



Help!

10 The trees were like inky giants menacingly looming over
17 the house with twisted, reaching arms. Their decaying
25 leaves rustled loudly and the air smelled damp.

35 Lucy arrived at the door. Her chest tightened. Her eyes
44 widened. She lifted her shaking, clammy hand to knock
55 on the door but, before she could touch it, it creaked
56 open...

61 They wouldn't find her here.

70 Slowly edging across the threshold, her heart began to
78 pound. Thoughts were racing wildly around her head
87 as she tentatively peered into the darkness, trying to
98 see if the coast was clear. After moments of silence and
107 stillness, she had reassured herself; judging by the state
116 of the house, nobody had ventured there in years.

117 Relief.

126 Then, from the floors above, a small, almost inaudible
130 voice called, "Help... me..."

Quick Questions



1. Where did the voice come from?



2. Define: inaudible.



3. Why was her 'heart pounding'?

Give **two** reasons.



4. What do you predict Lucy will do next?

Use the text to support your answer.



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130 voice called, "Help... me..."

Answers



1. Where did the voice come from?
The voice came from the floors above (her).



2. Define: inaudible.
Accept very quiet / almost impossible to hear.



3. Why was her 'heart pounding'?
Give **two** reasons.
Accept an explanation focusing on the fact that she was trying to get away from somebody as evidenced by the sentence ('They wouldn't find her here') so her heart is pounding due to physical exertion and being scared.



4. What do you predict Lucy will do next?
Use the text to support your answer.
Pupils' own responses, such as: She will go towards the noise because she was brave enough to go into the house.