

**The Woman in Black by Susan Hill**

- 1 (c) and possibly (b) are the most likely answers based on the look on the woman's face, the colours, the lonely position of the house.
- 2 This is a ghost story and a horror story too. The pictures should lead students, by looking at the clothes and the horse-drawn vehicle to know that the story is not set in the 1990s.
- 3 Name: Arthur Kipps/Place of work: London/Occupation: solicitor/Name of wife: Esmé/Number of children: 4 (They are his wife's children, so 'None' could be an acceptable answer.)
- 4 (a) Samuel Daily (c) The young woman dressed in black in the churchyard  
(b) Mr Jerome
- 5 Student's own answer. Main details needed. Other details could be included.  
Day One: November morning – Mr Bentley tells Arthur about Mrs Drablow's will/A. must go to Mrs Drablow's funeral/A. writes to his fiancée, Stella/travels to Yorkshire by train to Crythin Gifford/meets Samuel Daily. Daily takes A. to the Gifford Arms/says A. can come to him for help. Day Two: Mrs Drablow's funeral. A. sees young woman dressed in black/Mr Jerome, the agent does not see woman/seems ill and frightened when A. talks about her/Keckwick takes A. to Eel Marsh House across Nine Lives Causeway in pony and trap/Keckwick to collect him in two hours before water covers the causeway/A. sees woman again outside ruined church/scared/looks round house then goes to meet Keckwick/mist comes down/A. terrified/hears pony and trap and child crying out as they go down into mud near the causeway/gets back to the house/drinks brandy/falls asleep. Day Three: 2 a.m. – A. is wakened by Keckwick who has come now mist is gone/A. realizes that the woman and child who cried out were ghosts/A. writes to Mr Bentley and tells him he is going to stay/goes for a bicycle ride/has dinner with Mr Daily/tells Daily about the woman/ Daily gives A. a dog, Spider. Day Four: A. cycles to Eel Marsh House with Spider/A. starts work – looking at Mrs Drablow's papers/goes to graveyard and finds graves of two people/works late/goes to bed/wakes/hears a noise coming from a locked room/hears another sound – doesn't know if it is from inside or outside the house/he goes back to bed but does not fall asleep quickly. Day Five: A. cycles back to Crythin Gifford/buys food/goes back to Eel Marsh House in time for lunch/feels frightened/decides to go back to town/cannot go back because causeway is covered with water/starts work again and finds letters/learns that sixty years ago Mrs Drablow's sister, Jennet, had a child called Nathaniel. She was not married and the child was adopted by Mr and Mrs Drablow/the noise starts again/A. also hears pony and trap again though there is nothing to see/finds that door of the locked room is now open/finds out that the noise is of a chair rocking in a child's room/weather is terrible/A. is wakened again by a child's cry/gets up/leaves his room/ Something passes him – a ghost – and all the lights go out/gets his torch but drops it/goes to child's room for candle/feels great sadness and a sense of something lost/goes back to room/reads/falls asleep. Day Six: Spider hears a whistle/runs onto marshes/into the mud and A. saves her/A. sees the woman standing at the window of the child's room/hears the pony and trap again/collapses with fear/Daily has come to take A. away/A. agrees to go/collects the letters/finds that everything in the child's room has been broken/leaves/ never wants to see Eel Marsh House again.
- 6 Student's own answers. Suggested answers: (a) The little dog, Spider, ran along behind me./Spider ran up and down./The little dog was standing at the door. She was staring at the door, listening./Spider howled. The frightened little dog pressed against my legs. We were both shaking with fear. (b) Spider growled. The little dog was standing at the door. Every hair on her body was stiff with fear./Spider rushed out of the room and up the stairs./ I heard her run along the passage. She stopped. ... the dog jumped out of my arms. She ran upstairs towards the locked door. (c) Spider was standing at the door. She wagged her tail and looked at me. The dog wanted to go out./Spider ran out happily./Spider heard it too (a whistle). Before I could stop her, she was running. She was running away from the house onto the marshes./... but she did not hear me. I watched the little dog running on and on. [Students may include what happens to Spider – the story describes what A. does to save her.]
- 7 1 (c) 3 (j) 5 (g) 7 (d) 9 (h)  
2 (f) 4 (e) 6 (a) 8 (i) 10 (b)
- 8 Student's own answer. The clue in Chapter 13 is in Daily's words: 'Each time she is seen something else happens. ... A child has died. Either by illness, or in a terrible accident.' Students can guess that Arthur and Stella get married and have a child and that the child dies.
- 9 Student's own answer. Students could write their paragraph in the First Person as if they were somewhere frightening on their own – by the sea or in a graveyard. (NB It is a description which they have to write not a story.)
- 10 Student's own answer. Students can use the letters from Chapter 9 and details from Chapter 12 to help them.
- 11 (a) and (b) Student's own answers. Answers require a mixture of the use of known facts and invention. Known details: Names: JENNET HUMFRY/her SON/NATHANIEL DRABLOW. Dates: Jennet was 36 when she died. She died 12 years after her son. He was 6 when he died. Therefore Jennet was 18 years old when Nathaniel was born. Students can invent a suitable year for Jennet to die starting 188 ... as in the picture and then fill in the other dates.
- 12 Student's own answer. Suggested answer (which student may dispute):
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|-------|-------|--------|
| 1 (c) | 5 (f) | 9 (l)  |
| 2 (e) | 6 (d) | 10 (h) |
| 3 (b) | 7 (i) | 11 (a) |
| 4 (k) | 8 (g) | 12 (j) |