

Teacher Guide & Answers

Passage Reading Level: Lexile 860

1. What illness is Anna struggling with?

- A influenza
- B pneumonia
- C **cancer**
- D bronchitis

2. How do Christine and her friends attempt to solve Anna's family's money problem?

- A **They throw a party to raise money for Anna's family.**
- B They sell their most valuable possessions, like Jesse's guitar.
- C They hold a bake sale to raise money for Anna's family.
- D They cook soup for Anna's family so they don't have to make dinner.

3. Anna's family earns less money than they used to before Anna got cancer. What evidence from the passage best supports this conclusion?

- A Anna's family is struggling, but they don't want to complain because of Anna.
- B Anna gets help from the government to pay for a lot of her medicine.
- C Anna's family is worried about what will happen if the bills keep piling up.
- D **Anna's mom is taking a break from her job to stay home with Anna.**

4. How has Anna's illness impacted the rest of her family?

- A Her family has gotten sick.
- B **Her family has had to make sacrifices and alter their lifestyle.**
- C Her family has lost their home and has been forced to move away.
- D Her family has been alienated by their friends and members of their community.

5. What is this story mostly about?

- A Christine and her friends brainstorm ways to help Anna's family keep their house.
- B Anna's family struggles to pay their bills while taking care of their daughter with cancer.
- C **Christine and her friends throw a party to support Anna's struggling family.**
- D Christine learns that Anna's family is having money trouble due to Anna's cancer.

6. Read the following sentences:

"‘Mom? Why was Sheila crying?’

"[...] After a moment, Christine realized her mother hadn't answered her question. 'It's Anna, isn't it?' she **prompted** her.

"‘Well, yes and no,’ said Donna."

As used in the sentence, what does the word "**prompt**" mean?

- A make a person be quiet
- B speak in a quiet voice
- C speak in a loud voice
- D **push a person to talk**

7. Choose the answer that best completes the sentence below.

Christine and her friends want to help Anna's family, _____ they organize a party to support Anna's family and raise money for their bills.

- A **so**
- B but
- C like
- D first

8. Why is Anna's family having money problems?

Suggested answer: Anna's mom is not working so that she can take care of Anna. Because of this, the family makes less money.

9. Why does Anna's family feel invisible?

Suggested answer: Anna's family feels invisible because people cannot see that they need help. They are struggling, but they do not want to complain because they do not have it as bad as Anna, who has cancer.

10. Were Christine and her friends able to help Anna's family feel less invisible? Explain why and how. Support your answer with information from the passage.

Suggested answer: Answers may vary and should be supported by the passage. Students should state that Christine and her friends were able to help Anna's family feel less invisible. They achieved this by throwing a party to raise money for Anna's family to help them pay their bills. This made the family feel less invisible because they were able to see all the people who were there to support them. The party showed Anna's family that people saw that they were also suffering and needed help, not just Anna.