

Answers

1. Neil was hoping to find sweets/chocolate in the cupboard. We know this because the passage refers to the cupboard as his 'favourite cupboard' and mum made reference to 'what the dentist had said'. The passage also says 'he eagerly peered inside in anticipation of what he might find' and that 'his eyes gleamed with excitement'.
2. Neil felt disappointed and saddened. We know this because it says he furrowed his brow, sighed outwardly and slumped onto the chair.
3. His expression changed because he discovered that there were no sweets in the cupboard.
4. Neil was most likely a young child because he was unable to reach the cupboard without using a chair to climb on. He was probably aged under 10.
5. He didn't find what he was looking for because Mum had not bought sweets when she was shopping. This is because Neil must have holes in his teeth (or a similar dental problem) as the passage refers to 'what the dentist said'.
6. The adverbs are swiftly, forcefully, eagerly, quickly, outwardly and softly.
7. The screech sound was caused by Neil scraping the legs of the chair along the tiled floor.
8. Child's own answer
9. The word closest in meaning to 'climbed' is clambered.
10. The phrase used to describe his eyes was 'his eyes gleaming with excitement'.