

"Now, watch me closely," said Bunyip Bluegum. He sprinkled the Puddin' with sugar, made several passes with his hands, and pronounced these words –

*"Who incantations utters
He generally mutters
His gruesome blasts and bans.
But I, you need not doubt it,
Prefer aloud to shout it,
Hey, Presto Pots and Pans."*

Out sprang Bill and Sam and set about the Puddin'-thieves like a pair of windmills, giving them such clip clap clouting and a flip flap flouting, that what with being punched and pounded, and clipped and clapped, they had only enough breath left to give two shrieks of despair while scrambling back into Watkin Wombat's Summer Residence, and banging the door behind them. The three friends had Puddin' secured in no time, and shook hands all round, congratulating Bunyip Bluegum on the success of his plan.

"Your noble actin'," said Bill, "has saved our Puddin's life."

"Them Puddin'-thieves," said Sam, "was children in your hands."

"We hear you," sang out the Possum, and the Wombat added, "Oh, what deceit!"

"Enough of you two," shouted Bill. "If we catch you sneakin' after our Puddin' again, you'll catch such a beltin' you'll wish you was vegetarians. And now," said he, "for a glorious reunion round the camp fire."

And a glorious reunion they had, tucking into hot steak-and-kidney puddin' and boiled jam roll, which, after the exertions of the day, went down, as Bill said, "Grand."

From *The Magic Pudding* by Norman Lindsay

1 This story was written by an Australian and is based in Australia. How do we know this? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.

- A In Australia there are talking roosters.
- B The animals used in the story are native to Australia.
- C Bill is an Australian name.
- D They have magic puddings in Australia.
- E They love pudding in Australia.

2 Why were Bill and his friends so eager to get away from Rooster? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.

- A They didn't want to meet Rooster's wife.
- B They were hungry and wanted to eat the pudding.
- C They wanted to open Wombat's door before he locked it.
- D They had more important things to do than listen to a Rooster.
- E They had to get going because they could only walk after Wombat and were worried he might get away.

3 Who were Bill and his friends after?

1 Watkin Wombat 2 Bunyip Bluegum 3 Rooster 4 Possum 5 Sam Sawnoff

Mark your answer in your answer booklet.

- A 1 and 2
- B 2 and 3
- C 2 and 4
- D 1 and 4
- E 1 and 5

4 Which of the following best describes Wombat's Summer Residence? Mark your answer in your answer booklet.

- A a small hollow tree
- B a large hollow tree with a window
- C a large hollow tree, with a door in the side
- D a hollow tree, in the side a door with a keyhole
- E a large hollow tree, in the side a door with a keyhole

PLEASE TURN OVER