

Year 5

Jam Session 2

Inference 2d

So that was that. I grumbled my way through putting the clean dishes away and then grumbled my way into the car, staying silent as we drove out east. It felt like forever. I had looked at the car clock when we left the house, and when we rolled up to the blueberry farm, it had only been half an hour. It's funny how quickly the scenery changed. We'd gone from our little town and neighbourhood - not a city, by any stretch, but at least populated - to the country, where a house seemed surrounded by a mile of corn on every side.

My mother pointed to a small barn. The big sliding door was open, and inside was an old man standing hunched over a cash register. Mum went to speak to him as I rounded the back of the building to explore. I found a wooden table full of white buckets, a few empty wooden crates stacked near a coil of hose and a dog bowl filled with water. A bumblebee was struggling in the water, and I picked up a stick to help it out.

"Monica, grab a couple of buckets. Those are what we'll pick into." Mum came around the corner, and I reached for a pail from the stacks on the table.

"They're stuck," I huffed, wrestling with two that didn't want to come apart. "Help me!"

Mum grabbed the end of one and I held the handle on the other, and we yanked. The buckets slid free and I fell over from the force of the pull.

"Okay," I said, dusting myself off and frowning. We started walking past rows of blueberry bushes, a lot of them taller than Mum. "How do we do this?"

"Well, just like how you'd think," my mother replied. She ducked into the path between two rows of bushes and I followed.

"Just go for the ones that are dark all around. Don't pick anything with white or pink on it. Those aren't ready yet, and they're going to be sour." Mum handed me an unripe berry.

"Duh, I know that, I've had blueberries before," I said, and didn't take it.

"Huh," Mum looked at me. "Not as sour as you, though, I bet." She turned away. "Let's divide and conquer, shall we? I'll pick here and you can find your own row to work on, and we'll meet somewhere in the middle."

"Fine." I stomped away.

The grass itched my ankles. I wanted to sit down, but the sun was hot and the shade under the bushes helped a little. So I found my own row and started picking a short way into the patch. Almost immediately, reaching into the branches for a particularly juicy-looking berry, a yellowjacket stung my finger.

"OUCH!" I yelled. "STUPID BEE!" I swallowed to keep from crying. I listened but didn't hear my mother reply to me.

She must not have heard. Or maybe she's ignoring me, I thought. My face felt hot, and I could feel anger bubbling up from my stomach to my chest. I kicked the near-empty pail by my feet and screamed in frustration.

Questions

1 Look at the first paragraph. How did Monica feel about going blueberry picking?

Give **one** piece of evidence to show how you know this.

2 Read the first two paragraphs.

Tick **two** statements that are true about the blueberry farm.

Tick **two**.

It was really far away from where Monica and her mum lived.

There were lots of animals.

It was isolated.

The scenery there was very different to where Monica and her mum lived.

There were lots of people there.

3 Think about the whole text. What events do you think would make Monica dislike being made to go blueberry picking even more than she already did?

Give **three**.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4

Draw **three** lines to match each character to the most suitable description.

The man

helpful

Mum

unhappy

Monica

elderly

5

Think about the end of the text.

What **impression** do you get of Monica at the **end** of the text?

Give **two** different impressions, using evidence from the text to support your answer.

1. _____

2. _____

Answers

1 Look at the first paragraph. How did Monica feel about going blueberry picking?

One of the following (or similar):

- She didn't want to go.
- She was annoyed.
- She was in a (bad) mood.
- She didn't feel like it.
- She was unhappy about it.
- She was not happy about it.

Give **one** piece of evidence to show how you know this.

'I grumbled my way through putting the clean dishes away and then grumbled my way into the car, staying silent as we drove out east.'

2 Read the first two paragraphs.

Tick **two** statements that are true about the blueberry farm.

Tick **two**.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> It was really far away from where Monica and her mum lived. | <input type="checkbox"/> There were lots of animals. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> It was isolated. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The scenery there was very different to where Monica and her mum lived. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> There were lots of people there. | |

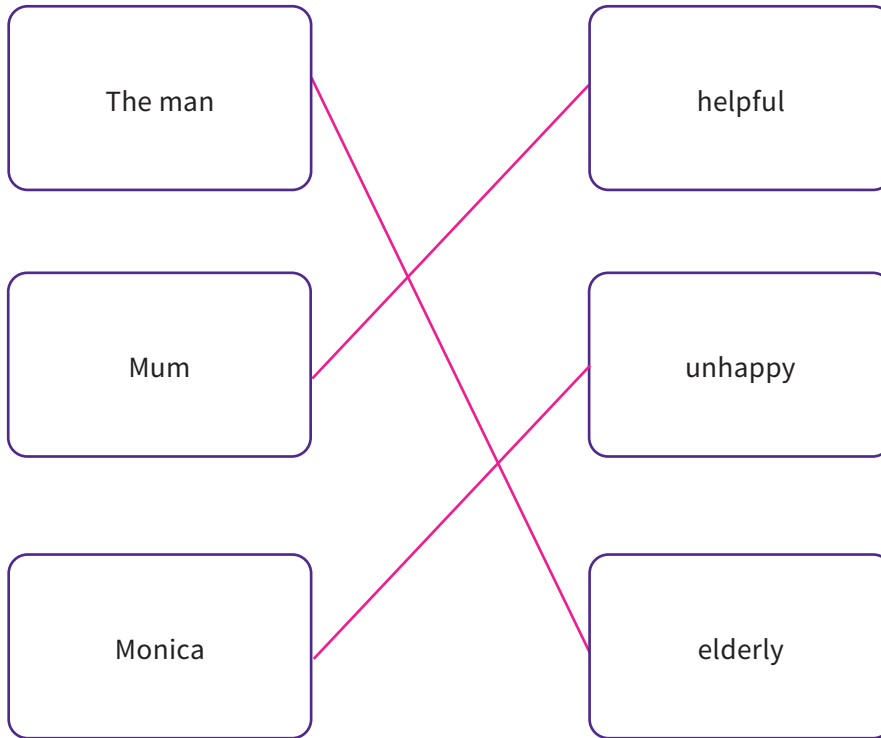
3 Think about the whole text. What events do you think would make Monica dislike being made to go blueberry picking even more than she already did?

Give **three**.

Any three of the following (or similar) which may be a paraphrase or a quote:

- She could not get the buckets apart and fell over.
- Her mum called her sour / Her mum said, 'not as sour as you, though, I bet.'
- Her legs were itchy / The grass itched her ankles.
- It was too hot / The sun was hot.
- She got stung / A yellowjacket stung her finger / She was hurt from a bee sting.
- She thought her mum was ignoring her (when she shouted for her after getting stung).
- She was even more frustrated and kicked a pail/bucket.

4 Draw **three** lines to match each character to the most suitable description.



5 Think about the end of the text.

What **impression** do you get of Monica at the **end** of the text?

Give **two** different impressions, using evidence from the text to support your answer.

1. **Angry / extremely frustrated / furious / mad** - 'My face felt hot, and I could feel anger bubbling up from my stomach to my chest' or 'I kicked the near-empty pail by my feet and screamed in frustration'.
2. **Very sad / very upset / hurt** - 'I swallowed to keep from crying'.