Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Taken from Chapter 3 of Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing by Judy Blume

Unit 1 RL 4.3

Right after I learned to stand on my head Fudge stopped eating. He did it suddenly. One day he ate fine and the next day nothing. “No eat!” he told my mother.

She didn’t pay too much attention to him until the third day. When he still refused to eat she got upset. “You’ve got to eat, Fudgie,” she said. “You want to grow up to be big and strong, don’t you?”

“No grow!” Fudge said.

That night my mother told my father how worried she was about Fudge. So my father did tricks for him while my mother stood over his chair trying to get some food into his mouth. But nothing worked. Not even juggling oranges.

Finally my mother got the brilliant idea of me standing on my head while she fed Fudge. I wasn’t very excited about standing on my head in the kitchen. The floor is awfully hard in there. But my mother begged me. She said, “It’s very important for Fudge to eat. Please help us, Peter.”

So I stood on my head. When Fudge saw me upside down he clapped his hands and laughed. When he laughs he opens his mouth. That’s when my mother stuffed some baked potato into it.

But the next morning I put my foot down. “No! I don’t want to stand on my head in the kitchen. Or anywhere else!” I added, “And if I don’t hurry I’ll be late for school.”

“Don’t you care if your brother starves?”

“No!” I told her.

“Peter! What an awful thing to say.”

“Oh…he’ll eat when he gets hungry. Why don’t you just leave him alone!

That afternoon when I came home from school I found my brother on the kitchen floor playing with boxes of cereals and raisins and dried apricots. My mother was begging him to eat.

1. Part A: In the section above, what can be learned about Peter at the beginning of this chapter?
2. He is angry.
3. He is helpful.
4. He is tired.
5. He is happy.

Part B: Which line from the story best supports the answer to part A?

1. So my father did tricks for him.
2. Don’t you care if your brother starves?
3. Oh he’ll eat when he gets hungry.
4. Please help us!
5. Part A: Which statement best describes Peter at the end of the passage?
6. He is a caring son who wants to help his parents.
7. He is a selfish child that does not want to be bothered.
8. He is frustrated with his mother because she is begging Fudge to eat.
9. He is giving up what he wants to make Fudge happy.

Part B: Which sentence from the story best supports the answer to Part A?

1. Oh…he’ll eat when he gets hungry.
2. Don’t you care if your brother starves?
3. So I stood on my head.
4. What an awful thing to say.
5. Think about the characters Peter and his mother.

Complete the chart by matching the words, thoughts, and actions to the correct character.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Character | Words | | Thoughts | Actions | |
| Peter |  | |  |  | |
| **His mother** |  | |  |  | |
| **Use the following words, thoughts, and actions to complete the chart above.** | | | | | |
| “What an awful thing to say.” | | The floor is awfully hard in there. | | | got the brilliant idea of me standing on my head |
| stood on my head | | “He’ll eat when he gets hungry.” | | | begged |