

## THE WITCHES, by Roald Dahl

### Lesson 3

#### Chapter 14

##### **V:**

- What does it mean to take off like a flash?
- What does it mean if you do something instinctively?
- Define 'a gonner'.

##### **I:**

- Why did the mice hide?
- Why did grandma go motionless?
- Why does grandma think children should never have baths?
- Why does the boy object to the phrase 'it keeps them on their toes'?

##### **P:**

- Predict if they will be able to get into The Grand High Witch's room.

##### **E:**

- What is the purpose of this chapter?

##### **R:**

- What floor was grandma on?
- Where did the mice hide?
- What did the boy do to the maid's finger?
- Why can the boy still speak?
- Why does the boy assume he is above The Grand High Witch's room?
- What is the boy's plan?

##### **S:**

- Summarise how the mice feel in this chapter in one word.

## **Chapter 15**

### **V:**

- Define 'musty'.
- Define 'marvelled'.
- Define 'meek'.
- What is dithering?

### **I:**

- Why did the boy hold his breath?
- Why did the frogs jump under the bed?
- Why do you think grandmother asked the witch if she had any children?

### **P:**

- Predict what they will do with the bottle.

### **E:**

- Explain the title of this chapter.

### **R:**

- What did grandmother put the boy into?
- What caused the sock to swing?
- Where had the witch hidden the bottles?
- How did the boy get back to his room?

### **S:**

- Summarise the mood of this chapter in one word.

## **Chapter 16**

### **V:**

- Define 'immensely'.
- What is a clasp?
- Define 'prim'.

### **I:**

- Why did Bruno scowl?
- Why does grandma want to go somewhere private?
- Why doesn't Mr Jenkins go with grandma?
- Why do they think grandma is mad?

### **P:**

- Predict, from the title, what will happen in this chapter and why.

### **E:**

- Does this chapter make you feel sympathy for Bruno? Explain your answer.

### **R:**

- Where did grandma put Bruno and the boy?
- What were the Jenkins doing?

### **S:**

- Summarise the events of this chapter in one word.

## **Chapter 17 and 18**

### **V:**

- Define 'disagreeable'.
- Define 'frisky'.
- What does it mean if someone thinks you're dotty?
- What is 'sheer desperation'?
- Define 'commotion'.

### **I:**

- Why is the plan dangerous for the boy?
- Why do you think grandma was tense and nervous?
- Why did the boy go around the skirting board?
- How did the boy know which basin to use?
- Why did the boy fall?
- Why were the other cooks laughing at the man?

### **P:**

- Predict what Mr Jenkins will do.
- Predict if the plan on the witches will work.

### **E:**

- How did the author create both tension and humour in chapter 18?

### **R:**

- Why didn't Bruno tell his father who he was?
- What are the potential barriers for the plan?
- What was the waiter's name?
- What did the kitchen do to the food of the lady who complained?
- What do all the witches order?

### **S:**

- Summarise 'the plan' in one word.

## **Chapter 19 and 20**

### **V:**

- What is a frosty look?
- Define 'devilment'.
- What does it mean to 'wield' a carving knife?
- Define 'envy'.
- What does it mean to accomplish a great feat?

### **I:**

- Why does Mr Jenkins assume that Bruno is with the boy?
- Why do the witches begin to scream?

### **P:**

- Predict what will happen in Chapter 20, when you finish Chapter 19.

### **E:**

- How do the pictures in this chapter add to the meaning?

### **R:**

- What does Bruno intend to live on?
- What is the name of the Jenkins's cat?
- How do Bruno and the boy see what is going on?
- What is Mr Jenkins's real name?

### **S:**

- Summarise how the reader feels at the end of these chapters in one word.

## **Chapter 21**

### **V:**

- Define 'ingenious'.

### **I:**

- Why did it take the boy a while to find his way around the house?
- Why does grandmother insist on good oral hygiene?

### **P:**

- Predict if the boy will remain a mouse.
- Predict how the story will end.

### **E:**

- Explain the message of this chapter.

### **R:**

- Who helped grandmother make the house easier for the boy?
- What did the boy bathe in?
- How long should the mouse boy live?
- How often do mice hearts beat?

### **S:**

- Summarise this chapter in one word and explain your choice of word.

## **Chapter 22**

### **V:**

- What does it mean if something happens gradually?
- Define 'retinue'.

### **I:**

- Why doesn't Grandma believe they failed in their mission?
- Why didn't the boy think the policeman in England would believe Grandma?
- What was the flaw in the mouse plan?

### **P:**

- Predict what would happen in a sequel to this book.

### **E:**

- Did you enjoy this story? Explain why.

### **R:**

- What did they have for supper?
- Why is this not the end of the witches?
- Where does The Grand High Witch live?
- How does grandmother intend to defeat all the witches?
- Once they have turned the witches into mice, how do they intend to kill them once and for all?

### **S:**

- Summarise the whole story in fewer than 100 words.
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**HOMEWORK:**

Write a **sequel** to *The Witches*.

**OR**

**What** is your **favourite part** of the book and **why**?