Comprehension Questions - Chapter 5

The children enter the warmth and safety of Hepzibah Green’s kitchen where they see Albert Sandwich. The gobbling noise was made by Mister Johnny Gotobed who has difficulty talking. Nick soon makes friends with him. When they fetch the goose together, Albert tells Carrie what he has learnt about the house and family. He shows her a skull and asks Hepzibah to tell the story of the curse that goes with it. Mister Johnny walks the children part of the way home. Having seen how lovely it was at Druid’s Bottom, the Evans’ house seems much bleaker.

**Orange book cover, cover with a house on fire, cover with just a girl’s face.**

1. What does Albert mean when he says that Hepzibah is a witch? (Page 61/67/49)

2. Why is Carrie jealous of Nick? (Page 68/76/54)

3. On the second page of chapter 5, the author writes some of the words in italics. Choose one and explain why the author has done this.

4. What evidence is there, in chapter 5, that food is plentiful at Druid’s Bottom?

5. Why does Albert Sandwich think the story of the African boy is untrue? (Page 63/70/50)

6. Why does Carrie refer to Albert as ‘Albert Clever Sandwich’? (Page 68/75/54)

7. What differences between Carrie and Albert do we learn in this chapter?

**Answers**

1. He means that she is a wise woman.
2. She jealous because she wishes that she is on Hepzibah’s lap and because she knew that she would never be able to comfort Nick as well as Hepzibah.
3. Eg. *Slow –* to emphasise Carrie’s need for the woman to hurry up and shut the door.
4. There was a dairy in the house that contained a goose; speckly eggs in trays; slabs of pale, oozy butter; and a big bowl of milk. Also, on page…, it says that there was a huge plate of mince pies; a tall jug of milk; pink ham; and slices of bread.
5. He thinks it’s untrue because it had 16 teeth in its top jaw meaning its wisdom teeth must have come through. As you don’t get wisdom teeth till at least 18, it couldn’t be a child’s. Also, the sutures have joined up so couldn’t have been a child.
6. She calls him this because he’s using his knowledge to determine that the skull isn’t a child’s rather than listening to an old story.
7. We know that Albert is very knowledgeable. He reads lots of books and likes to be right. He’s not interested in stories that possibly aren’t true. Carrie, on the other hand, likes the story behind the skull. She’s not particularly interested in reading and thinks the library is boring.