

## 5. The Old House

<sup>1</sup>Everyone always stayed away from the old, red and yellow house on the corner of our block. <sup>2</sup>Some people said that a mean, old woman lived there. <sup>3</sup>Others said that they had seen a man on the porch surrounded by hundreds of cats. <sup>4</sup>Sometimes on the way home from school, my best friend Jason would sneak up to the house, ring the doorbell, and run. <sup>5</sup>Well, one windy day, Jason quietly tiptoed up to the front door and accidentally stepped on a squeaky board on the front porch. <sup>6</sup>He stopped, looked at me, and then took a few more steps toward the doorbell. <sup>7</sup>SWOOSH!!! <sup>8</sup>The screen to the front door swung open and slammed hard against the front wall of the house. <sup>9</sup>Jason froze; he didn't move a muscle. <sup>10</sup>The rest of us ran down the street as fast as our feet could take us.



Circle **T** if you are certain this sentence is true. Circle **F** if you are certain it is false. Circle **U** if it is unknown because you need more information. Add the sentence number on the line that best supports your true or false answer.

1. Jason saw the mean, old woman. T \_\_\_\_, F \_\_\_\_, or U
2. It was a windy day. T \_\_\_\_, F \_\_\_\_, or U
3. The old house is not blue. T \_\_\_\_, F \_\_\_\_, or U

Write the answer on the lines given or circle the letter next to the correct answer(s).

4. Give at least 2 reasons why the door could have swung open.

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5. Which two words best describe Jason's character?
  - a. furious
  - b. disrespectful
  - c. polite
  - d. uncaring

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### ANSWERS

1. U; There is no evidence in the story that Jason ever saw the mean, old woman; in fact, there is no evidence that she even lived at the old house.
2. T; 5
3. T; 1
4. The wind, the old woman, or the man could have opened the door. (Other answers with logical explanations can be acceptable.)
5. b, d