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# The Mystery of the Grand Bazaar

The Grand Bazaar in Istanbul was packed with vibrant stalls and busy inhabitants. The air was filled with delicious aromas, and the streets were alive with the noise of merchants calling out to passers-by.

Among the hustle and bustle, a young man named Zeyd was racing through the Bazaar. He darted nimbly through the crowds. He had a job to accomplish.

Zeyd skipped between pots, jumped over sleeping dogs, and sprinted around pieces of opulent furniture, the whole time gripping tightly to a delivery.

He stopped outside a rug stall. “Here you are, Akel,” panted Zeyd, handing over the parcel from the food market.

Every day, Zeyd helped the merchants of the Bazaar. He would dart from one end of the market to the other, through all sixty-four streets, collecting packages or trading goods. In return, Zeyd would receive breakfast, lunch and supper; sometimes, he was even given blankets or clothing. Once, a generous merchant gave him a precious jewel! But, since Zeyd saw no point in trinkets, he traded the jewel for his favourite pastry, baklava.

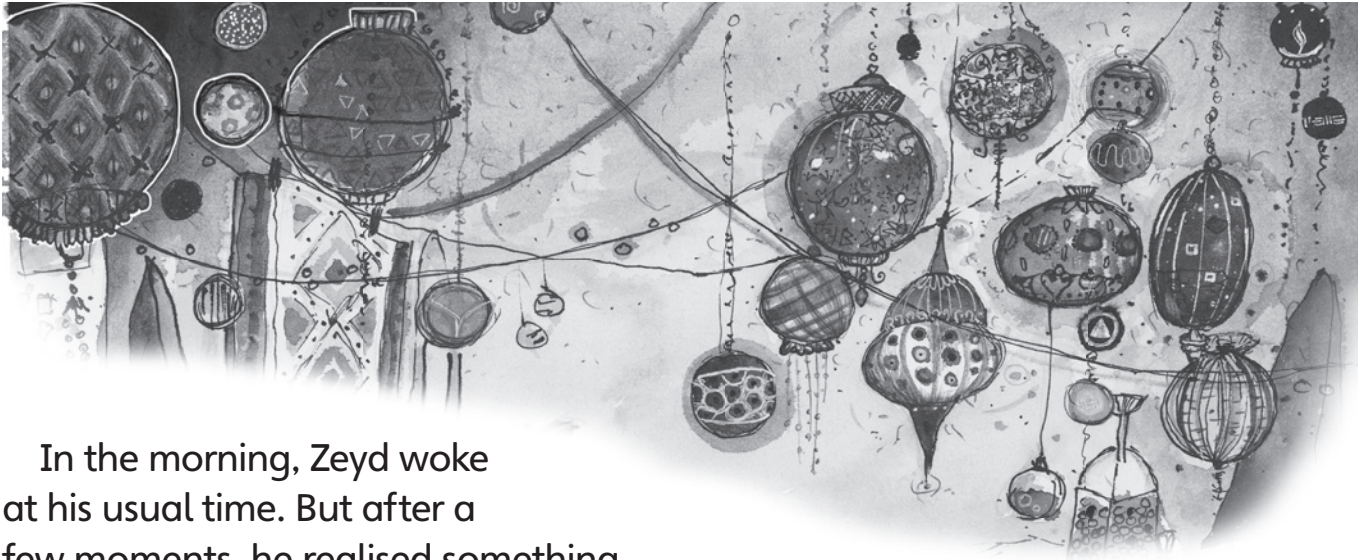
Zeyd stayed for dinner at Akel’s, and it was getting late by the time he left. As he walked home, he was startled by a rustling noise coming from within a stack of rugs. Inquisitively, he lifted one of the rugs and peered underneath. He fell back, surprised, as Bahir the monkey jumped from the pile of rugs.

“Are you lost, Bahir?” Zeyd knelt down and the monkey jumped on to his shoulder. The two of them walked on.

Suddenly, a gentleman raced up to them. He was dripping in gold-coloured cloth with hand-stitched detailing. His arms and neck were adorned with fine trinkets. Zeyd immediately recognised him as Jorim, the powerful jewellery merchant.

“Bahir! There you are, you silly monkey!” Bahir leapt into Jorim’s arms. “Thank you, young Zeyd. Have this,” he said, offering Zeyd a gold coin.

Zeyd shook his head. “Think nothing of it,” he said contentedly. Coins meant nothing to Zeyd. He walked home to his little room located above one of the market stands.



In the morning, Zeyd woke at his usual time. But after a few moments, he realised something was different. It was silent. Zeyd wondered why he couldn't hear merchants chattering, children playing or donkeys braying. Quickly, he ran downstairs into the Bazaar but it was deserted. Everything was quiet, the stalls were closed and no one could be seen in the streets. It wasn't until he reached the Street of Food that people began to appear. As he moved forward, the crowd got bigger. Zeyd pushed his way through to find out what was causing the commotion.

Jorim was standing at the front of the group of people. "Who among us is a thief?" he boomed above the hubbub of concerned merchants. "Last night, someone stole from Akel, the rug merchant. Until the thief confesses to the crime, the Bazaar will remain closed!" The merchants surrounding him were furious – no one had ever stolen anything from the Bazaar before.

Zeyd spotted Akel standing among the crowd and asked him what had been stolen from his shop. "A bag of gold coins was taken," Akel replied.

Zeyd nodded and wandered through the angry crowd. He saw that, one by one, the merchants were going into a chamber to be questioned by Jorim and Akel.

Zeyd watched the process impatiently.

"YOUNG MAN!" Jorim's voice bellowed through the street. "Come!" Startled, Zeyd entered the chamber.

"Sit!" ordered Jorim. Zeyd sat silently and waited.

"Where were you last night, Zeyd?" Akel questioned.



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Class \_\_\_\_\_

- 1** At the beginning of the story, how do you know that the Grand Bazaar was a busy place? Tick **two** boxes. [2]

There were lots of sleeping dogs.

☐

There were pieces of opulent furniture.

☐

The streets were alive with noise.

☐

There was hustle and bustle.

☐

The air was filled with aromas.

☐

Make sure you read the first three paragraphs again before answering the question.



- 2** Match the character names to the description that best fits them. The first one has been done for you. [1]

Name	Description
Zeyd	a monkey
Bahir	a wealthy merchant
Akel	a rug merchant
Jorim	a delivery boy

- 3** How was Zeyd usually paid for his services? [1]

\_\_\_\_\_

- 4** How can you tell that Zeyd already knew the monkey when it jumped out from the pile of rugs? [1]

\_\_\_\_\_

Make sure you read the question carefully.





Name \_\_\_\_\_

Class \_\_\_\_\_

1 Give **three** pieces of evidence from the text that suggest Zeyd is an energetic young man. [3]

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

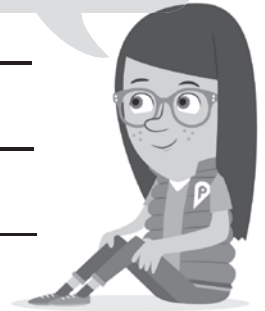
2 How do you know Zeyd is not interested in riches or money? Use evidence in your answer. [2]

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Reread  
page 20 to  
help you.



3 Number these events 1–4 in the order that they happen in the story. The first one has been done for you. [1]

Zeyd meets Bahir.

Zeyd turns down the coin.

Zeyd delivers food.

Zeyd wakes to silence.

4 *'He was dripping in gold-coloured cloth with hand-stitched detailing. His arms and neck were adorned with fine trinkets.'*  
What does this description show you about Jorim? [3]

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Class \_\_\_\_\_

- 1 *'In the morning, Zeyd woke up at his usual time. But after a few moments, he realised something was different.'*

Describe as fully as you can the differences in the bazaar that morning in comparison with the description of the day before. [2]

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Look back at how the bazaar is described at the beginning.



- 2 *'Zeyd pushed his way through to find out what was causing the commotion.'*

Which of the following words does **not** mean *commotion*, as it is used in this sentence? Circle **one**. [1]

disturbance

crowd

uproar

unrest

- 3 At the end of the story, why might Jorim and Akel be the ones questioning the other merchants? [2]

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- 4 *“Where were you last night, Zeyd?” Akel questioned.'*

Why might Akel suspect Zeyd of stealing his bag of gold coins? [2]

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# Answers: The Mystery of the Grand Bazaar

LEVEL: Towards	
<p><b>P</b> At the beginning of the story, how do you know that the Grand Bazaar was a busy place? Tick <b>two</b> boxes. [2]</p>	
<p><b>Answer:</b> Award one mark for each correct answer, up to two marks: The streets were alive with noise.; There was hustle and bustle.</p>	
<b>Content domain reference</b>	2a
<b>Comprehension strategies</b>	Retrieving and recording information; Making inferences
<p><b>P</b> Match the character names to the description that best fits them. [1]</p>	
<p><b>Answer:</b> Zeyd – a delivery boy; Bahir – a monkey; Akel – a rug merchant; Jorim – a wealthy merchant</p>	
<b>Content domain reference</b>	2b
<b>Comprehension strategies</b>	Retrieving and recording information; Recall
<p><b>P</b> How was Zeyd usually paid for his services? [1]</p>	
<p><b>Answer:</b> with food/meals/breakfast/lunch/supper <i>Do not accept: blankets/clothing, a precious jewel.</i></p>	
<b>Content domain reference</b>	2b
<b>Comprehension strategies</b>	Retrieving and recording information; Clarifying
<p><b>P</b> How can you tell that Zeyd already knew the monkey when it jumped out from the pile of rugs? [1]</p>	
<p><b>Answer:</b> Accept any of the following: He uses the monkey's name.; He calls him Bahir.; The monkey jumps on his shoulder.</p>	
<b>Content domain reference</b>	2d
<b>Comprehension strategies</b>	Making inferences; Making connections
LEVEL: Securing	
<p><b>P</b> Give <b>three</b> pieces of evidence from the text that suggest Zeyd is an energetic young man. [3]</p>	
<p><b>Answer:</b> Award one mark for each correct answer, up to three marks: racing through the bazaar; darted nimbly; skipped between; jumped over; sprinted around; dart from</p>	
<b>Content domain reference</b>	2a
<b>Comprehension strategies</b>	Retrieving and recording information; Making inferences
<p><b>P</b> How do you know Zeyd is not interested in riches or money? Use evidence in your answer. [2]</p>	
<p><b>Answer:</b> Award one mark for each correct answer, up to two marks: He is usually paid in food (sometimes blankets and clothes).; He sees no point in trinkets. <i>Accept any reasonable answer.</i></p>	
<b>Content domain reference</b>	2d
<b>Comprehension strategies</b>	Making inferences; Clarifying

# Answers: The Mystery of the Grand Bazaar

🔍 Number these events 1–4 in the order that they happen in the story. [1]

**Answer:** Zeyd meets Bahir. (2); Zeyd delivers food. (1); Zeyd turns down the coin. (3); Zeyd wakes to silence. (4)

**Content domain reference** 2c

**Comprehension strategies** Summarising; Retrieving and recording information

🔍 'He was dripping in gold-coloured cloth with hand-stitched detailing. His arms and neck were adorned with fine trinkets.'

What does this description show you about Jorim? [3]

**Answer:** Award one mark for each correct answer, up to three marks:

It shows he was a wealthy man.; He liked to wear fine/decorative things.

Accept any reasonable answer.

**Content domain reference** 2d

**Comprehension strategies** Identifying/explaining how meaning is enhanced by choice of words and phrases; Making inferences

## LEVEL: Deeper

🔍 Describe as fully as you can the differences in the bazaar that morning in comparison with the description from the day before. [2]

**Answer:** Award one mark for:

The bazaar was usually bustling/noisy.; The bazaar was silent with no one around.

Award two marks for comparisons:

The bazaar was usually bustling but this morning, it was silent and deserted/no-one could be seen/the stalls were closed.

**Content domain reference** 2h

**Comprehension strategies** Retrieving and recording information; Making connections

🔍 Which of the following words does **not** mean *commotion*, as it is used in this sentence? Circle **one**. [1]

**Answer:** crowd

**Content domain reference** 2a

**Comprehension strategies** Giving meaning of words in context; Clarifying

🔍 At the end of the story, why might Jorim and Akel be the ones questioning the other merchants? [2]

**Answer:** Award one mark for each correct answer, up to two marks:

Akel: It was his money that was stolen.; Jorim: He is wealthy and powerful.

**Content domain reference** 2d

**Comprehension strategies** Making inferences; Making connections

🔍 Why might Akel suspect Zeyd of stealing his bag of gold coins? [2]

**Answer:** Award one mark for each correct answer, up to two marks:

Zeyd was at Akel's place before the coins were stolen.; Zeyd seems not to have much money.

**Content domain reference** 2d

**Comprehension strategies** Making inferences; Making connections





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