Answers to book activities

1 Open answers
2 evil, horrible, horror, mad
3 a He killed her with an axe and then buried her body in the ground.
b Because Pluto doesn’t love him any more and he is angry. He wants to do an evil thing.
c Somebody probably threw the dead cat through the man’s window. The cat’s body went into the plaster and then burned, leaving the black shape.
d On top of a cupboard in a drinking house. He is afraid of the new cat because it only has one eye like Pluto; it never leaves him alone; and it has the shape of the gallows on its front.
e Inside a wall in the cellar. They find her because the man knocks on the wall and the cat cries out from behind the wall.
4 a Because he starts to drink too much.
b Because Pluto doesn’t love him any more and he is angry. He wants to do an evil thing.
c The plaster on the wall was wet because it was new.
d She went down to the cellar and saw a black object near the door.
5-7 Open answers
8 a Wrong. The house has several rooms, is richly decorated, and has many pictures.
b Right
c Right
d Wrong. His painting is more important than anything in the world.
e Right
f Right
9 Open answers
10 Open answers
11 e Egaeus is born in the library but her mother dies.
b Because Pluto and Berenice grow up together.
c One day Berenice comes to Egaeus in the library.
d Egaeus cannot stop thinking about Berenice’s teeth.
e The servants bury Berenice soon after dark.
a The servants find Berenice’s body, and she is alive.

Answers to Factsheet activities

(a) Communicative activities
Open answers

(b) Student’s activities

Activities before reading the book
(a)(i), (b)(ii)

Activities while reading the book

‘The Black Cat’
Before reading the story
Open answers

At the middle of page 6
Open answers

After reading the story

1 (d), (g), (l). (c), (a), (i), (b), (h), (f)
2 Open answers

‘The Oval Portrait’
Before reading the story

The words photographer and electricity are not in the story.

At page 14, line 8
1 Open answers
2 Open answer

Page 14, line 8 to the end of the story

1 (a) The woman in the portrait looks alive.
(b) To read the story of the portrait.
(c) Because her husband’s paintings were more important to him than she was.
(d) She becomes more and more pale and ill. The painting becomes more and more alive.
(e) She dies because the painting is finished. The painting becomes alive and so she dies.
2 Open answers

‘Berenice’
Before reading the story

Open answers

At page 20, line 16
Open answer

At the top of page 24

1 (a) Because she has some very bad illnesses.
(b) He has a type of monomania. He can’t stop thinking about one thing.
(c) Because he feels sorry for her. He knows that she loves him.
2 Story C is what happens.

After reading the story

1 (a) Because of his monomania. He can’t stop thinking about them. He thinks that only the teeth can stop him going mad.
(b) When night was falling
(c) At midnight

(d) For five or six hours, from when night was falling until midnight
(e) 32 teeth. Berenice’s teeth.
2 Open answers

‘The Mask of the Red Death’
Before reading the story

1 (a)
2 Open answers

At the bottom of page 31

1 (a) a terrible illness
(b) so that they could get away from the Red Death
(c) so that nobody could get in or out of the house
(d) five months later the Prince wanted to have a party
2 (a) true
(b) true
(c) false (there were more rooms)
(d) true
(e) false (there were no lamps)
(f) false (only the black room has a clock),
(g) false (the black room has red windows),
(h) true
3 Open answers

Page 32 to the end of the story

1 (a) Because the Prince chose the way everyone was dressed, and the Prince was strange.
(b) They looked at him with anger because he was wearing black, which made them think of death and they were trying to get away from that. They looked at him with horror because he was wearing a red mask which looked like a dead man. This frightened them because it was the mask of the Red Death.
(c) The masked man.
(d) Because the masked man was Red Death, which killed them.
2 Open answers

Activities after reading the book
Open answers

‘The Black Cat’
After reading the story

1 (a) The house is not in a straight line. Walking through them you come to a turn every twenty or thirty yards. So you could only ever see into one other room at a time. In every room there are two tall and narrow windows, one on either side. There is coloured glass in these windows. The clock is against the far wall of the black room.

The first room is blue.
The second room is purple.
The third room is green.
The fourth room is orange.
The fifth room is white.
The sixth room is yellow.
The seventh room is black with red windows.

16 The stranger is the Red Death. Everybody is afraid because he is wearing the mask of the Red Death.

17-20 Open answers
The Black Cat is one of Edgar Allan Poe's most memorable stories. The tale centers around a black cat and the subsequent deterioration of a man. While the narrator, his wife, and a servant escape, the only thing left standing is a single blackened interior wall on which, to his horror, the man sees the image of a cat hanging by a noose around its neck. Thinking to assuage his guilt, the protagonist begins searching out a second black cat to replace Pluto. The Black Cat is one of Edgar Allan Poe's most famous stories. Why is the man in the story afraid of his own black cat? Why does he kill it? And how does the cat punish him for his evil ways? In The Oval Portrait a man finds a portrait of a beautiful young woman in a lonely house. Who is this woman? Other famous stories are 'The Fall of the House of Usher', 'The Murders in the Rue Morgue', and 'The Pit and the Pendulum'. Poe had a strange imagination and one of the saddest lives in all of literature. His terrible stories touch our deepest human fears and are difficult to forget. This is a true story, as true as I sit here writing it as true as I will die in the morning. The Black Cat. You are not going to believe this story. Classic fiction, Crime & mystery, English language readers, English literature: fiction texts, Short stories, Foreign Language - Dictionaries / Phrase Books, Dutch, English, Children: Young Adult (Gr. 7-9), English as a Second Language, Foreign Language Study / English as a Second Language, High interest-low vocabulary books, Readers for new literates.