

Solutions

1. B – He prefers using logic and evidence to explain unusual events.

At the beginning of the story, Charlie explains ghosts as tricks of the light, footsteps as creaking floorboards and monsters as dust under the bed. These examples show that he relies on logic and facts rather than believing in the supernatural.

2. C – He incorrectly says there are thirty-one pupils in the class and comments that "Earth mathematics" surprises him.

On his first day, Mr Orion mistakenly counts thirty-one pupils instead of thirty and refers to "Earth mathematics." Charlie initially assumes it is a joke, but this unusual comment plants the first seed of suspicion.

3. C – To increase or build up over time.

The word *accumulate* means to gather or increase gradually. As the weeks pass, Charlie notices more and more strange things about Mr Orion, causing his suspicions to grow.

4. C – Mr Orion never understands homework.

Charlie lists several unusual observations in his notebook, including Mr Orion thanking the radiator, wearing the same grey suit every day and calling mobile phones "portable communication rectangles." There is no mention of him not understanding homework.

5. B – The room is completely empty even though he can hear Mr Orion having a conversation.

Charlie expects to see teachers chatting in the staff room, but when he looks through the window, the room is empty despite hearing Mr Orion's voice. This is the first piece of evidence that makes Charlie seriously question whether his teacher is human.

6. C – Humans are fascinating because they often show kindness despite their differences.

The recording explains that although humans often disagree and misunderstand one another, they regularly show kindness during difficult times. The alien researchers find this behaviour particularly interesting.

7. C – Mr Orion calmly admits that he is an alien.

After Charlie asks if he is an alien, Mr Orion simply replies, "Technically speaking, yes." The shock of hearing this confirmed is so great that Dev faints immediately afterwards.

8. B – To observe humans and learn about their behaviour.

Mr Orion explains that he belongs to an organisation that studies different civilisations across the galaxy. His purpose is to observe and learn, not to interfere or invade Earth.

9. C – Although he is an alien, he understands kindness and people remarkably well.

By the end of the story, Charlie realises that Mr Orion is thoughtful, caring and encouraging. Although he is not human, he often demonstrates greater understanding and compassion than many people.

10. C – Curiosity and open-mindedness can lead to understanding rather than fear.

Charlie begins the story feeling suspicious and fearful because Mr Orion seems different. However, by asking questions and discovering the truth, he learns that appearances can be misleading. The story encourages readers to remain curious, avoid making assumptions and appreciate those who may seem different from themselves.