

Answers

Alien Invasion

1. Why did Voss think she was blind at first?

One mark for answers that refer to:

- **Because everything was black/dark.**
- **She could only see black/space.**
- **She wasn't feeling well after being unconscious/knocked out**

2. What was the bright circle that kept drifting past?

a planet / large blue planet / the planet Earth

3. What do you think Voss was thinking to herself at this point in the story?

One mark for answers that summarise the actions Voss needs to take. E.g.:

- **Needing to blow the Vanguard/ship up**
- **Press the self-destruct button**
(Don't award marks for simply 'destroying/killing the aliens' unless answers qualify it by explaining that Voss's own ship/crew also need to be destroyed)

An extra mark awarded if answers include the emotions/feelings Voss may be experiencing. E.g.:

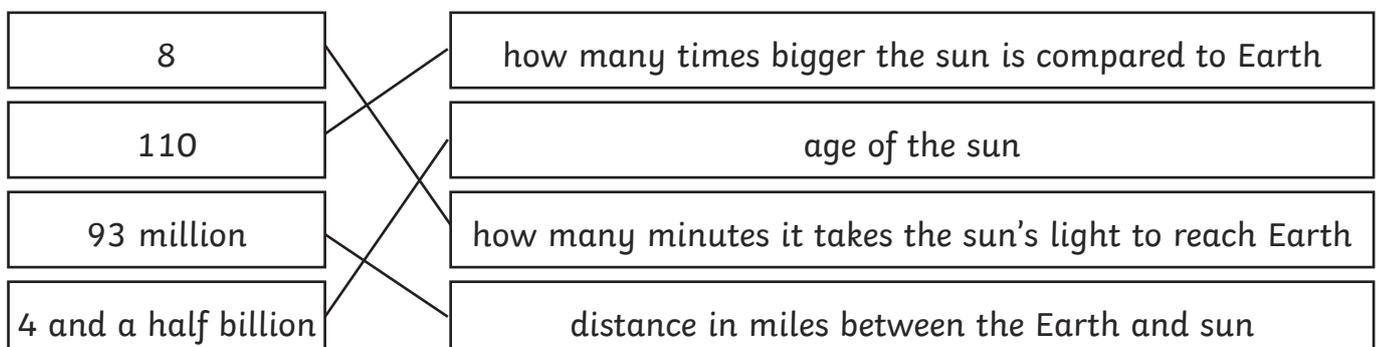
- **Regret, remorse, guilt, responsibility, duty, distress – even blame (or similar).**

4. Why has the author used such technical language for this direct speech?

Award one mark for referring to the author's intent to make the voice/language seem 'computer-like' and not a human voice.

The Watcher

1. Draw three lines to link these numbers to their fact.



2. Why do you think 'The Watcher' was chosen for the poem's title?
Award one mark if the answer refers to the sun watching over people on Earth (or you/me).
3. 'but you turn and sleep at night.'
 Explain what the poem means by this:
Award one mark for an answer that refers to the sun setting, day turning to night, and people sleeping.
Award a further mark if the answer recognises the double meaning of the word 'turn'. E.g.:
- **People tossing and turning in their sleep and Earth turning on its axis (e.g. 'the world is turning away from the sun').**
4. Read the final verse. In your own words, sum up what the poem is saying here:
Award a mark for any of the following (up to a maximum of two marks):
- **One day the sun will die.**
 - **The sun will run out of fuel/hydrogen.**
 - **There will be no light/sunlight.**
 - **Earth/the planet/humans/animals/plants will die (as well as other planets in the solar system).**
 - **For now, the sun is still here/alive/shining/will be here for many more years to come.**

MORNING STAR GIANT HURRICANE FOUND ON SATURN

1. How fast did Cassini travel on its way through the solar system?
77,000 mph
2. How wide is the hurricane that Cassini photographed? Tick two.
- | | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1500 miles | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | the width of Earth | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 77000 miles | <input type="checkbox"/> | the width of the continent of Europe | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
3. '...its latest pictures have sent the space-science community into an intergalactic spin!'
 a) Think about what types of people might make up the space-science community. Write down two of them:
Award one mark for any of the following (maximum 2 marks):
scientists, NASA workers, astronomers, astronauts, cosmologists, science teachers (or any related fields).

b) According to the report, the pictures of the giant hurricane on Saturn have sent them into an 'intergalactic spin'. What do you think it means by this?

Award one mark if the answer refers to the space-science community's excitement: Scientists were feeling excited, ecstatic, elated, delighted, happy, thrilled, amazed (or any related feeling/emotion).

Award an extra mark for recognition of word choice – 'intergalactic' because we're talking about space; 'spin' like a hurricane spins.

4. It took NASA years to build Cassini, then 13 years for it to reach Saturn. Millions of dollars have been spent on it. Imagine you are the Head Scientist at NASA in charge of the Cassini mission. You have been asked to say some words on TV about the photos of the giant hurricane and how you feel about them:

Award one mark for answers that refer to details about the Cassini mission. E.g.:

- **Reference to it being a great scientific step**
- **Details about Cassini's journey**
- **Details/descriptions about the photo**

Award a further mark for answers that refer to feelings/emotions about the mission. E.g.:

- **Relieved/happy that the mission was a success**
- **Relieved/happy that the photos were so good**
- **Amazed/excited by the photos/Cassini**
- **Excited about what Cassini could do next**
- **Thankful to all the people that have worked on it**