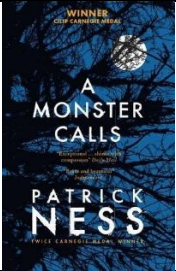





# A Monster Calls – Comprehension Questions

## ANSWERS

	<p>I can recall information, infer and predict using evidence from the texts. I can explain how the author creates meaning from word choices and phrases and identify word meanings in context. I can make links between what I have read across different paragraphs. I can sequence main events and summarise the main ideas from across the text. I can use my own opinions.</p>
<p><b>Title/author:</b> <b>Genre:</b></p>	<p>'A Monster Calls' by Patrick Ness Horror/Fantasy</p>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Find out the meaning of these words from the text: uppermost; revealed; clenching. <b>Dictionary definition: uppermost – highest in place or importance; revealed – to make something known, show something was hidden; clenching – to close something tightly</b></li> <li>Find and copy <b>two similes</b> that describe the movement of the wood on page 19. <b>...groaning like a living thing, like the hungry stomach of the world growling for a meal.</b></li> <li>Find and copy a phrase on page 19 that shows Conor is scared. <b>...his heart thumping</b></li> <li>Why has the author used the words 'something' and 'someone' to refer to what had woken Conor. <b>Whatever has woken Conor is an unknown thing at this point in the story and these are general terms used to refer to a noun.</b></li> </ol>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What is the importance of 12:07? <b>This is the time that he woke up and it is just after midnight which links to the first sentence of the chapter.</b></li> <li>Why do you think Conor's name is written in italics? <b>The italics shows that Conor's name is spoken by something the reader doesn't know yet. It also makes it clear within the text that his name is being called repeatedly.</b></li> <li>What do you think is meant by the second sentence of the chapter: 'As they do'? <b>It suggests that monsters often come visiting dreams late at night.</b></li> <li>Why do you think the ancient yew tree in the graveyard turned into the monster? <b>It is used as a metaphor for the monster and from an early age Conor was warned by his mother not to eat the berries from the tree as they are poisonous.</b></li> </ol>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Why do you think the monster has visited Conor? <b>The monster has visited because there is something that he wants from Conor and he wants to scare him.</b></li> <li>What do you think the monster represents to Conor? <b>The monster could represent Conor's worst nightmare – his mum dying.</b></li> <li>What do you think is going to happen in chapter two? Explain your answer and give reasons for your prediction. <b>We will hopefully find out if the monster visiting was a dream or not and what happens to Conor after the monster has left.</b></li> </ol>



12. Explain why Conor was not scared of the monster. **Conor wasn't scared of the monster because he says 'No, not of you, anyway.'** This suggests that there is something worse happening to Conor that he **IS** scared of (i.e. his mum dying).

13. Explain how the monster reacted to Conor not being scared. **The monster was furious – it roared and pounded its fists against Conor's house. It picked up Conor and put him near his mouth.**

14. Explain why Conor refers to his nightmare as **THE** nightmare. **He refers to the nightmare as THE because it is something that happens over and over again, so it isn't any old nightmare, it is a recurring one.**



15. How old is Conor and which month is his birthday? **Conor is 13 and his birthday is in September – it mentions that it is October and that his birthday was 'last month'.**

16. Find and copy three words that describe Conor's nightmare. **Three words that describe Conor's nightmare are: darkness, wind, screaming.**

17. Find and copy as much information as you can about Conor's dad. **Conor's dad doesn't live with him and his mum because he lives in America and rings him fortnightly (mostly).**



18. Summarise what Conor could see from his bedroom window before the monster appeared. **Conor could see the pale moon, the church tower on a hill, the graveyard and tombstones next to the church and the ancient yew tree in the centre of the graveyard.**

19. Summarise the main points of chapter one in **two or three sentences**. **Conor wakes from a nightmare, noise wakes him, monster from the yew tree calls his name and comes to his house, Conor not scared of the monster so the monster picks him up ready to eat him.**

20. Draw a picture of the monster using the description on pages 19 and 20. **A detailed picture based on the information in the text.**