

The Blocked Shed

Name _____

Date _____

Read the text carefully and answer every question clearly.

On Saturday morning, Leila and Owen were helping at the school garden sale. Ten minutes before opening, they went to fetch the electric mower from the shed, but the door moved only a few centimetres. A delivery van had reversed too close to the shed, pushing a stack of empty compost bags against the outside of the door.

Owen pulled the handle harder. Through the gap, Leila saw a shelf shaking above the mower. "Stop," she said. If the door opened suddenly, the tools on the shelf might fall. She switched off the mower at the wall, kept everyone back and asked Mr Lewis, the caretaker, for help.

They walked round the building together. From behind a low fence, they could see the bags blocking the door. Mr Lewis unlocked the garden gate, and the three of them moved the light bags away, one at a time. Then he checked that the shelf was steady before opening the shed fully.

The sale began five minutes late, but the paths were soon neat and clear. Owen tied the bags securely beside the gate, where the wind could not scatter them. When the first visitors arrived, Leila was already guiding them towards the plants.

Comprehension questions

1. Why would the shed door open only a few centimetres?

2. What safe actions did Leila take after she noticed the shelf shaking?

Reflection questions

1. What does Leila's decision to stop Owen suggest about how she responds when a simple task becomes risky?

Opinion questions

1. Do you think Leila was right to delay the garden sale by asking Mr Lewis for help? Explain your view using the event in the story.
