

**** STUDENT QUESTIONS ****

The Mouse and the Motorcycle

Chapter 1 "The New Guests" pp. 11-18

1. What didn't the guests (Gridleys) and the bellboy know while they were in the hotel?
2. Why did Mrs. Gridley want to go to a different motel?
3. Why did Mr. Gridley say he wouldn't drive another mile?
4. Why did the Gridley boy like the motel?
5. Why did Mrs. Gridley need a rest before supper?
6. Why was Mrs. Gridley sure that the bellboy was wrong ?

Chapter 2 "The Motorcycle" pp. 19-27

1. Who was watching the Gridley boy's every move
2. Why did the mouse like messy children at the motel
3. Why were medium-sized boys good for mice?
4. Why couldn't Ralph get the apple core?
5. What the boy leave behind that most excited Ralph?
6. What happened to Ralph's father?
7. Who did Ralph's mother worry most about?
8. How could Ralph tell that this was a good motorcycle?
9. What made Ralph tumble to the floor off the motorcycle?

Chapter 3 "Trapped" pp. 28 - 34

1. Why is Chapter 3 titled "Trapped"?
2. What happened to Uncle Victor?

3. Why was it useless to try to tip over the wastebasket?
4. How did Ralph try to use the apple core and motorcycle to get out of the trash?
5. Who visited Ralph in the basket?
6. What did Ralph think his only hope was?

Chapter 4 "Keith" pp. 35 - 47

1. What did the boy notice was missing when he entered his room?
2. How did the boy first think his motorcycle got in the trash?
3. What does the boy first ask Ralph?
4. How could the boy and Ralph understand each other?
5. Why did the maid burst into the room?
6. Why did Ralph have to lie low while the boy went to supper?
7. How did Ralph finally get out of the waste basket?
8. Why couldn't Ralph make the motorcycle move?
9. How did Ralph finally get the motorcycle to move?

Chapter 5 "Adventure in the Night" pp. 48 - 60

1. Where does Ralph want to take the motorcycle?
2. What does Keith's call dusty fluff?
3. Why did Ralph almost lose control of the motorcycle in the hallway?
4. Why did Ralph need to be careful while riding in the hallway?
5. Where did Ralph hide from the dog?
6. How did Ralph know he had ridden the motorcycle all night long?
7. How did Ralph get into the room to put the motorcycle back under the bed?
8. Why did Ralph's father laugh and say his mother was ridiculous?

Chapter 6 "A Peanut Butter Sandwich" pp. 61 - 73

1. What was the spread that Ralph wanted Keith to order for him?
2. Why did anyone before guess where Ralph and his family lived?
3. Where did Keith promise to leave the motorcycle so that Ralph could ride it?
4. What does Ralph tell his mother?
5. What happened to Uncle Leroy?
6. What did Ralph promise the boy?
7. What machine made Ralph most terrified?

Chapter 7 "The Vacuum Cleaner" pp.74 – 85

1. What is the deadly hungry machine?
2. How did Ralph save himself from being sucked up?
3. Why didn't the mice hear Ralph's cries?
4. When did Ralph feel safe from the vacuum cleaner?
5. Why does Ralph break his promise to Keith not to ride the motorcycle during the day?
6. Why did Ralph wish he hadn't broken his promise?
7. Who rescued Ralph from the terrier?
8. How did Ralph end up in the linen room?
9. How does Ralph decide to save his life?
10. What happened to the motorcycle?

Chapter 8 "A Family Reunion" pp. 86 – 94

1. Why did Ralph's mother want him to wake up?
2. What family had come and why?
3. Why did Aunt Sissy think she was better than the rest?
4. Why could Ralph show his cousins the motorcycle?

5. Why were the mice too terrified to speak?
6. Why did Keith give Ralph half a ping-pong ball?
7. What did Ralph confess?
8. How did Keith hurt Ralph's feelings?

Chapter 9 "Ralph Takes Command" pp. 95 – 105

1. Why was it a sad night for Ralph?
2. How did Ralph spend the night?
3. Why did Keith say it wouldn't be right to be real mad at Ralph?
4. What happened to Keith on the bicycle with the hand brakes?
5. What was wrong (pandemonium) when Ralph got back to mouse hole?
6. What does it mean to the staff?
7. What is Uncle Lesters' only solution?
8. What is Ralph's solution?
9. What still worried his mother?

Chapter 10 "An Anxious Night" pp. 106 – 119

1. What was unusual about the way Keith acted when he returned to his room?
2. Why didn't Keith want to go to dinner?
3. Why are the mice hanging low until that blows over?
4. What was the surprise dinner Keith stuffed through the knothole?
5. Why were the mice so concerned when Keith couldn't eat?
6. Ralph put on his helmet, but why didn't he ride the motorcycle?
7. Why did Keith's mother say, "Oh Dear?"
8. Why did Mr. Gridley go to find a night clerk in the hotel?
9. Why didn't Mr. Gridley return with what he was looking for?

10. How does Ralph try to help?

Chapter 11 “The Search” p. 120-130

1. Why does Ralph have to go out into the hotel?
2. What is Ralph looking for to help the boy?
3. How was Ralph's father poisoned by an aspirin?
4. What happened to Ralph in the last room on the second floor?
5. What did Betty & Mary Lou plan to do with Ralph?
6. Why didn't Betty + Mary Lou let Ralph go when he shouted at them?
7. How did the teacher get rid of Ralph without hurting him?

Chapter 12 “An Errand Of Mercy” p. 131 - 141

1. What predator did Ralph fear most climbing down the vine?
2. How did Ralph get into the ground floor?
3. Why was Ralph positive the pill on the college boys' room was an aspirin?
4. How did Ralph try to get the aspirin to the second floor?
5. What was Ralph's genuine inspiration (idea) on how to get the aspirin upstairs?
6. How did Ralph get the man to open the elevator doors?
7. Why couldn't Ralph get the ambulance back into the elevator?
8. Why was Ralph filled with triumph when he got back to room 215?

Chapter 13 “A Subject for Composition” p. 142

1. Why was Ralph a hero in the mouse hole?
2. Who did Keith's parents think left the aspirin?
3. What did Ralph's mother finally agree he could do by?
4. How did Keith feel the next morning?
5. What did Keith miss out on because he wasn't happy?

6. Who found Keith's motorcycle and knew about Ralph riding it?
7. What did the mice feast on for lunch that is on our menu
8. What was Ralph's wish that Keith helped come true
9. Where is Ralph's garage for the motorcycle
10. Retell how Ralph rescued the aspirin for Keith.

**** KEY ****

The Mouse and the Motorcycle

Chapter 1 "The New Guests" pp. 11-18

1. What didn't the guests (Gridleys) and the bellboy know while they were in the hotel (being watched)
2. Why did Mrs. Gridley want to go to a different motel? (old)
3. Why did Mr. Gridley say he wouldn't drive another mile? (tired, truck almost forced them off the road)
4. Why did the Gridley boy like the motel? (room to himself)
5. Why did Mrs. Gridley need a rest before supper? (tired from 400 mile traffic)
6. Why was Mrs. Gridley sure that the bellboy was wrong ? (mice)

Chapter 2 "The Motorcycle" pp. 19-27

1. Who was watching the Gridley boy's every move? (Ralph the mouse)
2. Why did the mouse like messy children at the motel? (left crumbs)
3. Why were medium-sized boys good for mice? (left candy and peanuts)
4. Why couldn't Ralph get the apple core? (in metal basket)
5. What did the boy leave behind that most excited Ralph? (his toy motorcycle)
6. What happened to Ralph's father? (poisoned with aspirin)

7. Who did Ralph's mother worry most about? (Ralph)
8. How could Ralph tell that this was a good motorcycle? (felt it)
9. What made Ralph tumble to the floor off the motorcycle? (telephone rang)

Chapter 3 "Trapped" pp. 28 - 34

1. Why is Chapter 3 titled "Trapped"? (Ralph fell in metal basket)
2. What happened to Uncle Victor? (incinerated)
3. Why was it useless to try to tip over the wastebasket? (not enough strength)
4. How did Ralph try to use the apple core and motorcycle to get out of the trash? (put core on top of motorcycle, but couldn't lift it)
5. Who visited Ralph in the basket? (two ants)
6. What did Ralph think his only hope was? (Kleenex dropped on him)

Chapter 4 "Keith" pp. 35 - 47

1. What did the boy notice was missing when he entered his room? (the motorcycle)
2. How did the boy first think his motorcycle got in the trash? (rolled off table)
3. What does the boy first ask Ralph? (how did he get in the basket)
4. How could the boy and Ralph understand each other? (spoke same language)
5. Why did the maid burst into the room? (to turn down the bed)
6. Why did Ralph have to lie low while the boy went to supper? (couldn't get out of the waste basket)
7. How did Ralph finally get out of the waste basket? (boy tipped it)
8. Why couldn't Ralph make the motorcycle move? (didn't know how to start it)
9. How did Ralph finally get the motorcycle to move? (made a noise)

Chapter 5 "Adventure in the Night" pp. 48 - 60

1. Where does Ralph want to take the motorcycle? (spin in hallway)

2. What does Keith's call dusty fluff? (dust mice)
3. Why did Ralph almost lose control of the motorcycle in the hallway? (saw his Aunt Sissy)
4. Why did Ralph need to be careful while riding in the hallway (people with dogs)
5. Where did Ralph hide from the dog? (behind the ashtray)
6. How did Ralph know he had ridden the motorcycle all night long? (morning bird were singing)
7. How did Ralph get into the room to put the motorcycle back under the bed? (doorman opened the door)
8. Why did Ralph's father laugh and say his mother was ridiculous? (she saw a red motorcycle)

Chapter 6 "A Peanut Butter Sandwich" pp. 61 - 73

1. What was the spread that Ralph wanted Keith to order for him? (peanut butter)
2. Why did anyone before guess where Ralph and his family lived? (knot hole not a chewed hole)
3. Where did Keith promise to leave the motorcycle so that Ralph could ride it? (under the bed)
4. What does Ralph tell his mother? (he's associating with people)
5. What happened to Uncle Leroy? (an owl ate him)
6. What did Ralph promise the boy? (he wouldn't ride the motorcycle in the daytime)
7. What machine made Ralph most terrified? (vacuum cleaner)

Chapter 7 "The Vacuum Cleaner" pp.74 – 85

11. What is the deadly hungry machine? (vacuum cleaner)
12. How did Ralph save himself from being sucked up? (hung on the the motorcycle)
13. Why didn't the mice hear Ralph's cries? (singing and noisy vacuum)

14. When did Ralph feel safe from the vacuum cleaner? (sitting on the motorcycle)
15. Why does Ralph break his promise to Keith not to ride the motorcycle during the day? (experiment)
16. Why did Ralph wish he hadn't broken his promise? (landed in pillowcase)
17. Who rescued Ralph from the terrier? (its' owner)
18. How did Ralph end up in the linen room? (maid)
19. How does Ralph decide to save his life? (abandon motorcycle)
20. What happened to the motorcycle? (in the hamper)

Chapter 8 "A Family Reunion" pp. 86 – 94

9. Why did Ralph's mother want him to wake up? (room service brought feast)
10. What family had come and why? (aunts, uncles, cousins for a family reunion)
11. Why did Aunt Sissy think she was better than the rest? (bridal suite with rice)
12. Why could Ralph show his cousins the motorcycle? (lost it)
13. Why were the mice too terrified to speak? (Keith spoke)
14. Why did Keith give Ralph half a ping-pong ball? (crash helmet)
15. What did Ralph confess? (lost motorcycle)
16. How did Keith hurt Ralph's feelings? (said he couldn't be trusted)

Chapter 9 "Ralph Takes Command" pp. 95 – 105

10. Why was it a sad night for Ralph? (he was alone)
11. How did Ralph spend the night? (staring out windows)
12. Why did Keith say it wouldn't be right to be real mad at Ralph? (he gets into messes too)
13. What happened to Keith on the bicycle with the hand brakes? (crashed into the tree)
14. What was wrong (pandemonium) when Ralph got back to mouse hole? (holes chewed in sheets)

15. What does it mean to the staff? (war on mice)
16. What is Uncle Lesters' only solution? (flee)
17. What is Ralph's solution? (lay low for a couple of days)
18. What still worried his mother? (tipping room service)

Chapter 10 "An Anxious Night" pp. 106 – 119

11. What was unusual about the way Keith acted when he returned to his room? (he didn't play with his toys)
12. Why didn't Keith want to go to dinner? (felt awful – sick inside)
13. Why are the mice hanging low until that blows over? (housekeeper found mouse-holed sheets)
14. What was the surprise dinner Keith stuffed through the knothole? (soda crackers)
15. Why were the mice so concerned when Keith couldn't eat? (their food depended on him)
16. Ralph put on his helmet, but why didn't he ride the motorcycle? (lost)
17. Why did Keith's mother say, "Oh Dear?" (Keith was running a fever)
18. Why did Mr. Gridley go to find a night clerk in the hotel? (needed aspirin)
19. Why didn't Mr. Gridley return with what he was looking for? (night clerk couldn't find one)
20. How does Ralph try to help? (went to find aspirin)

Chapter 11 "The Search" p. 120-130

8. Why does Ralph have to go out into the hotel? (to find the aspirin and get rid of it)
9. What is Ralph looking for to help the boy (aspirin)
10. How Was Ralph's father poisoned by an aspirin (carried it in his pocket)
11. What happened to Ralph in the last room on the second floor (trapped in a drinking glass)

12. What did Betty & Mary Lou plan to do with Ralph (keep as pet)
13. Why didn't Betty + Mary Lou let Ralph go when he shouted at them (they didn't understand his language)
14. How did the teacher get rid of Ralph without hurting him? (postcard and put him out the window.)

Chapter 12 "An Errand Of Mercy" p. 131 - 141

9. What predator did Ralph fear most climbing down the vine? (Owls)
10. How did Ralph get into the ground floor? (window)
11. Why was Ralph positive the pill on the college boys' room was an aspirin? (lettering)
12. How did Ralph try to get the aspirin to the second floor? (Rolled it)
13. What was Ralph's genuine inspiration (idea) on how to get the aspirin upstairs? (take Keith's ambulance)
14. How did Ralph get the man to open the elevator doors? (his dog)
15. Why couldn't Ralph get the ambulance back into the elevator? (stuck)
16. Why was Ralph filled with triumph when he got back to room 215 (got the aspirin)

Chapter 13 "A Subject for Composition" p. 142

11. Why was Ralph a hero in the mouse hole? (got aspirin)
12. Who did Keith's parents think left the aspirin? (night clerk)
13. What did Ralph's mother finally agree he could do by himself (go to the first floor)
14. How did Keith feel the next morning? (better)
15. What did Keith miss out on because he wasn't happy? (room service)
16. Who found Keith's motorcycle and knew about Ralph riding it? (Matt)
17. What did the mice feast on for lunch that is on our menu? (bacon, toast, PB&J)
18. What was Ralph's wish that Keith helped come true (own motorcycle)

19. Where is Ralph's garage for the motorcycle (under the TV)

20. Retell how Ralph rescued the aspirin for Keith.