

## The Cave – Page 2: Questions

- 1) Look at paragraph 1. (2 marks)  
Why was there no escape to the left of the cave entrance?
  
- 2) What caused the dark stains on the cliff face to Mary's right? (1 mark)
  
- 3) **Find** and **copy one** word which tells you that the bushes on the cliff face had not grown as tall as they normally would. (1 mark)
  
- 4) When Mary looked up the cliff, she saw **a line where hard grey gave way to soft green**. What does this mean? (1 mark)
  
- 5) Mary popped her head back into the cave and **sat down to think**. (2 marks)  
In your opinion, what was she trying to understand?  
Give a reason for your answer.
  
- 6) When Mary figured out the **obvious answer** to her puzzle, she immediately set off back into the cave. (2 marks)  
Why did she set off back into the cave? Explain your reasoning.
  
- 7) Read paragraph 5. Why had the light **dwindled to the size of a peanut**? (1 mark)

8) Mary's *feelings of optimism...were soon to evaporate completely.* (1 mark)

This is an example of: (Tick one)

- a) Hyperbole
- b) Metaphor
- c) Synonym
- d) Simile
- e) Alliteration

9) **Find and copy one** word from paragraph 6 which means *to think about*. (1 mark)

10) What were Mary's feelings when she reached the back of the cave? (2 marks)

How do you know this?

11) Find the text: *The walls, roof and sides of her subterranean prison joined together in a stony embrace.* What does this mean? (1 mark)

12) Why were Mary's hopes dashed? (Tick **one**) (1 mark)

- a. The roof had collapsed and blocked the way.
- b. She was exhausted and could not carry on.
- c. She did not know which tunnel to choose to escape from the cave.
- d. She could see no way out.
- e. Her torch batteries had run out and she could not see where to go.
- f. She had forgotten to set her TV to record *Strictly*.

13) Choose the word which describes **least well** how Mary was feeling when she turned around and retraced her steps. Tick **one**: (1 mark)

- a. Concerned
- b. Panicked
- c. Agitated
- d. Relaxed
- e. Worried
- f. Nervous

14) Find and copy an example of a simile from paragraph 7. (1 mark)

15) Find the text: *Surely this was impossible*. (1 mark)  
Explain what was **impossible**.

16) What three things **were not an option** for Mary? (3 marks)  
Explain why each one was not an option.

17) Where was Mary when she was **reunited with the daylight**? (1 mark)

18) When Mary poked her head out into the abyss, she (Tick **one**): (1 mark)

- a. wondered how high up she was;
- b. tried to think of a new plan to get home;
- c. thought about which of the many choices for escape she would pick;
- d. once more thought about her small number of possible options;
- e. day-dreamed about who had won *Strictly* this week.

19) Why did Mary take **a deep breath** before leaving the cave? (1 mark)

20) How did Mary leave the cave? (1 mark)

21) Do you think Mary reached safety after leaving the cave? (3 marks)  
Find evidence from the text to support your answer.  
Explain how this evidence backs up your opinion.