

Dodge and the Tornado **Answers**

Q1: What kind of creature do you think Dodge is? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

Accept the answer 'dog' provided that evidence from the text is used in support, such as:

- I think Dodge is a dog because it says that he 'raised his front paws' and that he 'landed safely on all fours'. Dogs have paws and four legs.
- Dodge is a dog because the text says that he sniffed the floor and followed the scent, which is something that dogs do.

Q2: 'Strange, he thought. No humans. That was never a good sign.'

Why did Dodge think that seeing no humans was a bad sign?

Accept answers relating to the fact that the humans were purposefully avoiding the area due to something they knew about but Dodge did not, such as:

- Dodge knew that the area was normally busy and it must mean that the humans were hiding from something he did not know about.
- Dodge thought that the humans would only be staying away if something dangerous was about to happen.
- Dodge knew that humans would not go into this area if there was a good reason to stay away so it was a bad sign for him that he was there.

Q3: In which country is this story set?

Accept the answers 'America', 'North America', 'United States of America' or 'USA'.

Q4: Why did Dodge choose to hide underneath the underpass?

Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

Accept answers relating to the fact that Dodge thought that the underpass was strong enough to withstand the tornado, providing that relevant evidence from the text is also provided, such as:

- Dodge thought that the underpass 'was a strong-looking bridge made to carry heavy lorries' so he thought it would be strong enough to withstand the tornado.
- The text says that the underpass was 'made of steel and bricks' and so Dodge knew that it would be strong and stay firm in the storm.

Q5: 'The tornado wasn't that strong... was it?'

By writing in this way, what effect has the author created?

Accept reasonable answers which discuss creating the concept of doubt and suspense, such as:

- **By using a rhetorical question, the author has made the reader question whether or not the tornado was stronger than Dodge thought.**
- **The rhetorical question makes the reader begin to doubt that Dodge is safe beneath the underpass.**
- **This sentence makes the reader question whether or not Dodge is safe so it builds suspense in the story.**

Q6: 'Dodge began to accelerate.'

In this sentence, what does the word accelerate mean?

Accept any reasonable definition of the word accelerate based on its context in the story. The following, and their synonyms, are accepted:

- **speed up**
- **get quicker**
- **hurry**
- **run**

Q7: 'He was relying on his sense of smell now.'

Why did Dodge rely solely on his sense of smell?

Accept answers which discuss that Dodge could not see what he was looking for and smell was his only lead, or answers which discuss that dogs use their sense of smell to track down prey, such as:

- **Dodge relied on his sense of smell because he could not see the source of the noise.**
- **It says that the building was dark so Dodge might not have been able to see but dogs have a good sense of smell so he used that instead.**
- **Dodge was more confident using his good sense of smell because he could not see and could not tell where the noise was coming from.**

Q8: Name two things that Banjo was trapped under.

Accept the following answers only:

- (a heap of fallen) shelves
- (wooden) cabinets

Q9: Do you think Dodge has an owner? Give a reason for your answer.

Accept either yes or no as an answer provided that a reasonable justification based on the text is given in support, e.g.

Yes because:

- He has a blanket and someone who cares for him must have bought that.
- He keeps thinking about someone called Banjo who he cares about.
- Banjo whistles Dodge's 'special tune', which shows they know each other well.
- Dodge was very happy when he saw Banjo and licked his face, showing that they are close.

No because...

- He is living on the streets.
- He does not have a safe place to go inside during the storm.
- Nobody comes looking for him when the storm starts.

Q10: How are Dodge and Banjo similar? Give two reasons.

Accept any feasible similarity mentioned or inferred by the text, including:

- They had both been caught up in the storm.
- They had both been hurt by the tornado / its debris.
- They had both lost each other.
- They both knew the familiar tune.

Q11: What do you think that Dodge did next? Explain your answer.

Accept any reasonable prediction based on the fact that he had found Banjo trapped under debris, such as:

- Dodge might try to pull the shelves and cabinets off Banjo to free him.
- Dodge might bark until someone comes to help.
- Dodge might go off in search of help from a human or another animal.
- Dodge might stay and comfort Banjo until help arrives.

Q12: Sum up the key points of this text in 30 words or less.

Accept any summary of the text, which covers the key points of the tornado and Banjo in 30 words or less, such as:

'During a tornado, a dog called Dodge left the underpass and followed a familiar sound to find his friend Banjo who was trapped under some rubble.'