

Name:

Date:

Dear Mum by Brian Patten

1. What did the child do in the poem? Tick the best answer

He was rude	<input type="checkbox"/>
He was scared	<input type="checkbox"/>

He misbehaved	<input type="checkbox"/>
He was good	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. Look at the lines from the poem:

*Knowing you're going to have a fit,
I've gone over to Gran's to lie low for a bit.*



What does I've gone over to Gran's to lie low for a bit tell you here? Tick one

The child wanted to spend time with his Gran	<input type="checkbox"/>
He was in trouble so went out of the house	<input type="checkbox"/>
He wanted to sleep	<input type="checkbox"/>
He wanted to play at his Gran's house	<input type="checkbox"/>

3. Which of these words does the poet use to describe the things that have happened in the house? Tick **two**.

Grubby	<input type="checkbox"/>
Strange	<input type="checkbox"/>

Ugly	<input type="checkbox"/>
Horrible	<input type="checkbox"/>

Beautiful	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disgusting	<input type="checkbox"/>

4. What three words rhyme in the poem?

5. What is the poet's main purpose for writing this poem?

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6. List **four** things that the child does in the house whilst his mum is not at home?

- a.
- b.
- c.
- d.

7. What is the significance of the poem's title and does this give you clues as to how this poem has been structured?

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8. According to the poet, what do the last two lines of the poem tell us about the behaviour of this child normally?

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Suggested answers:

1. He misbehaved.
2. He was in trouble so went out of the house.
3. Grubby and strange.
4. E.g. Carpet/fit/bit
5. To show how children may misbehave and make up excuses for things they do wrong in the house.
6. E.g. a) He broke a vase b) He left the taps on c) He vacuumed up a bird and d) He put the cat into the washing machine.
7. The title tells you it is in the form of a letter.
8. It tells us this child may get into trouble a lot as he knows his mum is likely to 'have a fit' so he knows if this is the case to leave the house and go to his Gran's!