

Read the short story. Then answer each question.

## Golly-Grue and Grimbletoes Prepare for a Storm

Grimbletoes and Golly-Grue were dwarves who lived deep in the forest. Both were small with bright eyes. Grimbletoes had a long, white beard. Golly-Grue had two long, white braids. The two had lived together for more years than people could count, and they did everything together.



One dark, blustery day, Golly-Grue was stoking the fire when Grimbletoes came in from working in the garden. “Dog leaves and horse flowers!” he exclaimed. “There’s a doozy of a storm coming. It’s going to blow for the better part of a day.”

Golly-Grue looked up from the fire and shook her head. Grimbletoes was known to exaggerate a bit when it came to the weather. “Are you sure?” She poked the fire again and watched the flames dance. “Remember the last time?”

Grimbletoes tugged on his beard and looked up at the ceiling. “Well. Maybe I was a bit wrong last time, but I’m not this time. This time, I’m sure. It’s going to be a bad storm.”

“Well, then I guess we’d best get prepared,” Golly-Grue replied. “Are the tools put away?”

Grimbletoes opened the front door and looked around the porch. He didn’t see any tools. He ran out to the shed and tugged on the door. It was closed up tightly.



The wind whipped at his beard and tugged at his hair as Grimbletoes hurried back to the cabin. He pushed the door shut with a *bang!*

“All the tools are put away.”

“Are all the windows bolted?” Golly-Grue asked.

Grimbletoes walked to each window of the cabin and checked the windows. One was bolted tightly, but the other two were open to let in the summer breeze. Grimbletoes closed them.

“All the windows are bolted.”

Golly-Grue thought for a moment. Her fire was burning nicely, and all the ingredients she needed for dinner were laid out on the table.

“Is the water bucket filled?” Golly-Grue asked.

Grimbletoes checked the water bucket. It was only half filled. “I’ll go fill the bucket,” he said.

Grimbletoes grabbed the bucket and hurried out to the creek behind the house. The wind blew the trees. Thunder boomed. Lightning forked across the sky. Grimbletoes knew he had to hurry. It wasn’t safe outside.

Grimbletoes filled the bucket and hurried as quickly as he could back to the house.

Grimbletoes stepped up onto the porch just as the rain began to fall. It beat against the leaves. It pounded the ground. It banged against the roof. Grimbletoes’s heart raced. He carried the bucket inside.

“The bucket is full.”



Golly-Grue smiled. "Thank you, Grimbletoes." She looked out the window as the thunder boomed and lightning flashed again.

Less than a minute later, the sun broke through the clouds, and the rain stopped. The wind stopped. It was beautiful outside again. Golly-Grue turned to Grimbletoes and winked. "Yep. That was a really bad storm."

Grimbletoes looked out the window. "Well, dog leaves and horse flowers," he said. "It got me again."

Golly-Grue looked up from the soup pot and laughed.



**Questions:**

1. Why is Grimbletoes worried?

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2. Why doesn't Golly-Grue believe Grimbletoes about the storm?

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3. What tasks did Grimbletoes have to complete before the storm hits?

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4. Why does Golly-Grue laugh at Grimbletoes?

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**Answers:**

1. Why is Grimbletoes worried?  
There is a bad thunderstorm coming.
2. Why doesn't Golly-Grue believe Grimbletoes about the storm?  
He was wrong the last time.
3. What tasks did Grimbletoes have to complete before the storm hits?  
He has to make sure the tools are put away. He has to make sure the windows are bolted. He has to fill the water bucket.
4. Why does Golly-Grue laugh at Grimbletoes?  
Because he thought it would be a bad storm, and it wasn't. He had thought the same thing before.