

Year 8 Learn Sheet

From *Stone Cold* by Robert Swindells

If you think sleeping rough's just a matter of finding a dry spot where the fuzz won't move you on and getting your head down, you're wrong. Not your fault of course - if you've never tried it you've no way of knowing what it's like, so what I thought I'd do was sort of talk you through a typical night. That night in the Vaudeville alcove won't do, because there were two of us and it's worse if you're by yourself. So you pick your spot. Wherever it is (unless you're in a squat or a derelict house or something) it's going to have a floor of stone, tile, concrete or brick. In other words it's going to be hard and cold. It might be a bit cramped, too - shop doorways often are. And remember, if it's winter you're going to be half frozen before you even start. Anyway you've got your place, and if you're lucky enough to have a sleeping bag you unroll it and get in. Settled for the night? Well maybe, maybe not. Remember my first night? The Scouser? 'Course you do. He kicked me out of my bedroom and pinched my watch. Well, that sort of thing can happen any night, and there are worse things. You could be peed on by a drunk or a dog. Happens all the time - one man's bedroom is another man's lavatory.

1. *What do you learn about the speaker?*

A. *He is homeless* B. *He is a writer* C. *He is crying* D. *He is tall*

2. *How would you describe his night on the streets?*

A. *Snowy* B. *Uncomfortable* C. *Relaxed* D. *Exciting*

3. *What type of questions are used throughout?*

A. *Simple* B. *Complex* C. *Rhetorical* D. *Minor*

Tasks:

⇒ Make your own multiple choice quiz using this extract and try to answer all of the questions.

⇒ What impression do you get of the narrator? Read and annotate carefully.

⇒ Label word classes