

A STRANGER FROM AFAR

Melissa had just woken up from a dream where she climbed up a towering ladder, and went through a bright, round portal. In her dream, that portal looked a lot like the window in her attic. Melissa decided to go investigate. As she opened her attic window, Melissa felt a crisp breeze brush against her face. This was different from the sweltering August weather she was used to. When she looked outside, she noticed that what she saw was not her world. It was somewhere else. This place seemed so familiar, but Melissa was unable to remember this strange land that was visible before her.

Melissa went back to her bedroom and grabbed her backpack. She filled it with supplies and cautiously crawled through the chilly gateway. When she made it to the other side of the portal, she realized that it was the exact same place as her favorite anime. This was the world of Sanichi.

Melissa opened her backpack and pulled out the latest comic book issue from the Sanichi anime series. It was called; "A Stranger from Afar". When she turned to the first page, she could see an animation of herself reading the same comic. She started to flip through the pages, and in the middle of the story, she saw a humongous, orange-colored monster. In the distance, she could hear something growl coupled with lumbering footsteps that were getting closer and closer. A gripping feeling of dread ran throughout Melissa's body, and she hurriedly went back through the portal and shut the window tightly.

Melissa fell onto her hands and knees, closed her eyes, and took a few labored breaths. When she was able to compose herself, Melissa peered through the attic window. Once again, Melissa closed her eyes, but this time she sighed with relief and stood up. What she saw were her parents in her front yard. They waved to her and signaled for her to come to join them. Melissa was safely back home.



1. What is the meaning of the word *sweltering* as it is used in the text?

- a. Chilly
- b. Uncomfortably cold
- c. Uncomfortably hot
- d. Breezy

2. Which detail BEST supports the answer to #1?

- a. Crisp breeze
- b. August weather
- c. Attic window
- d. Looked outside

3. What is the meaning of the word *lumbering* as it is used in the text?

- a. Moving in a quick, light way
- b. Moving in a slow, heavy way
- c. Being extremely loud
- d. Being extremely quiet

4. Which detail BEST supports your answer to #3?

- a. humongous, orange-colored monster
- b. could hear something growl
- c. gripping feeling of dread
- d. hurriedly went back through

5. Which phrase creates a fearful tone in the text?

- a. What she saw was not her world
- b. Strange land
- c. Cautiously crawled through
- d. Gripping feeling of dread

KEY**A STRANGER FROM AFAR**

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