

## Comprehension 8

Read the play carefully and answer the following questions in complete sentences.

### Scene

Grace is in the living room, looking eagerly into a box. Her brother and sister enter, startling her. They talk in teasing tones.

Adam: What are you doing, Grace?

Angela: Mum said you got something in the post.

Adam: Who's it from?

Angela: What is it?

Grace: It's something very special from Uncle Albert... (Before Grace can stop her, Angela reaches into the box and takes out a bright yellow clock, which is ticking loudly. There are four differently coloured buttons on its face.)

Angela: What a stupid present! What kind of clock has such buttons on its face? Still, that's what you'd expect from a weird inventor like Uncle Albert.

Adam: It's a perfect present for the world's weirdest person. (Both laugh)

Grace: (warningly) Give it back, Angela, or you'll be sorry. (Both ignore her.)

Angela: Wait, there's a tag on it. (Peers at it and reads aloud.) "Dear Grace, I hope you find this useful. I have made the changes you suggested. Please let me know what you think. Love, Uncle Albert."

Adam: Useful? How could this be useful? He's really weird. (He snatches the clock from Angela. The orange button starts flashing.) What's this supposed to do? (He presses the button. The clock starts ticking slowly.) Oh dear, looks like I've broken it. Sorry, Grace, guess it really was a stupid present. (He shudders, then starts to move and talk in slow motion.) Hey...what's...going...on?

Angela: Adam, stop fooling around.

Adam: I...can't...help...it.

Angela: Give it to me. (She laughs and snatches the clock from Adam. He returns to his normal self.)

Grace: I wouldn't do that if I were you, Angela.

Angela: Why, do you think I might break your precious invention? (The green button flashes.) What does his do? (She presses the green button. The clock starts ticking rapidly. Angela starts to talk and move rapidly, as if she is over-excited.)

Somebody help me! Grace, take it back, take it back! (She throws it back to Grace, who is smiling slightly. Angela and Adam look frightened.)

**Read the following article and answer the questions in complete sentences.**

1. What do you know about Uncle Albert from reading the play?

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2. How did Grace receive the invention?

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3. How did the invention affect Adam and Angela?

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4. Describe the appearance of the invention.

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5. Why do you think Adam and Angela were so frightened?

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