

## Comprehension Questions

### The Witches

1. Lines 5-6, “Not even a mouse could have squeezed in to sit beside her. I myself, just seven years old, was crouched on the floor at her feet.” What kind of characterization does the narrator use to portray the grandmother? What does it tell about her?

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2. From line 9, what does the phrase ‘pulling my leg’ mean in context?

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3. From lines 22-26, infer how old Ranghild was when she disappeared.

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4. How did the writer portray the lady who took Ranghild?

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5. Tremendously (line 4) means:

A) sadly   B) hugely   C) extremely   D) monstrously

6. "I have known no less than five children who have simply vanished off the face of this earth." Find a synonym for the verb 'vanished off'.

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7. How did the narrator feel about the stories of the disappearing children? Did she believe the stories? Give evidence from the text to support your answer.

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8. How did the writer evoke a sense of suspense in the story? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

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9. From your point of view, who is the most influential character in the story? Justify your answer.

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10. What is the tone of the grandmother in lines 18-19: "I am trying to make sure you don't go the same way," she said. "I love you and I want you to stay with me."

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