

Read the story “Is That Didi?” Then answer Numbers 1 through 10.

Is That Didi?

Tonight was a big night for Didi. She had the lead in a play at school. Mom and Dad were excited, and so was I. No one in the family had ever been in a play before.

During dinner, Didi was in another world. “Are you nervous?” I asked.

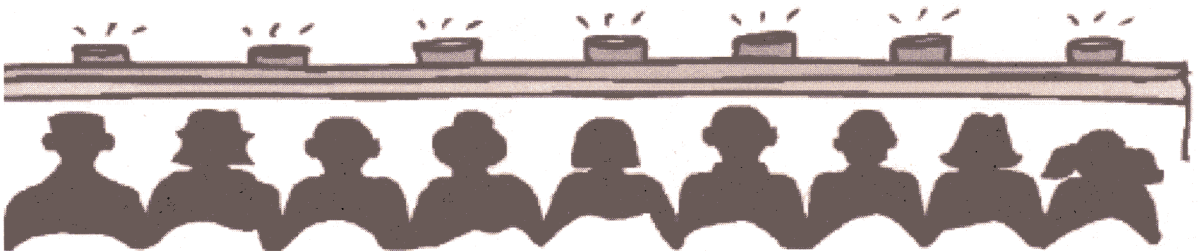
“Just a little, Will,” Didi said.

I imagined being on stage. There were hundreds of eyes staring at me. My heart started beating very fast. I was glad I was not Didi.

We got to school an hour early. Didi went backstage. She had to put on her costume and her makeup. I was kind of bored. Hardly anyone was there yet. For Didi’s sake, I hoped a few more people would show up.

Slowly, people started to come. I studied the playbill. Didi’s name was on the top of the list. The title of the play was *The Miracle Worker*. “It’s a true story about a girl whose name was Helen Keller. She could not see, hear, or speak,” Mom told me. I nodded.

By seven o’clock, the auditorium was packed. There was not a single empty seat. Luckily, we were right in front.



At last, the play began. The dark red curtain lifted slowly. There was Didi! I sat up straight and tall, and Mom and Dad smiled proudly.

But Didi was acting strangely. The girl on stage did not seem like my sister at all. She acted very weird. She was wild at times. She kicked and screamed and was totally out of control. Who was this person?

I looked at Mom and Dad. They did not seem concerned at all. In fact, they continued to smile. What was going on? I stole a look at the person next to me. That person did not look worried.

I whispered in Mom's ear. "Shhhhhh," she said.

Finally, the play was over. Didi and the others took a bow. My sister seemed like herself again. Mom and Dad clapped hard and loud. I clapped too, but not very much.

"Quick, let's go get Didi," I said afterward. "Something is really wrong."

My parents looked at me. "Didi was acting, dear," Mom said.

"She was pretending to be Helen Keller," Dad said.

I felt like a silly fool. "Why didn't somebody warn me?" I said.



NAME _____

Date _____

- 1 Read this sentence from the story.

Tonight was a big night for Didi.

What does the word *big* mean in the sentence?

- A. scary
- B. long
- C. important
- D. difficult

- 2 This story takes place mainly at

- A. a park.
- B. a movie theater.
- C. the family's home.
- D. a school auditorium.

- 3 Why did the author write the story "Is That Didi?"

- A. to tell a story about a family
- B. to talk about how much fun acting is
- C. to explain who Helen Keller was
- D. to show why people like acting

NAME _____

Date _____

- 4 What made Will’s heart beat fast?
- A. He was worried about Didi.
- B. He didn’t like the play.
- C. He imagined he was on stage.
- D. He was bored.

5 What does it mean “to have the lead” in a play? Use information and details provided in the story to help you write your answer.

NAME _____

Date _____

6 Why was Didi in “another world” during dinner?

- A. She was annoyed at Will.
- B. She wanted to be a movie star.
- C. She was happy the play was over.
- D. She was thinking about the play.

7 Why was the family able to get good seats?

- A. They spent more money.
- B. They arrived early.
- C. Didi was in the play.
- D. Will went to school there.

8 Which of these is true about the family?

- A. The parents didn't want Will to act.
- B. They went to many plays.
- C. The parents had been actors before.
- D. No one had been in a play before.

9 In this story, the word *concerned* means

- A. proud.
- B. late.
- C. worried.
- D. crowded.

- 10** Why did Will feel like a fool? Use information and details provided in the story to help you write your answer.

Writing Tip: Read the parts of the story that explain what Will didn't understand. Use this as the theme for your writing.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.