Guided Reading

Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone by J.K Rowling

Chapter One: The Boy Who Lived.



Friday: Professor Dumbledore.

Later in this chapter we meet Professor Dumbledore for the first time. As you answer the questions, remember to use the text and not answer from your personal knowledge of the character.

A man appeared on the corner the cat had been watching, appeared so suddenly and silently you'd have thought he'd just popped out of the ground. The cat's tail twitched and its eyes narrowed.

Nothing like this man had ever been seen in Privet Drive. He was tall, thin and very old, judging by the silver of his hair and beard, which were both long enough to tuck into his belt. He was wearing long robes, a purple cloak which swept the ground and high-heeled, buckled boots. His blue eyes were light, bright and sparkling behind half-moon spectacles and his nose was very long and crooked, as though it had been broken at least twice. This man's name was Albus Dumbledore.

Albus Dumbledore didn't seem to realise that he had just arrived in a street where everything from his name to his boots was unwelcome. He was busy rummaging in his cloak, looking for something. But he did seem to realise he was being watched, because he looked up suddenly at the cat, which was still staring at him from the other end of the street. For some reason, the sight of the cat seemed to amuse him. He chuckled and muttered, 'I should have known.'

He had found what he was looking for in his inside pocket. It seemed to be a silver cigarette lighter. He flicked it open, held it up in the air and clicked it. The nearest street lamp went out with a little pop. He clicked it again – the next lamp flickered into darkness. Twelve times he clicked the Put-Outer, until the only lights left in the whole street were two tiny pinpricks in the distance, which were the eyes of the cat watching him. If anyone looked out of their window now, even beady-eyed Mrs Dursley, they wouldn't be able to see anything that was happening down on the pavement. Dumbledore slipped the Put-Outer back inside his cloak and set off down the street towards number four, where he sat down on the wall next to the cat. He didn't look at it, but after a moment he spoke to it.

'Fancy seeing you here, Professor McGonagall.'

- What about Dumbledore's appearance suggests his age? (1 mark) He has long silver hair and beard
- How many streetlamps are there in Privet Drive? (1 mark)
 12
- 3. Which word from the text means searching? (1 mark) rummaging
- 4. Describe the contrast between how Dumbledore gets out his Put-Outer and how he puts it away again. (2 marks)
 He struggles to find it as the text says he was 'rummaging' but when he puts it away its much easier as the text says he 'slipped it back inside his cloak'.
- 5. 'The sight of the cat seemed to amuse him'. Which other word tells us that he is amused? (1 mark)

chuckled

6. *'His blue eyes were light, bright and sparkling',* what does this suggest about Dumbledore's character? (2 marks)

It suggests that he is a good character and likable as the good characters in stories are often bright eyed.

It could also suggest he is mischievous as his eyes 'sparkle'.

 ^{7.} '...everything from his name to his boots was unwelcome.' Using your knowledge of yesterday's text, why is Dumbledore unwelcome here? (2 marks)

Because Privet Drive is very normal and we know that at least one residence (the Dursleys) are fearful of anything unusual or different, which Dumbledore is due to his long silvery beard, robes and apparent magic.

- 8. Find an onomatopoeia. (1 mark)
 Popped (there may be other words a little onomatopoeic but this one is the best example)
- 9. How do you think the residents of Privet Drive would react if they saw Albus Dumbledore? Use evidence from the text to support your answer. (3 marks)

point	evidence
Scared/fearful of him	Because he is so different. Any quoting of his appearance or his magical abilities. We also know the Dursleys are scared of anything unusual.
Curious about him/in awe/mesmerised etc	You could argue that anyone of a curious nature would be entranced by his ability to suddenly appear and to turn off the streetlights. The way in which his eyes are described suggest he is not a character who should be feared