> THINKING ABOUT THE TEXT (PAGE 60)

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I. Discuss in pairs and answer each question below in a short paragraph (30–40 words).

QUESTION 1. "The sound was a familiar one." What sound did the doctor hear? What did he think it was? How many times did he hear it? (Find the places in the text.) When and why did the sounds stop?



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ANSWER. The doctor heard the sound of rats. The sound was a familiar one. He heard this sound four times. The phrases are 'Again I heard that sound from above', 'Again came that noise from above', 'Suddenly there came a dull thud as if a rubber tube has fallen'. The sounds stopped after the appearance of the snake.



QUESTION 2. What two "important" and "earth-shaking" decisions did the doctor take while he was looking into the mirror?

ANSWER. The doctor took the following two 'important' and 'earth shaking' decisions:



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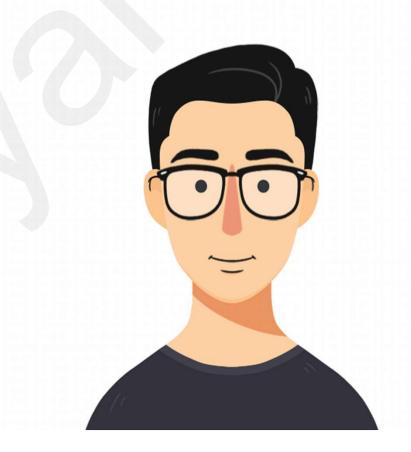
a) He would shave daily and grow a thin moustache to look more handsome.



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(b) He would always keep that attractive smile on his face.



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II. Expressions used to show fear

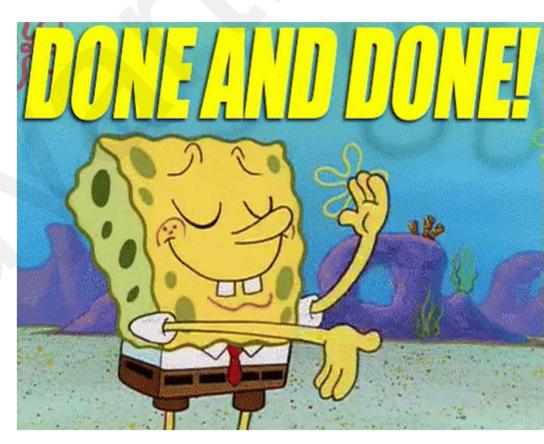
Can you find the expressions in the story that tell you that the author was frightened? Read the story and complete the following sentences.

- 1. I was turned
- 2. I sat there holding
- 3. In the light of the lamp I sat there like

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ANSWER.

- 1. I was turned to stone.
- 2. I sat there holding my breath.
- 3. In the light of the lamp I sat there like a stone image in the flesh.



Match the meanings with the words/ expressions in italics, and write the appropriate meaning next to the sentence.

- > options
- 1. very frightened
- 2. is too scared to move
- 3. frightened by something that happens suddenly
- 4. made someone feel frightened



- 1. I knew a man was following me, I was scared out of my wits.
- 2. I got a fright when I realized how close I was to the cliff edge.
- 3. He nearly jumped out of his skin when he saw the bull coming towards him.

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4. You really gave me a fright when you crept up behind me like that.

5. Wait until I tell his story—it will make your hair stand on end.

6. Paralyzed with fear, the boy faced his abductors.

7. The boy hid behind the door, not moving a muscle.

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ANSWER.

- 1) Very frightened.
- 2) Too scared to move.
- 3) Frightened by something that suddenly happened.
- 4) Made someone feel frightened
- 5) Very frightened.
- 6) Too scared to move
- 7) Too scared to move.

