



Entry Level 3 Literacy

Monsters are Real

Swerving as he sped back to the lab in his black Jaguar, Jacob's mind was full of questions. Did he switch on the containment grid? Were the radiation doors closed? Were they completely sealed? And, of course, the biggest question of all: how could the creature have escaped? The facility was supposed to be escape-proof! Well, not anymore, thought Jacob.

The Space and Science Institute had long held a great secret from the people of the world: that the meteorite which had smashed into the New Mexico desert on July 4th 1994 (leaving a crater the size of a house) contained something much more interesting than the interstellar ice and rock that the newspapers reported. In fact, it contained the remains of a ship and within its wreckage, a living being: an alien life form.

Jacob had studied the alien for many years. It was intelligent, but it was also deadly. It was as strong as ten men and had telepathic powers. Its eyes were black, like a shark's, and it only had one aim: to escape.

What would it do? Where would it go? Jacob shuddered to think.

As he arrived at the gates of the Institute, he slammed on the brakes. The car skidded to a halt. The gates had been ripped open, as if by someone's bare hands. Jacob knew it was him.

He looked up at the Space and Science Institute. There were strange lights coming from inside. He realised that they weren't

lights at all, but flames. Suddenly there was a flash, and a huge explosion. Jacob fell to the ground. The whole building had blown up! There was rubble, paper and dust everywhere.

Jacob knew, however, that there was no time to worry about that, he had to find the creature, before it was too late.

The tracks led him back to town. He followed in the car, but thought he might be better on foot. He got out of the Jag and started to run, following the tracks through the bushes. It was dark and Jacob had no torch.

'What will I do if I find it?' he thought to himself. What he didn't know was that luck was on his side.

As he approached the top of a small hill, he heard something. It was a low growling sound. Just over the hill the alien was resting. It must have been tired after everything that had happened.

Now was his chance. He ran back to the car and brought a length of rope. He quickly made a lasso and went back to capture the creature.

As he returned, the creature had awakened. He only had one chance. He spun the rope around a few times and threw it over the alien's head and neck. He pulled as hard as he could and tied the other end to a nearby tree.

The alien screamed with rage. He thought he was free but now he was a prisoner again.

Just as Jacob was about to call for back up, a strange thing happened. The alien spoke.

'Human,' he growled, 'why must you keep me prisoner? Let me return to my people, they have come for me.' He pointed to the sky and what looked like another ship.

Jacob saw that the terrifying creature was actually sad and lonely and simply wanted to return home.

'Of course,' said Jacob. 'We have been wrong to keep you here against your will.'

'Thank you,' said the creature. 'Please do not think of us as evil creatures, we only wanted to learn about your planet.'

'What have you learned?' asked Jacob.

'We have learned that you are not ready to trust alien visitors just as you do not trust each other.'

'It's true,' said Jacob.

'Goodbye,' said the creature, 'perhaps we will return in a thousand years when mankind may be ready for us.'

'I hope so,' said Jacob.

The alien ship had landed and the alien disappeared inside.

'Maybe we were the real monsters, not the alien,' thought Jacob.

Name_____ Date_____

QUESTIONS

A. Answer these questions in sentences.

1. What was the man's name?
2. Where did he work?
3. What kind of car did he drive?
4. What had escaped?
5. What happened to the building?
6. How did Jacob catch the alien?
7. What strange thing happened next?
8. What do you think is the moral of the story?
9. Can you think of another title for this story?

Name _____ Date _____

QUESTIONS

B. Write some sentences using each of the words below.

Remember, a sentence should begin with a *capital letter* and end with a *full stop*.

dangerous	open	painless
perfect	helpful	tiger
December	green	independent

C. Put these words into *alphabetical order*.

great	journey	sausage	tickle	effort	pipe
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D. Look up these words in the *dictionary* and write down their *meanings*.

serious	pumpkin	fable	vole	snowdrop	wince
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