

'Matilda' Comprehension

Use the text to help you answer the questions below.

💡 If you see a light bulb next to the question, you will need to think about your own thoughts or opinions, based on what you have read.

1. What does Dahl think is wrong with parents these days?

They think their children are wonderful even when they are disgusting little blisters.

2. Which word on p.2 tells you that Dahl thinks teachers have to put up with a lot from these parents?

Suffer

3. Why does Dahl hope Maximilian's parents have a family business?

Because he doesn't think he'll ever get a job without one - 'he sure as heck won't get a job anywhere else!'

4. What was wrong with Mr and Mrs Wormwood's opinion of their children, particularly Matilda?

They didn't take any interest in their children at all - they regarded Matilda as a scab that they can eventually pick off and flick away.

5. Which adjectives does Dahl use to describe Matilda on p.4?

Sensitive and brilliant

6. What does the word 'applauding' mean?

Giving a virtual round of applause.

💡 7. How do you think Matilda feels when her dad tells her she's getting spoiled?

Appropriate answers, e.g. Matilda probably feels angry that her dad said that because she isn't spoiled. She is also disappointed that he won't buy her a book because she enjoys that more than watching television programmes.

8. Where does Mrs Wormwood go each afternoon?

To play bingo



9. Does Mrs Phelps believe that Matilda has actually read the children's books? Use evidence from the text to support your answers.

No because she suggests that she's just looked at the pictures.

10. Why is Mrs Phelps concerned about Matilda's safety?

She doesn't think she should be coming to the library without a parent, particularly as she has to cross a busy road.

