

Level 6-2
The Sandman

Workbook

Teacher's Guide and Answer Key

Teacher's Guide

A. Summary

1. Book Summary

As a boy, Nathanael was afraid of the Sandman, whom he thought was a monster who hurt the eyes of children who would not go to bed. Sometimes, his father had a strange guest at about bedtime, so he thought this visitor was the Sandman. One night, Nathanael stayed up and secretly watched his father. He found out that the visitor was really a man named Coppelius, and the two men were working in a strange closet with a hearth and a blue flame. One night when Coppelius came, an explosion occurred and Nathanael's father was killed. However, Coppelius had gone.

Years later, Coppelius reappeared, calling himself Coppola. Nathanael told Clara, a girl he was going to marry, about Coppelius and how the man had ruined his life. But Clara didn't believe him. Professor Spalanzani at Nathanael's school knew Coppola. Spalanzani had a strange daughter named Olimpia. Though she was stiff and cold, Nathanael fell in love with her. When he found out that she was really a robot made by Spalanzani and Coppola, he lost his mind. Clara and his mother nursed him back to health. One day, Nathanael and Clara went to a nearby town. They climbed to the top of a tower to view the town, and suddenly he saw Coppelius in the crowd below. Nathanael went crazy. He tried to kill Clara, and then he jumped from the tower and killed himself.

2. Chapter Summary

► Chapter 1

Young Nathanael did not see his father much but only at dinner. After dinner, his father would tell him fun stories. But some nights were different. His father just gave him picture books to look at, and at nine o'clock his mother would send him off to bed, telling him that the Sandman was coming. When she said this, Nathanael always heard a strange sound, which he thought was the Sandman. But his mother told him there was no Sandman. She said she only meant that he was sleepy and could not keep his eyes open, as if someone had put sand in them. However, on those nights, Nathanael was afraid. He heard slow, heavy steps and smelled a strange smell.

► Chapter 2

One night, the visitor came again. Instead of going to bed, Nathanael hid in his father's room and watched. The "Sandman" turned out to be a man called Coppelius that Nathanael knew.

Nathanael's mom did not like Coppelius, but his father treated him like a friend. Nathanael saw his father open a closet door to a hearth with a blue flame. The two men began to work around the flame. Then Coppelius said, "Eyes here!" When Nathanael heard that, he screamed and fell to the floor. Coppelius grabbed him and threw him onto the hearth, saying "Now we've got eyes!" Nathanael heard his father ask Coppelius to let his son keep his eyes. Then Nathanael passed out. When he woke up in bed later, his mother told him that the Sandman was gone and would not hurt him.

► Chapter 3

One night, a year later, Coppelius came again. Nathanael's father said that this was his last visit. Around midnight, there was a loud noise and the house shook. Nathanael jumped out of bed and heard his father scream. He found his father on the floor by the smoking hearth. He was dead and his face was burned black. Nathanael believed that Coppelius had killed his father, but the man had disappeared. Years later, a weather-glass salesman came. Nathanael knew that it was Coppelius, though the man called himself Giuseppe Coppola. Nathanael told him to leave. After that, Nathanael wrote a letter to Clara, the girl he loved, telling her about Coppola and what had happened in his childhood. He was angry when Clara didn't believe him.

► Chapter 4

Nathanael found out that Professor Spalanzani from his school had known Coppola for many years. Spalanzani said that Coppola was really Italian, but Nathanael thought Coppelius was German. Spalanzani was a strange man. Once, Nathanael went by his house and saw through the window a tall, thin woman inside. She was beautiful, but her eyes were strange. Nathanael learned that she was Spalanzani's daughter, Olimpia. Spalanzani kept her locked in a room.

► Chapter 5

Nathanael went home to visit his mother and Clara. He and Clara were going to be married. Clara was not beautiful, but she had a good heart. At home, Nathanael began to act strangely and was always gloomy. He wrote a poem to explain to Clara how Coppelius had ruined his happiness when he was a child. Clara did not like the poem and told him to throw it away. Nathanael became angry and made Clara cry. Clara's brother, Lothair, went to Nathanael and told him to apologize or to fight with him. The two men had a duel with swords. Clara came out and stopped them. The men were sorry. They all held each other and declared their love for each other.

► Chapter 6

Nathanael went back to school to find his room burned down. He moved into a room across the street from Spalanzani's house. He could see Olimpia through the window, sitting alone for long hours doing nothing. One day, Coppola came again. Nathanael controlled his fear and bought a spyglass from him.

► Chapter 7

From his room, Nathanael looked at Olimpia through his spyglass for hours. One day, Spalanzani invited Nathanael to a concert and ball at his house. There, Nathanael saw Olimpia in a beautiful dress. She played the piano very well and sang beautifully. The only strange thing was that she moved stiffly. Nathanael danced with Olimpia and no one else. He told her he loved her. After the ball, he asked if she loved him and kissed her cold lips. Olimpia always responded with "Ah, ah!" and nothing else. Nathanael was happy when he left the ball.

► Chapter 8

Spalanzani was happy to let Nathanael visit Olimpia. Everyone said that Olimpia was strange and boring, but Nathanael was in love with her. He said that she was the only one who understood him. He took his mother's ring and ran across the street to give it to Olimpia. As he approached the professor's house, he heard noises inside. Then he saw Spalanzani and Coppola pulling Olimpia and fighting over who should have her. Nathanael found out that Olimpia was a robot.

► Chapter 9

On discovering that Olimpia was a robot, Nathanael nearly killed Spalanzani, but his friends came and stopped him. Suddenly, Nathanael began to act strangely and scream, "Spin round, wooden doll!" Someone said that he needed a doctor and should be put away. When Nathanael finally opened his eyes, he felt as if he had had a bad dream. When he got better, he went with Clara and Lothair to a town nearby. While there, Nathanael suggested going up a tall tower to have a look.

► Chapter 10

Up on the tower, Clara saw a strange little gray bush moving toward them. Nathanael took out his spyglass to take a look. Then he began screaming, "Spin round, wooden doll!" He looked at Clara with strange eyes and tried to throw her from the tower. Lothair rushed up there and took her away, but Nathanael stayed on the tower. He kept going around the tower screaming the same thing again and again. Suddenly, Coppelius emerged from the crowd

that had gathered at the bottom of the tower. The people wanted to bring Nathanael down, but Coppelius told them he would eventually come down on his own. Nathanael saw Coppelius and jumped from the tower to his death. Coppelius walked away and was never seen again.

B. Background and Themes

★ **Reality or fantasy:** The things that happened to Nathanael were so strange that they seem like a bad dream, and we cannot be sure if they really happened or not.

★ **Love:** Clara continued to love Nathanael after he had fallen in love with Olimpia.

★ **Insanity:** Nathanael was a dark character who apparently had some mental illness.

★ **Infatuation:** Nathanael was so infatuated with Olimpia because of her beauty that he was blind to the fact that she didn't seem normal. Real love can never be based on beauty alone.

Answer Key

Part A Story Focus

Before You Read

(Answers may vary.)

► Introduction

1. A German writer named E. T. A. Hoffmann wrote it.
2. He does not know what is real and what is a dream.
3. He lets the reader decide which parts of the story are real and which are a dream.

► Characters

1. Nathanael: confused, good
2. Coppelius/Coppola: scary, liar
3. Clara: young, kind, loving
4. Spalanzani: selfish, clever

While You Read

(Answers may vary.)

► Chapter 1

A. Preview Questions

1. I think they are a mother and a son.
2. The woman seems worried while the boy looks surprised.
3. He is looking at a picture book.

B. Review Questions

1. He saw his father only at dinner.
2. His father did not tell stories then.
3. She told him that the Sandman was a bad man.

► Chapter 2

A. Preview Questions

1. I think he is the Sandman.
2. I think he is Nathanael's father.
3. He is looking at what appears to be a fire.

B. Review Questions

1. He went into his father's room and hid behind a curtain.
2. He grabbed Nathanael and threw him on the hearth.
3. He woke up in bed.

► Chapter 3

A. Preview Questions

1. There is a fire.
2. I think it is Coppelius.
3. I think he will run away.

B. Review Questions

1. Coppelius came to the house.
2. There was a loud noise, and the house moved.
3. He died, and his face was burned black.

► Chapter 4

A. Preview Questions

1. I think he is Nathanael.
2. I think he finds her beautiful.
3. I think this is the woman's house.

B. Review Questions

1. Professor Spalanzani told him so.
2. Her eyes were strange.
3. He kept Olimpia locked in a room.

► Chapter 5

A. Preview Questions

1. They are having a duel.
2. I think they are fighting over the woman.
3. I think she will stop their fight.

B. Review Questions

1. They were going to get married.
2. He became gloomy and began to act strangely.
3. Nathanael had made Clara cry.

► Chapter 6

A. Preview Questions

1. I think they are Nathanael and Coppola.

2. He is holding a telescope/spyglass.
3. It looks evil.

B. Review Questions

1. His room had burned to the ground.
2. He could see into the room where Olimpia sat alone.
3. He tried to calm himself and forget his childish fear of Coppelius.

► Chapter 7

A. Preview Questions

1. They are at a ball.
2. I think he is in love with her.
3. I don't think she is interested in him.

B. Review Questions

1. He watched Olimpia through the spyglass.
2. She played the piano and sang.
3. He fell in love with Olimpia.

► Chapter 8

A. Preview Questions

1. They are Professor Spalanzani and Coppola.
2. She looks lifeless.
3. I think he feels surprised and upset.

B. Review Questions

1. They thought she was strange and boring.
2. He thought that she was the only one who understood him.
3. She was a robot.

► Chapter 9

A. Preview Questions

1. They are in a bedroom.
2. He looks sick.
3. They look worried.

B. Review Questions

1. He tried to kill Professor Spalanzani.
2. His mother, Clara, and Lothair were with him.
3. They went to a town near their house.

► Chapter 10

A. Preview Questions

1. They are at the top of a tower.
2. I think he sees Olimpia.
3. I think they will go down from the tower.

B. Review Questions

1. She saw a strange little gray bush moving toward them.
2. He got a strange look in his eyes and tried to throw Clara from the tower.
3. He jumped to his death from the tower.

Mini Quiz

- a. They are as alike as two peas in a pod.
→ Two people are very similar.
- b. Absence makes the heart grow fonder.
→ The longer we are away from a loved one, the more we miss them.
- c. Things are not always what they seem.
→ Sometimes a certain thing may appear to be true, but it may actually not be true.

After You Read

(Answers may vary.)

► Pattern Practice

4. B: Charlie would take care of me and my brother when my parents were out.
5. A: I would drink hot tea after dinner because I wanted to lose weight.

► Challenge

1. Nathanael is hiding behind a curtain.
2. Coppelius is looking over his left shoulder to see if anyone is around.
3. Nathanael's father is staring into the blue flame of the hearth.
4. Nathanael has a look of shock on his face.

Part B Skill Focus

Vocabulary Preview

A.

Across

4. gloomy 6. crowded 8. females 9. robot

Down

1. swords 2. spyglass 3. fear 5. lady

6. closet 7. hearth 10. owls

B.

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. beaks like owls | 2. strange little gray bush |
| 3. with a blue flame | 4. was always gloomy |
| 5. father treated him | 6. during his childhood |
| 7. a mean smile | |

Reading Comprehension

► Beginning: Chapters 1–3

A.

1. F 2. T 3. T 4. F 5. T

B.

1. Mother
2. Coppelius
3. Father
4. Nathanael

C.

1. a 2. b 3. d 4. b 5. a 6. c

► Middle: Chapters 4–7

A.

1. T 2. F 3. F 4. T 5. T

B.

1. He is a weather-glass seller named Coppola.
2. He looks very mean.
3. He comes from Italy.
4. He sells a spyglass to Nathanael.

C.

1. c 2. a 3. d 4. b 5. c 6. c

► End: Chapters 8–10

A.

1. F 2. T 3. T 4. F 5. T

B.

a → c → b → d

C.

1. b 2. c 3. b 4. c 5. b 6. c

Think and Write

(Orders may vary.)

Main Idea 1: Nathanael's real world

- Details:
1. Father died.
 2. Clara was his lover.
 3. He was a student.

Main Idea 2: Nathanael's dream world

- Details:
1. Coppelius killed his father.
 2. Olimpia was his lover.
 3. Coppola was Coppelius.

Vocabulary Review

1. He went into his father's room and hid behind the curtain.
2. His father treated Coppelius like a friend.
3. Go before I kick you down the stairs!
4. Spalanzani said Coppola was really Italian.
5. Coppelius had ruined his happiness when he was a child.
6. The two men decided that they would fight with swords in the morning.
7. Spalanzani was going to give a concert and a ball on the following day.
8. They were both pulling her as they fought over her.
9. They decided to go up the tall tower.
10. Nathanael put his hand in his pocket and pulled out the spyglass.

Summary

A.

3	2
1	4

B.

(Answers may vary.)

1. Nathanael saw clouds of smoke coming out of the door.
2. Nathanael danced with Olimpia at the ball and fell in love with her.
3. The professor and Coppola pulled Olimpia as they fought over her.
4. Nathanael grabbed Clara and tried to throw her from the tower.

Book Report

Story 1. fear 2. hearth 3. burned 4. ruined 5. spyglass