

Mission: Museum

Level 5

The full moon briefly peaked through a gap in the clouds and then disappeared behind them once again. Jade leaned her bike against the brick wall and walked through the front door of the museum. It was late in the evening. A lone worker was sweeping the marble floor. A security guard looked like he was beginning to close the windows. Jade managed to sneak in and run up the stairs undetected.

At the top of the flight of stairs, Jade stopped to double check the message. Making a mistake could have dire consequences. Jade unlocked her wristwatch with her fingerprint and opened the message she had received only an hour ago.



Jade was close. One more level to go. Off she set up the final flight of stairs. Time was going to be tight, but as always, she was confident of getting the job done. Jade pushed open the door and paused. It took a moment for her eyes to adjust to the dim light of the room. She walked forward, weaving between the large white columns that stretched from floor to ceiling. Jade stopped and looked around.

Where are they sending me? she asked herself. Suddenly, Jade felt a vibration coming from her wristwatch. She unlocked her watch once again and a new message appeared on the screen.

20:29

Unknown sender

*Find the hatch under a powerful tail
If you pause in there, you'll certainly fail,
After the alarm begins to sound,
This museum crumbles to the ground.*



Jade studied the room once more, trying to take in any details she had missed the first time. Then she saw it. It was a small metallic door, about half the size of an average door. It was partly obstructed from view by the tail of a large dinosaur model. The Tyrannosaurus rex looked menacing. It was bent forward as if it were about to attack.

She kneeled down and pushed through the door. Although only small, the hatch was very heavy. The door led not to a room, but a small corridor. The tunnel was narrow and the ceiling low. Hunching forward, Jade took a few steps inside. It was dark, the only source of light being from the small door she had just passed through. It cast her shadow on the floor in front of her. She noticed that her hunched posture gave the shadow a distinctly ogre-like appearance.

Just then, the hatch slammed shut behind her and the light disappeared. Though her heart was beating rapidly, Jade's fingers quickly found the right button on her watch and a strong beam of light illuminated the corridor once again.

At that moment, a loud beep rang out from somewhere further up the narrow corridor. Pausing, Jade listened carefully. There was another. Then another. They were becoming more and more frantic. Jade recited the message aloud to herself.

*After the alarm begins to sound,
This museum crumbles to the ground!*

Jade set off in a sprint down the narrow corridor. It wasn't quite her top speed, but it was as fast as her hunched position would allow. Jade knew every second counted. She used the wall to help propel herself around each corner at speed.

Left... Run Left! Right!

As she rounded the third corner, she skidded to a halt. The alarm was now deafening. In front of her was a wall with a lever illuminated by a single light. She reached out desperately and yanked the lever down. She held her breath and waited. She didn't dare to move.

The beeping became quieter and quieter and then stopped. Jade collapsed on the floor in relief, gasping for air.

Just then, she felt her watch vibrate once again.

Questions

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1. What level was Jade on when she stopped to double check the message?

2. Why did Jade paused after entering the door on Level 3?

3. What does the word 'dire' mean in the second paragraph?

4. How did Jade know she received a new message on her watch?

5. Which statements are correct? Write 'True' or 'False' next to each.

- Jade thought she saw an ogre in the tunnel. _____
- It took Jade about an hour to get to the museum. _____
- The tail completely hid that hatch from view. _____
- Jade received 2 messages while in the museum. _____
- In the tunnel, Jade was able to follow the light. _____
- Jade knew she was safe as soon as she pulled the lever. _____

6. Do you think this is Jade's first mission? Explain.

7. What do you think happened next? Why?

Answers

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1. What level was Jade on when she stopped to double check the message?

Jade was on Level 2.

2. Why did Jade paused after entering the door on Level 3?

She paused because she was letting her eyes adjust to the dim light.

3. What does the word 'dire' mean in the second paragraph?

'Dire' means terrible.

4. How did Jade know she received a new message on her watch?

Her watch vibrated to let her know she had a new message.

5. Which statements are correct? Write 'True' or 'False' next to each.

- Jade thought she saw an ogre in the tunnel. false
- It took Jade about an hour to get to the museum. true
- The tail completely hid that hatch from view. false
- Jade received 2 messages while in the museum. true
- In the tunnel, Jade was able to follow the light. false
- Jade knew she was safe as soon as she pulled the lever. false

6. Do you think this is Jade's first mission? Explain.

Answers may vary.

No, she felt confident of getting the job done, as she always was. She made it into the museum undetected. She kept her composure in the stressful situation. She sounds experienced- 'Her fingers quickly found the button'.

7. What do you think happened next? Why?

Answers will vary but should refer to the message she received at the end. She went to another job after receiving further instructions.

