

WORDS TO KNOW

As you read, look inside, around, and beyond these words to figure out what they mean.

- **immediately**
- **restore**

They Glow by Night

by Lorrie Doyle



- 1 My name is Aimee. My real name is Amy, but I prefer Aimee since it's more original and seems kind of French. Sometimes when I write Aimee I use a little heart to dot the *i*, but I think I might be growing out of that—I am, after all, almost ten.
- 2 You would think an almost-ten-year-old wouldn't need a baby-sitter, but then again, you're not my parents. They are convinced that I still need a sitter. "It's your money," I keep pointing out to them. "If you want to throw it away on a baby-sitter, that's up to you!"
- 3 Anyway, Emily's not so bad. Sometimes we actually have fun, since she always brings a supply of the newest shades of nail polish for me to try. But on this particular night, I was having a hard time concentrating on the "Glowing Green Goddess" Emily was applying to our fingers and toes. Outside, it poured rain. Lightning flashed across the sky, and thunder cracked so loudly it seemed to be exploding right in the living room. I could feel myself getting more and more nervous—not for myself, of course—I was worried about my parents being out in the storm, however.
- 4 Just as Emily was putting the finishing touches on my right pinky toe, there was a flash of lightning followed immediately by the loudest crack of thunder I'd ever heard. The television went blank and silent, and the hallway light went out, too. I noticed the familiar hum of the refrigerator was missing. The house was completely dark and silent. Emily stumbled to the window and peered outside.
- 5 "All the street lights are out. None of the other houses have lights either, so the power must be out in the whole neighborhood." She slowly bumped her way over to the phone and picked up the receiver. "No dial tone," she said glumly. "The telephone lines must be down too." She stopped and thought for a moment. "Your parents must have a flashlight around here somewhere. Do you know where they keep it?"

6 Before I could tell her I had no idea where the flashlight was, I started to cry. Yes, it's true. I cried, I wailed, I boo-hooed like a baby. I pressed my hands over my eyes to stop the flow, and still the tears kept coming. We were stuck here in the dark and quiet forever. And, to top off my fear and misery, what did I hear? Emily! Laughing! That was the last straw.

7 "Here we are," I sobbed, "stranded in the dark with my parents lost, no doubt, in the storm, and you're laughing!"

8 "Look Amy," she said. She reached out for my hand. And there, glowing in the dark, were my ten fingernails, and down at my feet were my ten glowing toenails. I looked over at Emily, whose toes and fingers were all aglow too! "Glowing Green Goddess" was fluorescent!

9 "See, we're not completely in the dark!" she said. "We can use our toes and our fingers to guide us. At least we won't bump into each other. Here, grab that bottle of nail polish. We'll search for the flashlight by the light of 'Glowing Green Goddess.'"

10 And we did. We found the flashlight, but we didn't even use it because we preferred getting around the house by "toe-light." My parents eventually got home, and the telephone and electrical service were restored. But ever since that night, I have kept an extra bottle of "Glowing Green Goddess" around because you never know when you might need some polish power!



 **Think**

Using what you learned from reading the story, respond to the following questions.

- 1** Which sentence **best** supports the inference that Amy isn't having fun with Emily that night?
- A** "They are convinced that I still need a sitter."
 - B** "Sometimes we actually have fun, since she always brings a supply of the newest shades of nail polish for me to try."
 - C** "But on this particular night, I was having a hard time concentrating on the 'Glowing Green Goddess'"
 - D** "I noticed that the familiar hum of the refrigerator was missing."
- 2** The following question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then answer Part B.

Part A

Which of these inferences about Emily is supported by paragraph 9?

- A** Emily is bossy and loud.
- B** Emily is clumsy and stubborn.
- C** Emily is clever and creative.
- D** Emily is kind and caring.

Part B

Underline **one** sentence in the paragraph that **best** supports your answer from Part A.

"See, we're not completely in the dark!" she said. "We can use our toes and our fingers to guide us. At least we won't bump into each other. Here, grab that bottle of nail polish. We'll search for the flashlight by the light of 'Glowing Green Goddess.'"

- 3** The following question has two parts. First, answer Part A. Then answer Part B.

Part A

What is the meaning of the word aglow as it is used in paragraph 8 of “They Glow by Night”?

- A very excited
- B shining with light
- C bright green
- D painted

Part B

Which detail from the story helps the reader understand the meaning of aglow?

- A The girls’ nails helped them see in the dark.
- B The nail polish was a very flashy color.
- C The girls were painting their nails.
- D The girls were very excited to paint their nails.

- 4** From which sentence can you infer that Amy isn’t as grown-up as she thinks she is?

- A “Sometimes when I write Aimee I use a little heart to dot the *i*, but I think I might be growing out of that. . . .”
- B “I could feel myself getting more and more nervous—not for myself, of course—I was worried about my parents being out in the storm, however.”
- C “Before I could tell her I had no idea where the flashlight was, I started to cry.”
- D “But ever since that night, I have kept an extra bottle of ‘Glowing Green Goddess’ around. . . .”

**Write**

- 5 Short Response** Make an inference about how Amy feels about needing a baby-sitter **after** the events of this story. Explain your thinking. Include **two** details from the story to support your answer.

**Learning Target**

In the lesson, you learned how to use details and examples from a story to make inferences about what the story is telling you. Write about how making inferences helped you develop a better understanding of a story.
