



KS3 English Language Reading - Ghosts

The House That Time Forgot –

Quick Questions

1. In which part of the house does the passage begin?

2. In which part of the house does the passage conclude?

3. How is the key made to seem significant?

4. Why do you think that his friends nominated Victor to explore upstairs? Support your answer with evidence from the text.

5. Do you think that this house is haunted? Support your answer with evidence from the text.



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The House That Time Forgot – Quick Questions **Answers**

1. The hallway of an upper mezzanine level.
2. A bedroom.
3. The adverb 'again' suggests that Victor is constantly checking for the key and has an irrational fear of losing it; the character's strong emotional connections to the object give it a significance that might be symbolic of his quest, as if it opens more than just the door to a room. The notion of symbolic significance is reinforced by the rhetorical question, 'Was this the one he was searching for?' The fact that the key works in the lock also gives it added significance because we know that it serves its function and is no red herring.
4. Accept any valid interpretation that is supported by textual evidence. For example:
 - Victor is brave – despite the sense of danger, he is prepared to keep going and enter a 'grand and imposing' doorway.
 - Victor is self-assured – he 'retain[s] enough self-possession' to steady himself even at the prospect of 'almost certain death'.
 - The others were too fearful – they were perhaps 'even more conscious of the danger' than Victor!
5. Accept any valid interpretation that is supported by textual evidence. For example:
 - Yes, because the description of the setting fulfils many stereotypes of horror genre texts and the existence of a 'ghoul' or 'wraiths' appears almost taken for granted.
 - On the other hand, the parenthetical reference to wraiths as pickpockets could be interpreted as mockingly ironic, suggesting a cynicism from the writer about a paranormal presence.