

*The Spiderwick Chronicles* by Holly Black and Tony DiTerlizzi

Comprehension Questions - multiple choice

(Book 1 - The Field Guide)

1. What job does Jared Grace think his sister will have when she grows up?
  - a. a lion tamer
  - b. an Olympic fencer
  - c. a veterinarian
  - d. a jailer
  
2. Why does Jared miss his old life in New York, even though the apartment they lived in was much smaller than their new home?
  - a. He thinks the house is ugly.
  - b. He misses the time before his parents' divorce.
  - c. He likes small apartments.
  - d. He thinks the new house has ghosts.
  
3. Why does Jared have trouble sleeping in the house the first night?
  - a. It's so silent.
  - b. His brother's animals make noises.
  - c. He hears sounds in the walls.
  - d. He sees a ghost.
  
4. What do the Grace siblings find behind the wall?
  - a. a doll
  - b. an animal
  - c. a stash of odd things
  - d. food
  
5. What happened to Mallory after their first night in the strange house?
  - a. Someone hit her during the night.
  - b. She slept soundly.
  - c. Someone tied her hair to the bed.
  - d. Someone wrote a message to her.

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6. Why doesn't Helen Grace want any of the children to play in the attic?
  - a. It is dangerous.
  - b. The floor is rotten.
  - c. They will get dirty.
  - d. They will make a mess.
  
7. What is Jared planning to do to clear his own name so that his mother won't think he was the one pulling pranks on Mallory?
  - a. obtain the boggart's footprints
  - b. catch the faerie
  - c. take a photograph
  - d. stay in his room all night
  
8. Why does Jared's mother think he is guilty of all the pranks?
  - a. He broke someone's nose in his old school.
  - b. He misses his father.
  - c. He doesn't have a hobby like his siblings do.
  - d. He's angry all the time.
  
9. What happened to Simon's mice?
  - a. They were frozen.
  - b. They lived in the birdhouse.
  - c. They had run away.
  - d. They had become pets to the brownie.

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Comprehension Questions - multiple choice

(Book 2 - The Seeing Stone)

1. Why did Jared get in trouble at the new school?
  - a. He didn't pay attention.
  - b. He was the new kid.
  - c. He was drawing during class.
  - d. He ripped a boy's notebook in half.
  
2. Why is Jared drawing a portrait of his father?
  - a. Because he needs to practice drawing.
  - b. Because he needs a secret project.
  - c. Because he misses him.
  - d. Because he is not ready to draw faeries yet.
  
3. How does Jared obtain the stone from Thimbletack?
  - a. He proves himself.
  - b. He tricks him.
  - c. He takes it by force.
  - d. It is given to him freely.
  
4. What signs can be observed when goblins are about?
  - a. All the food is eaten.
  - b. There is a bad smell.
  - c. Pets are missing.
  - d. Things are broken.
  
5. What are trolls most afraid of?
  - a. water
  - b. swords
  - c. children
  - d. sunlight

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Comprehension Questions - multiple choice

(Book 2 - The Seeing Stone)

6. What does Hogsqueal threaten to do unless Jared lets him out of the cage?
  - a. scream
  - b. bite
  - c. sit on them
  - d. not tell them where Simon is
  
7. How did Hogsqueal obtain his teeth?
  - a. He stole them from under kids' pillows.
  - b. He pulled them off other people.
  - c. He made them.
  - d. He got them from cats.
  
8. How did the Grace siblings get rid of the goblins in the end?
  - a. They ran away from them.
  - b. The goblins drowned in the stream.
  - c. The troll caught them.
  - d. They got scared off.
  
9. What did the Grace children do with the griffin?
  - a. They let him go.
  - b. They left him in the forest.
  - c. They gave him to Hogsqueal.
  - d. They put him in the carriage house.

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Comprehension Questions - multiple choice

(Book 3 - Lucinda's Secret)

1. Why did Jared turn his clothes inside out?
  - a. The Field Guide recommended it.
  - b. He thought it looked cool.
  - c. It attracts faeries.
  - d. It protects him from Thimbeltack's anger.
  
2. What happened to the water in the Spiderwick house?
  - a. It started to glow.
  - b. It was always warm.
  - c. It burned when you drank it.
  - d. It was salty.
  
3. What did Jared do to protect the Field Guide?
  - a. He hid it somewhere clever.
  - b. He carried it with him everywhere.
  - c. He left it with Mallory.
  - d. He let Thimbletack take care of it.
  
4. What did Mallory threaten Simon with if he brought home one more animal?
  - a. to feed it to the Griffin
  - b. to set it free
  - c. to make him take care of it himself
  - d. to harm it
  
5. What do the Grace children conclude had happened to Arthur Spiderwick?
  - a. He ran out on his family.
  - b. He was killed by a bear.
  - c. He was lost in the forest.
  - d. He was trapped by elves.

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Comprehension Questions - multiple choice

(Book 4 - The Ironwood Tree)

1. What did Jared notice during the fencing match?
  - a. The captain of the team lost.
  - b. A strange girl went through Mallory's bag.
  - c. The coach was short and wiry.
  - d. His brother ate a lot of pretzels.
  
2. How did Simon solve the riddle by the stone entrance?
  - a. He offered an egg.
  - b. He remembered the answer of the riddle.
  - c. He re-arranged the letters.
  - d. He knocked.
  
3. What makes dwarves different from other faerie folk?
  - a. They are shorter.
  - b. They aren't afraid of iron.
  - c. They are good at crafts.
  - d. They sing.
  
4. Why did the dwarves call the boys "mortals"?
  - a. because boys die easily
  - b. to insult them
  - c. because humans live such short lives compared to faeries
  - d. because it is their fate to die
  
5. What was so special about all the animals in the Dwarf-Kingdom?
  - a. They are made of metal.
  - b. They are mute.
  - c. They are colorless.
  - d. They carry jewels.
  
6. Where did Simon and Jared hide when they escaped the cage?
  - a. on top of the cage
  - b. behind Mallory's glass case
  - c. in a jewel-chest
  - d. They didn't hide.

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Comprehension Questions - multiple choice

(Book 5 - The Wrath of Mulgarath)

1. Hogsqueal tells the children that Mulgarath's lair is not only defended by goblins, but also by:
  - a. shapeshifters
  - b. ogres
  - c. dragons
  - d. hobgoblins
  
2. What does Jared hope to accomplish when he and Thimbletack head out to see the elves?
  - a. He wants to ask them for help.
  - b. He wants to give them the book.
  - c. He wants them to let him meet his great grand uncle.
  - d. He wants to free Arthur Spiderwick.
  
3. What does Jared have to promise the Green-Eyed Elf in return for the favor?
  - a. to defeat Mulgarath
  - b. to give the book to the elves
  - c. to help the elves against the goblins
  - d. to become a prisoner like Arthur Spiderwick
  
4. What is so special about salamanders?
  - a. They look like small dragons.
  - b. They eat each other.
  - c. They are immune to fire.
  - d. They live around junkyards.
  
5. How did Mulgarath treat the sprites trapped in his palace?
  - a. He served them food.
  - b. He made them sing.
  - c. He imprisoned them.
  - d. He drowned them in honey.

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Comprehension Questions - multiple choice

(Book 5 - The Wrath of Mulgarath)

6. Why did Mulgarath kill the dwarves?
  - a. They had failed to serve him.
  - b. He didn't want the same kind of kingdom they wanted.
  - c. They had already served their purpose.
  - d. They were different.
  
7. Why did Jared ask Mulgarath a lot of questions before giving himself up?
  - a. He was curious about the answers.
  - b. He wanted to flatter the ogre.
  - c. He was stalling to give Thimbletack time to do his magic.
  - d. He was stalling because he was afraid to die.
  
8. What does Hogsqueal wish for as a reward for killing the ogre?
  - a. a golden medal
  - b. a kitten
  - c. lots of money
  - d. a victory feast with lots of good food

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What's What and Who's Who?

**Part 1: What are the things identified in the riddle?**

In a man's torso you will find \_\_\_\_\_

My secret to all mankind \_\_\_\_\_

If false and true can be the same \_\_\_\_\_

You will soon know of my name \_\_\_\_\_

Up and up and up again \_\_\_\_\_

**Part 2: Write the character's name next to the sentence that describes that character.**

\_\_\_\_\_ I fence whenever I can.

\_\_\_\_\_ I always rhyme when I talk.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have green eyes and baby teeth.

\_\_\_\_\_ I love animals and want to save them.

\_\_\_\_\_ Sunlight will hurt me.

\_\_\_\_\_ I sometimes get blamed when it isn't my fault.

\_\_\_\_\_ I never eat when anyone is watching.

\_\_\_\_\_ I can shapeshift and want to take over the world.

\_\_\_\_\_ I will turn to dust as soon as my feet touch the ground.

**Part 3: Briefly describe these faeries from the *Spiderwick Chronicles*.**

Brownie

Goblin

Hobgoblin

Troll

Griffin

Sprite

Pookha

Elf

Unicorn

Ogre

Dwarf

Knocker

Dragon

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Comprehension Questions - Short answer

(Book 1 - The Field Guide)

1. What period of time does Helen Grace say that the Spiderwick estate is from?
2. Who does the house belong to?
3. What do the siblings think is making the sounds in the walls?
4. What is a dumbwaiter?
5. What is so special about the room Jared comes to through the dumbwaiter?
6. What did Jared find in the secret room?
7. Why was Jared so upset after visiting the secret room?
8. What does Jared think that the clue "Up and up and up again" means?
9. What is so special about the chest Jared finds in the room above the attic?

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Comprehension Questions - Short answer

(Book 1 - The Field Guide)

10. How is the Grace family related to the Spiderwicks?
11. What makes the book Jared found in the room above the attic different from a children's book?
12. What are the names of Simon's two mice?
13. What happens to a brownie when you make him mad?
14. Why is Simon particularly upset when they clean the kitchen?
15. What does Jared discover when he takes out the trash?
16. What is Jared's idea to make the brownie stop his vandalism?
17. What gifts do the Grace children give the brownie?
18. How was Arthur Spiderwick related to their great aunt Lucinda?

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Comprehension Questions - Short answer

(Book 2 - The Seeing Stone)

1. What is Thimbletack's warning to Jared?
2. What does Jared shout to Mallory when he needs to tell her where a goblin is, so she can strike it with her rapier?
3. What are goblins born without?
4. What sort of faerie lands on Jared's hand in the wood?
5. What valuable item do Jared and Mallory lose when they run from the troll?
6. What is the first trace of Simon that Jared and Mallory find?
7. What does a griffin look like?
8. How do the Grace children obtain The Sight without the stone?
9. Why did Simon reveal them to the goblins?
10. What manner of creature is Hogsqueal?
11. What does Simon think is the reason for the griffin being so light?

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Comprehension Questions - Short answer

(Book 3 - Lucinda's Secret)

1. What do the children call the griffin?
2. Who do the children decide to consult about Arthur Spiderwick's book?
3. What does Aunt Lucinda send as a present to Thimbletack?
4. Why was Aunt Lucinda tormented by faeries in her own house?
5. What is the main reason for the children to follow Arthur Spiderwick's old map?
6. Why is Jared the only one to notice when they get lost due to the Stray Sod?
7. Who commands the goblins?

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Comprehension Questions - Short answer

(Book 4 - The Ironwood Tree)

1. What kind of hit counts in a fencing match?
2. What difference does Jared see between himself and his faerie-twin?
3. What is a quarry?
4. Who lived in the quarry, according to the Spiderwick map?
5. What kind of rocks does Simon think the old quarry contains?
6. What does *bioluminescence* mean?
7. How are Simon and Jared escorted to the Korting?
8. What has Mulgarath promised the dwarves as a reward for being his loyal servants?
9. How is Jared tricked by the dwarves?
10. What do knockers do?
11. How did the dwarves help Mulgarath?

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Comprehension Questions - Short answer

(Book 5 - The Wrath of Mulgarath)

1. Who was the prisoner that the Grace children saw with Mulgarath?
2. What is Hogsqueal hiding inside his coat when he is chased by the griffin?
3. What is a significant skill that ogres master?
4. Where is the ogre's lair?
5. How are Jared and Mallory able to get into Mulgarath's lair?
6. What is the cow in the junkyard used for?
7. What does it turn out that the salamanders are?
8. What is the ogre's palace built of?
9. What is Mulgarath's reason for not wanting to set Jared free, even though he has obtained the book?
10. Even though Jared's mother believes him now, there is one thing she can't set right. What is it?
11. What positive effects does the death of Mulgarath's magic bring to Lucinda Spiderwick?

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Comprehension questions - long answer

(Book 1 - The Field Guide)

- What do you think Helen Grace meant when she said that Simon could have “normal animals” now that they lived in a proper house?
- If you were Jared, how would you explain to your mother that you were innocent and didn’t create the mess in the kitchen?
- What do you think Jared’s mother meant when she said that if anything else happened in the house, she was going to take Jared to see someone?
- Why do you think the boggart/brownie was so mad, and why did he go after Mallory and Simon first?

(Book 2 - The Seeing Stone)

- What different ways are there for humans to get The Sight?
- What do goblins look like? How would you describe them to someone who hasn’t read the books?
- Describe how the wood changes for Jared when he has the eye-piece on.
- Describe how Hogsqueal is different from a goblin.

(Book 3 - Lucinda’s Secret)

- Why do you think Mallory wants to get rid of the field guide? Why is Jared clinging to it?
- Describe in your own words the Asylum that Aunt Lucinda lives in.
- Why can’t Aunt Lucinda eat normal food?
- Why do you think that Jared was so upset when he heard that Arthur Spiderwick had left his family?
- Why were the elves so eager to get the book? Do you think they were right in their view on the humankind?
- Why do you think the unicorn showed the children the vision?

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Comprehension questions – long answer

(Book 4 – The Ironwood Tree)

- When Mallory has her first match against Daniel, a boy on the other team, Daniel snickers before they start fencing. Why do you think he did that?
- Why do you think Jared got so worried when his mother wasn't angry, just sad, when she came to get him outside the vice-principal's office?
- Explain why Jared felt hollow when he overheard the phone call between his mother and his father.
- Jared gets angry when Simon drops the flashlight in the quarry. In what different ways do you think Jared's anger gets him into trouble?
- Why do you think the dwarves call the Ironwood Tree "a beauty that will never fade"?
- Describe in your own words how Jared and his siblings have good use of the stone that the knocker gave them.

(Book 5 – The Wrath of Mulgarath)

- Why do you think Thimbletack takes the vandalism of the Grace home and the abduction of Helen Grace so hard and blames himself?
- How do you think Simon felt when he had to kill the baby dragons to save the griffin?
- Why do you think Jared started to suspect that his father, who is imprisoned at the ogre's castle, isn't really his father?
- Why do you think Jared feels it is extra horrible that his mother sees the ogre?
- Describe how you think Arthur Spiderwick was feeling when he saw his beloved daughter Lucy as an old woman?







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Answers

Multiple Choice

Book 1

1. b
2. b
3. b
4. c
5. c
6. b
7. a
8. a
9. d

Book 2

1. c
2. a
3. c
4. c

5. d
6. a
7. a
8. c
9. d

Book 3

1. d
2. c
3. b
4. a
5. d

Book 4

1. b
2. c

3. b
4. c
5. a
6. a

Book 5

1. c
2. c
3. b
4. c
5. d
6. b
7. c
8. d

What's What and Who's Who?

Part 1

In a man's torso you will find (answer: a chest)

My secret to all mankind (answer: the field guide)

If false and true can be the same (answer: a secret compartment)

You will soon know of my name (answer: Arthur Spiderwick)

Up and up and up again (The room above the attic)

Part 2

I fence whenever I can. (Mallory)

I always rhyme when I talk. (Thimbletack)

I have green eyes and baby teeth. (Hogsqueal)

I love animals and want to save them. (Simon)

Sunlight will hurt me. (the troll)

I sometimes get blamed when it isn't my fault. (Jared)

I never eat when anyone is watching. (Lucinda)

I can shapeshift and want to take over the world (Mulgarath)

I will turn to dust as soon as my feet touch the ground (Arthur Spiderwick)

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**Answers**

**Short Answer**

**Book 1**

1. The Victorian period
2. It belongs to their great aunt Lucinda.
3. They think it is a squirrel.
4. It is a device with which servants sent trays up and down in a house.
5. The room has no door.
6. He found a poem.
7. Someone had written him a verse in the dust while he was there.
8. He thinks it means he should investigate the attic.
9. The chest has a false bottom.
10. Their maternal grandmother's maiden name was Spiderwick
11. It is a field guide, but instead of different kinds of birds it portrays different kinds of faeries.
12. They are called Jeffrey and Lemondrop.
13. He stops being helpful and goes crazy; he is then called a boggart.
14. His tadpoles are frozen and his mice are gone.
15. He discovers that the trash contains pieces of the brownie's house.
16. He thinks they should make him a new house.
17. They give him a winter glove, a small dish, and a fencing medal.
18. Arthur Spiderwick was her father.

**Book 2**

1. Thimbletack tells Jared to get rid of the Field Guide.
2. He shouts hour positions on a clock to her.
3. Goblins are born without teeth.
4. A sprite lands on his hand.
5. They lose their swords.
6. They find Simon's shoe.
7. A griffin is as big as a car, has the head of a bird and a body of a lion.
8. They rub Hogsqueal's spit into their eyes.
9. Simon couldn't quietly let the goblins kill the griffin.
10. Hogsqueal is a hobgoblin.
11. Simon thinks the griffin has hollow bones, like a bird.

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**Answers**

**Short Answer**

**Book 3**

1. They call the griffin Byron.
2. They want to ask their great aunt Lucinda for advice
3. She sends him a star-embroidered bag with marbles and silvery jacks.
4. The faeries thought that Lucinda was hiding the field guide from them.
5. The children want to figure out what happened to Arthur Spiderwick.
6. Jared wears his shirt inside out.
7. Mulgarath the ogre commands the goblins

**Book 4**

1. Only hits in the chest count.
2. The faerie Jared's eyes are darker and his hair is messier.
3. It is a place where people dig up rocks.
4. Dwarves lived there.
5. Simon thinks it is granite.
6. It means that something is making its own light.
7. They are brought there in a silver cage on wheels.
8. Mulgarath will strip the lands bare and let the dwarves rebuild it in silver, copper and iron.
9. He is tricked to bargain for his sister but not for their freedom.
10. Knockers live in mines and listen to stones, so they can warn people of collapses.
11. The dwarves created weapons for the goblin army.

**Book 5**

1. The prisoner was Helen Grace - their mother.
2. He was hiding a marmalade-colored kitty.
3. They are masters at shapeshifting.
4. The ogre's lair is in an old junkyard.
5. Jared and Mallory pretend to be Hogsqueal's prisoners.
6. The cow is feeding milk to the baby dragons.
7. They turn out to be baby dragons.
8. It is built out of car parts and garbage.
9. Mulgarath doesn't want Jared to create another Field Guide, since Jared knows the secret to breeding dragons and the weaknesses of goblins.
10. Jared still gets expelled from his school.
11. Lucinda's back becomes straight again and she doesn't have to walk hunched over anymore.