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| **Question Template for Readers Cup 2023****Title of Book: The Ministry of Unladylike Activity Author: Robin Stevens** **Illustrator:**  |
|  Question Answer Page No. Points |
| 1 | What did May place in her gas-mask case other than some sweets when she ran away from the school? You will need to list two items for full marks. | a manual about air raids, extra shoelaces, a London A-Z, a small torch and a spare pair of knickers. | 9 | 2 (I for each of 2 items) |
| 2 | When getting out of London at the beginning of their first mission, what did May and Eric have to do? What was the name of the place they went to? | They had to pretend to be evacuees (1 point) and they went to the Rest Centre (1 point) | 23 | 2 |
| 3 | Why do Fionnuala (Fin-noo-la)’s grandparents insist on calling her Fiona? Why is she living with her grandparents?  | Her grandparents don’t want to accept that she is part Irish and not all English. (1 point) Her father had died (1 point). | 39 | 2 |
| 4 | Why did May want to go to Elysium Hall? | She found a note in her sister Hazel’s handbag with the name of 3 places and a message that suggested something about the war was happening.  | 21-22 |  |
| 5 | What was Sidney doing that made his mother and father angry? | He was listening to a radio program (1 point) which was being broadcast in German and was about the war. (either for 1 point) | 66 | 2 |
| 6 | What type of party did Sidney organise? Why did May and Fiona get upset when they saw their costumes? What game did Sidney suggest they play? | He organised a Fancy Dress party. (1/2 point) Both May and Fiona came dressed as pirate queens. (1 point)They were playing Murder in the Dark. (1/2 point) | 85/92 | 2 |
| 7 | What was Neil Verey’s occupation before the war? Why did he come to Elysium Hall? | He was a ghost hunter. (1 Point) he had heard that there was a ghost which he believed was his brother Leonard. (1 point) | 78-80 | 2 |
| 8 | What did Fiona think May and Eric were? When May and Eric told Fiona their story, what did May say she was before she became a spy? | She thought they were German spies. (1 point) May said she was a detective. (1 point) | 117-119 | 2 |
| 9 | What was Eric trying to do when he tripped over Sidney’s body? Why was May worried that this item would be found? | He was trying to get his father’s watch back. (1) It had Eric’s father’s name in German engraved on it and not the false name Eric had given the Veseys. (1) | 126 | 2 |
| 10 | What was stolen from the study? What is the importance of the theft? | Hugh’s papers/documents. (1) The papers were classified plans of his factory which was making parts to help in the war. (1) | 147/151 | 2 |
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| 11 | What did Neil decide to do to help solve the murder of his half-brother Sidney? What clue did Fiona/Nuala reveal that made them realise the murder had been staged? | He decided to hold a séance. (1) She realised that the rug which Sidney had been lying on was clean and it should have been muddy if the thief had come in form outside. (1) | 164/167 | 2 |
| 12 | What discovery did the children make at the abandoned cottage? | Someone had been living there and it was likely he was a soldier because of the khaki bedroll. (2) | 173-177 | 2  |
| 13 | What did Ruth see May and Fiona do? | She saw May drop the notebook from the bathroom window that Fiona had passed to her earlier from the policeman’s jacket. | 202/203 |  |
| 14 | How did Fiona/Nuala know that Granny could not have committed the crime. | She was knitting a scarf and she had completed one stripe which took 20 minutes. The stripe she started before the lights went out was completed and marked with blood meaning she had been knitting the whole time. | 220 |  |
| 15 | Why did the children look in the well and what was there? | Annabelle Olivia said she saw the ghost by the old well. The missing papers were in there. | 226/228 |  |
| 16 | Who was the person hiding in the abandoned hut? How did May escape form Mr Scott? | It was Clarence, Mr Scott’s son. Fiona pretended she was Mrs Verey and got him to send May out. | 262/264 |  |
| 17 | What did Nuala/Fiona give Eric that may described as something that used to be an ordinary part of their life was rare now. Who was the person behind the hauntings? | A bar of chocolate. Ruth. | 270 |  |
| 18 | What did the children find in the bedroom? What did Nuala do to recreate the murder scene? | They found the murder weapon, a bed knob. She made a paper set of all the rooms in the house as well as paper people. | 272279 |  |
| 19 | What embarrassing thing did Nuala do at the second crime scene? Who was May’s surprise visitor? | She fainted.Daisy Wells. | 309327 |  |
| 20 | Why did Eric say they suspected Pamela Very of Sidney’s murder? What was it about both Ruth and Neil that made the children suspicious of them. | They found her hairgrip by the desk and she said she had not been in the study. They both knew how to create illusions (as seen in the séance). | 356369 |  |