

The Mouse and the Motorcycle

1. In the passage, what does the word "despair" most likely mean?

- A sudden surprise
- A feeling of hopelessness or loss
- A deep thought or consideration
- A feeling of excitement

2. What can readers infer about Ralph's personality?

- He is observant and has strong desires.
- He prefers to be alone and isolated.
- He is careless and clumsy.
- He dislikes all humans equally.

3. Why might Ralph consider an item in a metal wastebasket as lost forever?

- He is afraid of the sound metal makes.
- Metal wastebaskets are always guarded by humans.
- He doesn't like items that have been thrown away.
- It is likely too challenging for him to get items from such containers.

4. Based on paragraph 1, what does Ralph initially think about the boy in Room 215?

- That the boy will prove to be a dangerous enemy
- That the boy will leave a lot of crumbs on the carpet
- That the boy is too old to be really messy
- That the boy will be able to play with him

5. Which sentence shows that Ralph has to face difficulties to get food?

- "Ralph was eager, excited, curious, and impatient all at once."
- "A mouse lives not by crumbs alone."
- "That sound seemed to satisfy something within Ralph."
- "Ralph knew that anything at the bottom of a metal wastebasket was lost to a mouse forever."

6. What can we infer about Ralph's past experiences with humans?

- All humans he has met have been dangerous.
- He has always been really close friends with the humans he has lived with.
- He has never come across a human before.
- He has benefited from messy humans by getting food from them.

7. Why is Ralph excited by the little cars and the motorcycle sound?

- He's planning to play with them.
- He thinks they're real vehicles.
- It seems to satisfy a deep desire or need in him.
- He believes they're food.

8. The author uses figurative language to convey a meaning beyond the words in the phrase "A mouse lives not by crumbs alone." What is the figurative meaning of this phrase?

- A mouse eats only crumbs.
- There are things a mouse desires other than food.
- A mouse could not survive without crumbs in the winter.
- A mouse eats more than crumbs.

9. What challenges does Ralph face in the room?

- Escaping from the room
- Finding a place to sleep
- Getting food that's out of reach
- Avoiding the boy's toys

10. By focusing on Ralph's emotions when food is within sight but out of reach, what can readers infer about his daily struggles?

- He is usually well-fed and rarely has to worry.
- He doesn't actually like the food humans eat.
- He constantly faces the balance between hope and disappointment.
- He prefers to store food rather than eat it immediately.

11. Based on the passage, which word best describes Ralph's overall feelings?

- Angry
- Lazy
- Curious
- Shy

12. What emotion does Ralph feel when he sees the apple core?

- Indifference
- Joy
- Jealousy
- Fear