

Clarice Bean – Utterly Me

Lauren Child

- 1 I have to
 hop
 downstairs
- 4 because I have only one slipper. Our dog, Cement, buried the other one in the garden and we can't find it.
- 6 It will probably be discovered in a hundred years from now by archaeological diggers who will say it is fascinating and give it to a museum.
- 9 When I get downstairs, the whole kitchen is full of bad mood. Marcie won't talk to Mum and Kurt won't talk to Marcie. Grandad isn't talking to anyone because he hasn't plugged himself into his hearing aid. Minal is talking to me but I wish he wouldn't. Minal is a niggling gnat and I have to have him sleeping in my room. Sometimes when I want to keep him out, I pile lots of gubbins against the door.
- 15 He is five.
- 16 Who would want to share a room with their five-year-old brother? I don't even need a five-year-old brother. I already have one who is a teenager called Kurt and that is enough brothers for anyone.
- 19 Minal is going, "What time did the spider go to the dentist?"
- 20 I don't bother to listen to the answer because it won't be funny.
- 21 I am trying to read
the back of the cereal
packet because there is
a good offer on rubber
pencil-tops.
- 26 Minal is going "Spider
clock! D'ya get it? D'ya
get it? Spider clock!"
- 29 I say "No".



Challenge 2

1 Where is Clarice going at the beginning of the extract?

2 **Find and copy** a word or a group of words that show that the kitchen is not a happy place to be.

3 What does the author mean by saying that Grandad *"hasn't plugged himself into his hearing aid"*?

4 "*Minal is a niggling gnat*".

What do the underlined words tell us about Minal? Tick **one**.

He is a pet insect.

He annoys Clarice.

He hurts Clarice.

He sleeps in Clarice's room.

5 "*I pile lots of gubbins against the door.*"

Suggest a different word the author could have used instead of "*gubbins*".

6 How many brothers does Clarice have?

7 Tick **three** statements that you know are true.

The dog has taken Clarice's slipper.

The family is in the kitchen.

Mum is busy cooking.

Grandad is arguing with Kurt.

Clarice has kept Minal out of her room.

Clarice is reading.

Challenge 2

Write the question number and then answer the questions:

Answers:

