

## The Black Cat and Other Stories

### Book key

- 1 a servant, stranger  
b anger, horror  
c portrait, mask  
d axe, lamp
- 2 a a man kills his black cat  
b a beautiful young woman  
c a death mask  
d horror  
e the last few months
- 3 Open answers
- 4 1 f 2 b 3 h 4 a 5 c 6 g 7 d 8 e  
5 a X b ✓ c ✓ d ✓ e X f ✓ g ✓
- 6–9 Open answers
- 10 a lamp b horror c work d time  
e unhealthy f mad g alive h dies
- 11 a She has begun to hate her husband's paintings because they keep him away from her.  
b She has become weak and sad.  
c She has died.
- 12 a surprise and excitement at first, then fear and horror  
b love  
c He loves her, but he loves his work more.  
d He cannot think of anything or anyone except his portrait – until it is finished. We can only guess how he feels after that.
- 13–14 Open answers
- 15 a f b i c g d h e j
- 16 a monomania b dream c marry d teeth  
e servant f buried g blood
- 17 a in the middle of his life  
b often goes out  
c object  
d loves  
e she is not dead  
f without any teeth
- 18–22 Open answers
- 23 a feel everything turning round and round.  
b bloody.  
c nobody can come in or out of the house.  
d each decorated in a different colour.  
B not the same colour as the room.
- 24 a No b Yes c Yes d No e No
- 25–37 Open answers

### Discussion activities key

- 1 Possible answers:  
• *I think this is a good way to start a story because you are ready to read something unrealistic.*  
• *I think it makes the story seem less easy to believe.*
- 2 Possible answers:  
• *I think the second cat is Pluto.*  
• *I think Pluto's ghost is inside the second cat.*  
• *I don't think the second cat is Pluto. Pluto was killed!*
- 3 Possible answers:  
• *Black cats are evil in my culture.*  
• *Black cats are good luck in my culture.*  
• *If you see a spider at night, it will bring bad news; if you see a spider in the morning, it will bring good news.*  
• *Number 4 is bad luck in my culture.*  
• *It's a bad luck to open an umbrella indoors.*  
• *I am not superstitious. I open my wet umbrella inside my flat. Where can I dry it otherwise?*
- 4 Open answers  
Note: The words 'photographer' and 'electricity' are not in the story.
- 5 Possible answers:  
• *The story-teller saw a portrait of a young woman, and he closes his eyes because it was a shock.*  
• *I think he was very surprised and needed time to think.*  
• *He closed his eyes to calm himself.*  
• *I think she is the owner of the house.*  
• *I think she is a ghost.*  
• *Probably the portrait will start to talk to the story-teller.*  
• *Perhaps the young woman's eyes follow the story-teller.*
- 6–9 Open answers
- 10 Possible words:  
library, books, house, old, evil, ghost, dark, candles, windows, heavy
- 11 Possible words:  
Egeus: weak, sick, dark, inside, heavy thoughts  
Berenice: strong, healthy, bright, happy, sweet, beauty, light
- 12–13 The story 'Man takes out girl's teeth' is what happens in the story.
- 14–15 Open answers

## The Black Cat and Other Stories

### 16 Possible opinions:

- *I think what he means is that he remembers his previous life.*
- *I don't believe in re-incarnation.*
- *I don't remember my previous life, but I think it sounds great if there is a previous life. You can have a different life as a different person.*
- *I think he means that he was a ghost before he was born. It says 'without shape or body.'*

### 17 Possible answers:

- *It is probably before 1600.*
- *I think he is throwing the key into the lake to lock up someone.*
- *I think it's because he is a bad person.*

### 18 Suggested answers:

- *The tall masked man is the Red Death.*
- *Everyone is afraid of him because he is wearing the mask of the Red Death.*

### 19–20 Open answers

### 21 Possible answers:

- *I think these stories are better as books because you can use your imagination.*
- *I think these stories make very good horror films.*
- *With a film, you can use some sound effects and music.*

### 22 Open answers

## Activity worksheets key

### 1 Suggested answers:

- a kind, loving, good, evil, bad, horrible, selfish, sick
- b brave, good, kind, loving
- c friendly, happy, kind, loving
- d friendly, loving, clever

2 a 5 b 1 c 4 d 3 e 2 f 10 g 7 h 9  
i 6 j 8

- 3 a ugly > beautiful  
b sofa > bed  
c candle > lamp  
d maps > pictures  
e square > oval

4 1 b 2 c 3 a 4 b 5 c

5 a T b T c NT d NT e NT f NT  
g T h NT i NT

### 6 Suggested answers:

- 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.
- d Because of his monomania. He can't stop thinking about them. He thinks that only the teeth can stop him going mad.
- e When the night was falling

7 1 a X b X c ✓ d X

2 a ✓ b ✓ c X d X

3 a ✓ b X c X d X

4 a ✓ b X c X d ✓ e X f X g X

8 1 c 2 c 3 c 4 c

### 9 Example sentences:

- a My father was filled with anger.
- b My friend believes in evil spirits.
- c There was a car accident, and people watched in horror.
- d I will go mad if I have to wait for a long time.

### 10 Open answers

## Progress test key

1 a evil b angry c mad d horror e plaster  
f horror g object h several i axe j cellar

2 1 e 2 c 3 g 4 a 5 f 6 d 7 c

3 a library

b library

c cousins

d bright

e in the library

f several

g object

h felt so sorry for her

i a stranger

j teeth

k bury

l dead

4 1 b 2 c 3 a 4 a 5 b 6 c