She enjoys making stories about her life.
- 4 Example answer: Tracy likes to lie. Maybe this is not true.
- **5** *Example answer*: Tracy does not want people to see her cry. She does not want to be a baby. She wants to be strong.
- **6** Example answer: Maybe Cam will foster Tracy because she is funny and interesting. Maybe Cam will not foster Tracy because she does not want to look after a child.
- Reader's own answer.

Exercises

CHAPTER ONE

- 1 false
- 2 true
- **3** false
- 4 false
- **5** false
- 6 true

CHAPTERS ONE AND TWO

- ugly
- **2** boring
- 3 nice
- 4 easy
- 5 child
- 6 quickly
- 7 cry
- 8 inside

CHAPTER THREE

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

CHAPTERS THREE AND FOUR

- **1** d
- - **2** f
- **3** a
- **5** c **6** b

CHAPTER FOUR

- - **1 Tracy** changes her hair into plaits.
 - **2 Justine** calls Tracy stupid.
 - **3** Cam has red and yellow socks.
 - **4 Peter** cries about his grandmother.
 - **5** Louise, Justine and Peter draw angels.

CHAPTER FIVE

- 1 I'm happy today because Justine has a plaster on her nose.
 - 2 "Paper games," Peter said. "I played them with my grandmother."
 - **3** It was a **special** letter only for me.
 - **4** Are you writing an **article** about the children in the children's home?
 - **5** But Peter was **frightened** of the tape recorder.

CHAPTER SIX

- - 1 Don't forget our plans.
 - **2** Peter is my friend too.
 - **3** She came to the children's home, but I wasn't there!
 - **4** My hay-fever was very bad.
 - **5** Maybe my mum will come today, and I won't be here.

CHAPTER SEVEN

- **1** d
 - **2** b
- **3** e
- **4** a

5 c

Project work

Reader's own answers.