

Q1.

# CATALOGUE CATS



"Would you boys like to plant gardens?" my father said.

"Yes," we said.

"Good!" said my father. "I'll order a catalogue."

So it was settled. But afterwards, Huey said to me, "What's a catalogue?"

"A catalogue," I said, "is where cats come from. It's a big book full of pictures of hundreds and hundreds of cats.

And when you open it up, all the cats jump out and start running around."

"I don't believe you," Huey said.

"It's true," I said. "You open the catalogue, and the cats jump out. Then they run outside and work in the garden. White cats dig up the ground with their claws. Black cats brush the ground smooth with their tails. Yellow and brown cats roll on the seeds and push them underground so they can grow."

"I don't believe you," Huey said. "Cats don't act like that."

"Of course," I said, "ordinary cats don't act like that. That's why you have to get them specially - catalogue cats."

"Really?" Huey said. "Really," I said.

"I wonder when the catalogue will come."

"Soon," I said.



The next morning Huey woke me up. "I dreamed about the catalogue cats!" he said. "Only in my dream the yellow and brown ones were washing the windows and painting the house! You don't suppose they could do that, do you?"

"No, they can't do that, Huey," I said. "They don't have a way to hold rags and paintbrushes."

"I suppose not," Huey said.

Every day Huey asked my father if the catalogue had come.

"Not yet," my father kept saying. He was very pleased that Huey was so interested in the garden.

Two weeks went by.

"Well, Huey and Julian," my father said, "today is the big day. The catalogue is here."

"The catalogue is here! The catalogue is here! The catalogue is here!" Huey said. He was dancing and twirling around.



I was thinking about going somewhere else.

"What's the matter, Julian?" my father said. "Don't you want to see the catalogue?"

"Oh, yes, I - want to see it," I said. "Open it!" Huey said.

My father opened the catalogue.

Inside were bright pictures of flowers and vegetables.

The catalogue company would send you the seeds, and you could grow the flowers and vegetables.

Huey started turning the pages faster and faster. "Where are the cats? Where are the cats?" he kept saying.

"What cats?" my father said. Huey started to cry.

My father looked at me. "Julian," he said, "please tell me what is going on."



"Huey thought catalogues were books with cats in them. Catalogue cats," I said.

Huey sobbed. "Julian told me! Special cats - cats that work in gardens!"

"Julian!" said my father.

"Yes," I said. When my father's voice gets loud, mine gets so small I can only whisper.

"Julian," my father said, "didn't you tell Huey that the catalogue cats are invisible?"

"No," I said.

"Julian told me they jump out of catalogues! He said they jump out and work in gardens. As soon as you get the catalogue, they go to work."

"Well," said my father, "that's very ignorant. Julian has never had a garden before in his life. I wouldn't trust a person who has never had a garden in his life to tell me about catalogue cats. Would you?"

"No," Huey said slowly. He was still crying a little. "Now, listen to me," my father said.

Huey blew his nose and sat up straight on the couch. I sat back and tried to be as small as I could.



"First of all," said my father, "a lot of people have wasted a lot of time trying to see catalogue cats. It's a waste of time because catalogue cats are the fastest animals alive.



"Catalogue cats love gardens, and they love to work in gardens.

However, they will only do half the work. If they are in the garden where people don't do any work, the catalogue cats will not do any work either. But if they are in a garden where people work hard, all the work will go twice as fast because of the catalogue cats."

## Q2.

1. Circle the correct option to complete the sentence.

(a) Julian and Huey were asked if they would like to

plant a garden

order a catalogue

buy a cat

paint the house

1 mark

(b) Finally, the catalogue arrived. When Huey could not find the cats he

danced  
and twirled

began  
to cry

whispered  
to Julian

sat up  
straight

1 mark

(c) whilst Julian, on the other hand, felt rather

pleased

worried

glad

angry

1 mark

(d) Their father realised that Julian had

hit

tricked

shouted at

whispered to

his brother Huey.

1 mark

(e) When his father's voice got louder, Julian's voice got

louder

deeper

higher

quieter

1 mark

(f) Their father told Huey that catalogue cats

are hard to see

do all the work

are easy to see

do little work

because they are the fastest animals alive.

1 mark

(g) However, catalogue cats only work in gardens when the work is

easy

fast

hard

shared

1 mark

2. Why did Julian's father order a catalogue?

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1 mark

3. What did Julian tell Huey a catalogue is?

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1 mark

4. What did Julian tell Huey about the catalogue cats?  
Join the boxes to complete the sentences.

White cats	roll on the seeds and push them underground.
Black cats	brush the ground smooth with their tails.
Yellow and brown cats	dig up the ground with their claws.

1 mark

5. Huey was very excited when the catalogue arrived.  
Find and copy the words which tell you what he did to show his excitement.

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1 mark

6. Why do you think Julian told Huey that there were catalogue cats?

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3 marks

7. *'Huey... sat up straight on the couch. I sat back and tried to be as small as I could.'*

Explain why Julian tried to make himself small.

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3 marks

8. Why do you think their father said that catalogue cats only do half the work in the garden?

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2 marks

9. What sort of people do you think would like this story?

Tick **one**.

people who like cats

people who like jokes

people who like gardens

Explain your answer using parts of the story to help you.

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1 mark

## Mark schemes

### Q2.

1. Award **1 mark** for **each** correct choice.

- (a) plant a garden
- (b) began to cry
- (c) worried
- (d) tricked
- (e) quieter
- (f) are hard to see
- (g) shared

**up to 7 marks**

2. Award **1 mark** for answers which refer to their intention to plant a garden, eg:

- *he ordered a catalogue so that he could get some plant seeds so they would know how to plant a garden*
- *because both boys wanted to help him plant things in the garden*

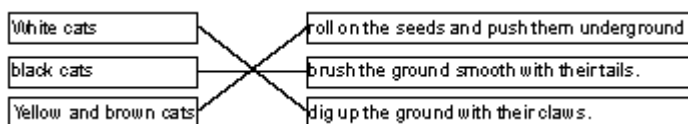
**1 mark**

3. Award **1 mark** for answers which refer to it being something that contains cats, eg:

- *a book where cats jump out*
- *a big book full of pictures of cats*
- *a thing which cats come from*

**1 mark**

4. Award **1 mark** if **ALL THREE** of the following are correct (up to a maximum of **1 mark**):



**1 mark**

5. Award **1 mark** for dancing and twirling (around).

Minor mistakes in copying can be accepted.

**1 mark**

6. Award **3 marks** for full answers which plausibly describe Julian's character and relationship with Huey, eg:

- *because he liked the idea of cats jumping out of a catalogue and thought it would be a good joke*
- *I think Julian told Huey there were catalogue cats so that Huey would get excited for nothing and just end up crying*
- *because when his dad said the word catalogue, he thought he would trick his brother to get his own back on something*

Award **2 marks** for answers which refer to Julian's character or his relationship with Huey, but without a full explanation, eg:

- *I think Julian told Huey that there were catalogue cats because he didn't know any better*
- *Julian thought it would be funny to play a trick*

Award **1 mark** for answers which give some plausible information about Julian's or Huey's character or motivation, eg:

- *to have a bit of fun*
- *Julian was naughty*
- *so Huey would get excited*
- *because 'catalogue' starts with 'cat'*

**up to 3 marks**

7. Award **3 marks** if the answer refers to Julian's situation in that his trick has been revealed to his father and, because he does not know how his father is going to react, he wants to avoid any more attention from him, eg:

- *because he had tricked Huey and made him cry so he thought his dad would be cross*
- *Julian tried to be small because he didn't want his father to notice him and he didn't want to get into trouble about the trick*

Award **2 marks** for answers which refer to Julian's apprehensiveness about his father's reaction, without explaining it fully, eg:

- *he was worried in case his father was mad at him*
- *because he was scared he would be told off*

Award **1 mark** for answers which describe Julian's feelings without relating them to the events of the story, or which relate to the events but do not describe his feelings, eg:

- *he was frightened*
- *he felt guilty*
- *he tried not to be noticed*
- *because of the trick*

**up to 3 marks**

8. Award **2 marks** if the answer shows an understanding of how this idea continues the trick and implies that they will have to do their share of the work in the garden as well, eg:

- *I think their dad knew he was lying but he wanted them to help plant the garden*
- *because Huey and Julian would have to do all the work or the work would not get done at all*

Award **1 mark** for answers indicating that the boys would have to do their share of the work, or that their father was continuing the trick, eg:

- *because then he could make the boys do some work as well otherwise they would be lazy and let the cats do all the work so that Huey didn't cry any more*

**Not acceptable:** answers which are just paraphrases of the question., eg:

- *the catalogue cats don't do all the work*

**up to 2 marks**

9. Award **1 mark** for answers in which the opinion is supported by reference to an aspect(s) of the story or its overall plot and an explanation of its relevance is given, eg:

- *people who like cats - because of the cats being almost humorous. Plus because of the joke about the catalogue cats.*
- *people who like jokes - because Julian plays a trick on Huey and people who like jokes might think it was funny*
- *people who like gardens - because they wanted to plant a garden and the story is all about the catalogue their dad got to buy some seeds*

(If more than one box has been ticked and supporting opinion given, award 1 mark.)

**Not acceptable:**

- *people who like cats - because it is about cats  
(because there is no reference to the story)*

**1 mark**