

Goodnight Mister Tom
Chapter Nine – Comprehension

Section A

1. Why is the chapter called 'Birthday Boy'? (C6/2b)

2. Why was Willie so pleased to have received a book? (P5/2d)

3. How did Tom try to make Willie's morning special for his birthday? (C6/2b)

4. Why was Tom trying to keep Willie out of the house? (P2/2e)

5. Why did Willie's face turn pink when Zach mentioned his drawing? (P5/2d)

Section B

6. Why is '*Cain and Abel*' written in italics in the text? (C7)

7. Why were people surprised to be unexpectedly visited by Tom and Willie? (C6/2b)

8. What is meant by the term 'contradicted'? (C1/2a)

9. For what reason did Willie not know what to do at a birthday party? (C6/2b)

10. Why did Lucy give Willie a voluminous smile? (P5/2d)

Section C

11. How might the postman, Matthew Parfitt, know it is Willie's birthday? (P2/2e)

12. For what reason did Willie and Tom agree that Willie has to practise writing each morning? (P2/2e)

13. Why does the author use the word 'lovingly' to describe how Tom looked at the paints and brushes? (C7)

14. Why was Tom's idea contradicted? (C6/2b)

15. Why was Willie sick all over the carpet? (P2/2e)

Section D

16. Why was Willie speechless at the presents and cards that he received? (P5/2d)

17. Why is an ellipsis used during Zach's speech at the bottom of page 113? (C7)

18. What clues are given to the reader that Tom is setting up a birthday party?
(C6/2b)

19. Why has the author chose to use the word 'finally' in the sentence below? (C7)
'*After playing several party games, everyone finally returned home.*'

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Chapter Nine – Challenge Activity

Section A

Write a brief diary entry by Willie using the correct features for this kind of text.

Section B

Highlight the relative clauses in the sentences below.

Willie, who had never had a party before, was overwhelmed with the attention.

Tom encouraged Willie to stay outside, which was unusual.

The twins and George were not at home, which confused Willie.

The postman who delivered the cards knew it was Willie's birthday.

Zach, who would not stop talking, came to find Willie in the church.

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Section C

Rewrite the sentences adding in frontal adverbial phrases.

Willie was surprised at the party.

Tom encouraged Willie to stay outside.

Willie got up early to practise his writing.

Willie went for a run with Sammy.

Willie drew a picture in the church.

Section D

Read the sentence below and explain why it is hard to follow. Rewrite the sentence so it makes sense.

Willie, after opening his presents in the morning, going for a run with the dog, attending school and having a surprise party, felt tired.

The correct sentence would be;