

Read the short story. Then answer each question.

The Fox and the Grapes

Rupert the fox finished building his den deep in the forest. It was a nice den. The dirt was packed nicely, and it was lined with leaves. It would be a good place to store his food.

“Now, I just have to find food to fill my den,” Rupert said.

There were plenty of earthworms in the den, but Rupert wanted some fruit too.

With a smile, Rupert set off through the forest to find some fruit for his burrow. He trotted for miles. He went under bushes. He went across a stream. He finally came to the edge of the forest.



Rupert couldn't believe his eyes. Fat grapes grew as far as he could see! Rupert wanted some to put in his den, but he only wanted the best of the best.

The fox walked along the rows of grape vines. He went up one row and down the next. He looked at every grape on the vines. Some grapes were too small. Some grapes were too green. Rupert wanted only the best grapes.

At last, Rupert came to a vine that was larger than the rest. The grapes were giant. The grapes looked like they would burst with juice. The grapes were the deepest purple Rupert had ever seen. Rupert wanted those grapes. However, the grapes hung high on the vine, and Rupert was not sure he could reach them.

Rupert jumped up. He missed the grapes.

Rupert backed up and took a running jump. He missed the grapes.



Rupert sat back and thought. Could he use a stick to reach the grapes?

No, he could not. There were no sticks in the vineyard.

Rupert backed up ever further. He ran as fast as he could. Rupert jumped as high as he could.

Rupert missed the grapes. They hung high above him and shook like they were laughing at him.

Rupert scowled at the grapes. "Ah, who wants the rotten old grapes anyway? They are probably sour."

Rupert turned away and stomped back to the forest without any grapes.



Questions:

1. Where does Rupert live?
 - a. In an apartment
 - b. Cleveland, Ohio
 - c. In the forest
 - d. On a fruit farm

2. How does Rupert try to get the grapes?
 - a. He calls Santa Claus for help.
 - b. He runs and jumps.
 - c. He uses a stick to reach them.
 - d. A bird throws them down to him.

3. Why does Rupert want the grapes from the top of the vines?
 - a. He thought they were the best grapes.
 - b. He likes a challenge.
 - c. He wanted to jump for the grapes.
 - d. The other grapes looked horrible.

4. At the end of the story, Rupert decides the grapes that he can't reach are sour. Why does he think this?
- a. He tasted one.
 - b. He thinks they had too much sun.
 - c. He can't reach them and gets frustrated, so tells himself they are sour to make himself feel better.
 - d. The Easter Bunny told him they were yucky.
5. Why does Rupert go home empty handed instead of taking the grapes he can reach?

Answers:

1. Where does Rupert live?
c. In the forest

2. How does Rupert try to get the grapes?
b. He runs and jumps.

3. Why does Rupert want the grapes from the top of the vines?
a. He thought they were the best grapes.

4. At the end of the story, Rupert decides the grapes that he can't reach are sour. Why does he think this?
c. He can't reach them and gets frustrated, so tells himself they are sour to make himself feel better.

5. Why does Rupert go home empty handed instead of taking the grapes he can reach?

Answers may vary.