

## Worksheet 13: Reading Comprehension 3

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Roll No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Read the following poem and answer the questions that follow.

### The Actor's Revenge

He had positioned himself stage center.  
And was giving the audience his all.  
When suddenly a seat went up with a "Crash!"  
And a woman walk down from the stalls.  
And ignoring the audience hissing.  
And the thespian's renderings too.  
She crossed in front of the Footlights.  
And disappeared into the Loo.

And feeling decidedly slighted.  
The actor waited, enraged.  
And when the woman came out of the Loo,  
He walked to the front of the stage.

Then adopting a theatrical posture.  
And in a voice filled with venom and bite.  
That carried its way clear up to the Gods  
He delivered the best of the night!

He said: "Madam. Whilst there in the privy,  
Could you hear my excellent King Lear?  
You couldn't? Well I find that amazing.  
For we heard you quite clearly out here!"

– Richard John Scarr

### A. Tick (✓) the correct option.

1. The actor was distracted by the:
  - a. sound of a seat crashing
  - b. woman talking to another woman
  - c. harsh lights
  - d. commotion on the stage

2. The audience was upset as:
  - a. the sound was too loud
  - b. they did not like the actor
  - c. they were unhappy with the lighting
  - d. the woman was disturbing them
3. The word in the poem closest to the meaning of 'poison' is:
  - a. bite
  - b. enraged
  - c. delivered
  - d. venom
4. The word in the poem which means the same as 'actor or actress' is:
  - a. lady
  - b. audience
  - c. thespian
  - d. madam
5. The word in the poem that means the opposite of 'poor' is:
  - a. superb
  - b. excellent
  - c. outstanding
  - d. astonishing

**B. Answer the following questions.**

1. What happened just after the actor was ready to give his all?  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
2. Which lines indicate that the woman was not at all bothered by how she inconvenienced people?  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
3. Why did the actor take revenge on the woman?  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_