

Ava slammed the door shut. She pushed a pile of dirty clothes off her unmade bed and threw herself down on the mattress. Ava felt like she couldn't do anything right, at least according to her mum.

The way her mother reacted last night was completely over the top. Ava had left a note for her on the kitchen table. She'd told her she would be back later in the night. She would have called as well, but her phone was out of battery so she had to wait to borrow a charger from a friend. As soon as she had managed to power on her phone, she'd seen six missed calls from her mum. She sent a quick message letting her know that she was okay and telling her she was with a few friends at Tiffany's house.

Up until then, she'd been having a great time, but after that, she couldn't even muster the enthusiasm to join in the karaoke. The six missed calls played on Ava's mind. She had been looking forward to Tiffany's party for weeks, but Ava could feel the night pass her by, and she knew there was nothing she could do about it. Ava wanted to leave, but she sure didn't feel like facing the music at home.

She had left a note, and she'd sent a text message (even if it was a little late). What more could she do? Ava had tried to keep her cool while explaining all this to her mum, but nothing got through. Before long she found herself shouting, and she knew she was just making things worse. In the end, she just sat there and let her ramble. All she wanted to do was explain herself. Mum could be so unreasonable sometimes!



Now Ava was grounded. She knew the drill: no TV, no computer, and no friends over. Luckily, she still had her music player. She found solace in her music when she was upset, so she was glad her dad hadn't taken that away, too. Ava lay there, listening to music and staring at the ceiling. She tried to clear her mind.

Breathe in, and hold.

Breathe out.

It wasn't working! Why was it always her? None of her friends seemed to ever get in trouble for such trivial things. Even her little brother got away with things she never would. It was all completely unfair!

Questions

Ava – Level 6

1. Why was Ava's mum angry with her?

2. What reason did Ava give her mum for not calling?

3. Has Ava been grounded before? How do you know?

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

- Ava doesn't like karaoke. _____
- Ava only found out about the party at the last minute. _____
- Ava quickly forgot about the missed calls. _____
- Ava didn't stay calm when talking with her dad. _____
- Ava stopped arguing as she didn't want more trouble. _____

5. Which word in the text means 'comfort'? _____

6. How did Ava feel after seeing the missed calls? How do you know?

7. Ava felt the night 'pass her by'. What does this mean and how do you think it made her feel?

8. Do you think it was fair that Ava got in trouble? Explain your thinking.

Answers

Ava – Level 6

1. Why was Ava's mum angry with her?

Answers may vary.

Ava's mum was angry that Ava hadn't spoken to her about going out. She had only left a note. Ava didn't give much warning or any details.

2. What reason did Ava give her mum for not calling?

Ava said her phone ran out of battery.

3. Has Ava been grounded before? How do you know?

Yes, she said she 'knew the drill'.

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

- Ava doesn't like karaoke. **False**
- Ava only found out about the party at the last minute. **False**
- Ava quickly forgot about the missed calls. **False**
- Ava didn't stay calm when talking with her dad. **True**
- Ava stopped arguing as she didn't want more trouble. **True**

5. Which word in the text means 'comfort'? **'Solace' means comfort.**

6. How did Ava feel after seeing the missed calls? How do you know?

Answers may vary. Six missed calls meant trouble. Ava felt anxious about what would happen when she got home. She feared she would be in trouble. She stopped enjoying the party.

7. Ava felt the night 'pass her by'. What does this mean and how do you think it made her feel?

It means that even though Ava was at the party, she didn't really take part in any of the fun. It would have made her feel disappointed, as she had been looking forward to the party for a long time.

8. Do you think it was fair that Ava got in trouble? Explain your thinking.

Answers will vary but should refer to Ava's actions.