

READING 3

You are going to read an article containing reviews of ghost stories. For questions 16–25, choose from the reviews (A – F). The reviews may be chosen more than once. **Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet.**

READS TO SEND A SHIVER DOWN YOUR SPINE

Some recommendations from the latest children's ghost story books

A

Half-Minute Horrors is a collection of instant frights from great authors like Neil Gaiman and James Patterson. Over seventy stories will show you just how scared you can get in just thirty seconds. You'll never look at everyday objects, your pet or even your own reflection in the mirror again without being afraid. This innovative format, where the stories can be a paragraph or just a page long, is full of surprises which make these stories eerily creepy.

B

Ghost Cat and Other Spooky Tales by James Preller goes to show that even young readers love to feel goose bumps rise on their arms. These five stories about scary houses, imaginary friends, and a dead cat that still lurks around the house are perfect for young kids. The format of small pages that has large letters is perfect for self-reading. Just remind kids to dim the lights before they start.

C

The three volume collection of *Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark* by Alvin Schwartz is full of thrill and chills. Draw the blinds before you crack these volumes open and delve into the collection of things that go bump in the night. The books are cleverly divided into different sections like jump stories (to make friends jump) or what's going on here? Each volume is wonderfully documented as readers are given notes at the end of each book. Additional reading material is also suggested for the more curious child.

D

Ghostly Holler-Day is an exciting and charming ghost story for the youngest crowd. The familiar scenario of a group holiday is turned upside down when it's the ghosts themselves who are being haunted. The wonderful characters are delightfully portrayed and the haunted Frighten Pier, a fun fair and a mysterious phantom magician will make the reader wonder if the story will end in spooky fun or in devilish disaster until the end.

E

The next book is the beautifully illustrated collection of stories under the title *Mostly Ghostly*, adapted by Steven Zorn. These eight classic stories about roaming ghosts, haunted places, horrible events and unsolved mysteries are a reminder of how good an old-fashioned tale of terror is. An extra large size, it's fabulous to use this to read together as these stories also have a few chuckles included to remind readers that it's fun to be frightened.

F

And finally Roald Dahl's *Book of Ghost Stories* is geared towards a more teenage audience. According to Dahl, the best ghost stories don't have ghosts in them, you simply feel one brushing past you as you read the text. These fourteen stories do just that, the reader is made aware of a ghost's presence by subtle means. Most of the stories are from little known writers who tap into the reader's innermost fears. This gripping page turner is sure to be one of the scariest collections around.

In which review are the following mentioned?

Sources are provided for the readers

Extra reading material is listed in the book

The characters are not ghosts

The lighter side of ghost stories comes through

An original and effective format in storytelling

The complete set of works

You can also have a laugh while reading

Maintains the suspense until the last page

Easy for children to read it themselves

Stories which include pictures for the reader

Perfect for an older crowd

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