

BODY LANGUAGE

Read the following two scenes. If you had been walking by and had seen these events, would you be able to guess at what was going on?



Molly's grandad stood in front of the cash machine, searching his pockets. He scratched his head and smiled at Molly. He searched his pockets again. He looked on the ground at his feet. "Don't worry, Molly," he said, checking his watch. "We're ahead of schedule." Lowering her swimming kit onto the ground, Molly sighed as a bus turned the corner and raced by without stopping.

1. What had Molly's grandad lost?

2. How do you know?

3. Why does he smile at Molly?

4. What makes you think that?

5. Why does he check his watch?

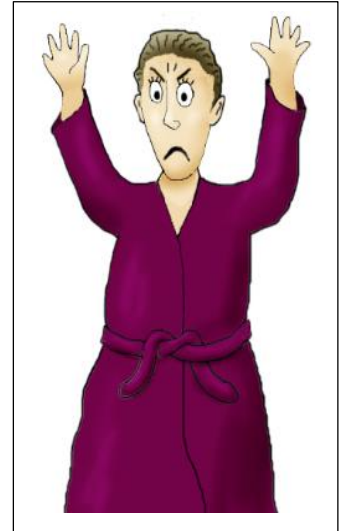
6. Why does Molly sigh?

7. Where do you think they were going?

Mr and Mrs Jeffreys sat in their dressing gowns peering through a gap in the living room curtains. Mr Jeffreys didn't, for a moment, take his eyes off the flower beds in the front garden, as he put his empty cereal bowl on the table. Four empty cups of coffee already sat there.

"Not long now," whispered Mrs Jeffreys as the sun came up. "I suppose I could have rung the neighbour's doorbell." Mr Jeffreys scowled.

The living room clock chimed seven when Champ jumped over the wall. Immediately, Mr Jeffreys ran out, waving his arms and hollering, causing it to panic and drop its bone as it ran off.



1. What time of day is it?

2. How do you know?

3. Have Mr and Mrs Jeffreys been sitting there for some time?

4. How do you know?

5. How does Mrs Jeffreys feel about being there?

6. Who is Champ?

7. Why does Mr Jeffreys rush out of the house waving his arms and hollering?

FIRST WOMAN IN SPACE

Read this short biography of how Valentina Tereshkova came to be the first woman in space, then answer the questions that follow.

Valentina Tereshkova was born in 1937 in a small village in central Russia, where her father was a tractor driver and her mother worked in a textile factory.

She started school in 1945 at the age of eight and left in 1953 to do textile work like her mother. During her teenage years, however, she became very interested in skydiving. She trained at the local flying club and, when she was 22 years-old, she did her first parachute jump. This experience would lead eventually to a place in the history books.

Her enthusiasm for skydiving brought her to the attention of the country's Space Programme. Russia had already put the first man into space in 1961, when Yuri Gagarin orbited the Earth. The government was very eager to achieve another Russian 'first' in what was known as the *space race* against the USA.

In fact, a Russian newspaper at the time reported that Tereshkova had 'dreamt of going into space' as soon as she heard about Gagarin's space mission.

Her dream and her skydiving abilities made her a likely candidate for the intensive training necessary to become an astronaut. Her training included weightless flights at high altitudes, isolation tests and spacecraft engineering. Skill in handling a parachute was an essential part of re-entry. Whoever was chosen would have to be ejected from the space capsule at 20,000 feet and land safely. She was selected in February 1962.

On the morning of 16th June 1963, Tereshkova was bussed to the launch pad. After routine communication and life support checks, she was sealed inside the rocket, Vostok 6. There followed a two-hour countdown and a successful launch.

She completed 48 orbits of the Earth in 71 hours – more time in space than all the American astronauts combined.

Back on Earth she was highly honoured, not only in her own country, where she received the Hero of the Soviet Union medal, but also around the world.

She never went into space again, but perhaps her spirit of adventure did not leave her. In 2013, she said she'd be happy to go on a one-way trip to Mars.



Now use evidence from the text to answer the following questions.

1. Do you think Valentina's parents expected her to grow up to be a famous astronaut? Why do you think this?

2. Why were her skydiving skills so important?

3. How do we know that Yuri Gagarin's space flight was a factor in Tereshkova's desire to be part of the Space Programme?

4. During her training for space travel, she had to have 'isolation tests'. Why do you think this would be part of the training?

5. Re-entry involved being 'ejected at 20,000 feet'. What does **ejected** mean?

6. It might be fair to say that, at this point in history, Russia was winning the *space race* against the USA. Give **two** reasons why it is fair to say this.

7. From what is said in the text, how do we know she became world-famous?

8. Did she ever lose her spirit of adventure? How do you know?
