

HELEN KELLER

Task 1. Read the story below then answer the questions.

One day when Helen Keller was a baby, she became seriously ill and day after day, her temperature stayed high. Her parents tried to help her get better. They said, "There is nothing more we can do. The baby may not live."

Helen lived. She was not the same after her illness. "Something was wrong," her mother said. The parents found that the child couldn't see or hear.

The baby grew into a little girl. Helen often cried and held onto her mother. Though Helen could not hear or see, she was a bright little girl. Some people thought Helen could not learn anything. Her mother never agreed. She said, "The problem is, how can we reach her? She is locked up inside herself."

Helen began to grow wild. She would not let anyone comb her hair. Her clothes were always dirty. Sometimes she even laid on the floor and kicked her feet.



Her parents found a teacher for her. Miss Sullivan, a young teacher agreed to help Helen to learn to see the world. Miss Sullivan gave Helen a doll, "D_O_L_L" spells doll. She spelled the word with her fingers into Helen's hand. She made the letters with special hand signs.

Helen copied her teacher and spelled D_O_L_L too but Miss Sullivan didn't understand what she was doing. She spelled a lot of words for Helen, on her hand, day and night, to make Helen understand.

Helen liked Miss Sullivan. She was strict but kind. One day, her teacher made Helen put her hand into running water. Then, she spelled W_A_T_E_R. Suddenly Helen understood that W_A_T_E_R meant something wet, running over her hand. She understood that words were the most important things in the world. Words would tell her everything she wanted to know.



1. "Something is wrong," said Helen's mother. What was wrong with Helen?
2. Who agreed to help Helen? How did she help Helen?
3. What was the most important thing that Helen finally understood?
4. What is the main idea of the story?
5. Match the two parts of sentences given under column 'A', 'B' using **but**.

	Column A		Column B
1.	Helen lived after her illness	a.	her mother thought she could learn.
2	She could not see or hear	b.	she did not understand what she was doing.
3	People thought that she could not learn anything	c.	she could not hear or see.
4	Helen copied the words	d.	she was kind to Helen.
5	Miss Sullivan was strict	e.	she was very intelligent.