

Answers to the questions on the play, One Dark Night

I One mark answers:

1. inventor
2. Joe's wife
3. in the night
4. spinning machine
5. break his bones
6. job/bread/earning/livelihood
7. 100
8. spinning machine
9. Children
10. worked in a dark cottage
11. poor sight/bent legs/hunch back/cough
12. play/go to school/sleep well/grow up healthy
13. cheap labor
14. b
15. blacksmith
16. people are angry with Joe's work
17. to have her shoes repaired
18. not intelligent
19. spinning machine
20. silk gowns/ride in a coach
21. months
22. 12
23. there were men in the yard
24. to destroy Joe's machine
25. in the dark
26. pistol
27. the most important part of his machine
28. in Ann's doll
29. Mary
30. Joe's machine
31. Joe was ill
32. he is honest and brave
33. rubs lard on his head
34. starts working on his machine again

1. What does Joe want to invent? Why?

Joe was trying to invent a spinning machine.

This machine could do a lot of work in a short time, that is, it could spin a hundred threads at once. The people thought that the machine would do all their work. Then they would have no jobs. They would have no money to buy food. They would have no money to buy milk for their children. So, they did not want Joe to build the machine. They were angry with him, because he would not stop his work on the machine. They threatened

him that they would break his bones if he continued his work. Therefore, Joe worked secretly at night to avoid trouble from the people.

Q2. Why was Joe determined to invent the machine?

- As a boy Joe's life was sad (not happy). He worked in a dark room all day. He did not play in the sunshine and grow healthy like normal children. His back was bent (He had a hunch back) His legs were bent. His eyes were weak. He got up early and went to work in the cold winter mornings. As a result, he had a permanent cough. He did not want children to work in the cold and dark, and suffer like him. His machine could free them from their work. Then they could play in the sunshine and become healthy and strong. They could also go to school. People could earn more money, because the machine could produce more. Therefore, Joe was very determined to invent the spinning machine.
- Q 3 Joe was determined to continue his work. But Mary was very afraid of his work- Why?

Q3. Why was Mary afraid of Joe's work?

- Mary was very afraid of the people. She was afraid that they would harm Joe. She had gone to Hob, the village blacksmith, to get her shoes repaired. Hob told her that the people were very angry with Joe. They wanted Joe to stop his work. Otherwise, they would trouble him. But Joe did not listen to Mary. He continued to work. Soon, he was successful in making the most important part of the machine.

Q4. What happens when Hob and other men attack Joe's house?

- Johnny sees people coming to the house. He informs Joe. Joe wants to hide the important part of the machine before they come in. Mary has an idea. She hides it inside Ann's wooden doll. She forces Joe to go to bed in order to save him from the angry men. By then the men rush into Joe's house. They see his machine and break it. Then they ask for Joe. Mary tells them he is ill (not well) and in bed. She begs them not to harm him. She promises that they will go away from that place. The men are happy that they destroyed Joe's machine. They go back happy. After the men leave, Joe is at work again rebuilding the machine.

Q5. What happens after Hob and the men leave Joe's house?

- Joe comes back from the bedroom. He starts his work all over again. He is not worried that the men broke his machine. Because the most important part of the machine is safe. He can now rebuild his machine and continue his work.

