

'Matilda – When I Grow Up' Comprehension

1. Can you list 5 fun things that the singers want to do when they are older?

- **Climb trees**
- **Eat sweets/treats every day**
- **Go to bed late every night**
- **Wake up when the sun comes up**
- **Watch cartoons until eyes go square**
- **Spend all day just lying in the sun (without burning)**

Some children may say the answers below. Award the mark, however whether they can be considered 'fun' is a point of debate:

- **Be smart enough to answer questions**
- **Fight creatures under bed**
- **Carry all the heavy things**
- **Wake up when the sun comes up**

2. What brave and strong things will the singers do when they grow up?

Fight creatures under bed
Carry all the heavy things

A/so: Climb trees

3. Can you find a synonym for *clever* in the song?

smart

4. Can you find a synonym for *pull* or *drag*?

haul



5. Why might your eyes go square after watching cartoons?

This is a turn of phrase that means you have watched too much TV.

6. In the line: *Just because I find myself in this story*, what do you think the singer really means by *story*?

Life

7. What does the singer mean by the line:

It doesn't mean that everything is written for me?

This line means that everyone has the power to change things in their future. Not everything is decided or planned for them already.

8. Find and copy a group of words that means the same as *to accept a difficult or unpleasant situation without complaining?*

Grin and bear it or Take it on the chin

9. Do you think that adults do all the things in the song when they are grown up?

Several answers but a reason/evidence must be provided.

Challenge!

Can you write a new verse for the song, thinking about the things that you want to do when you're older?

When I grow up...

Several answers!

