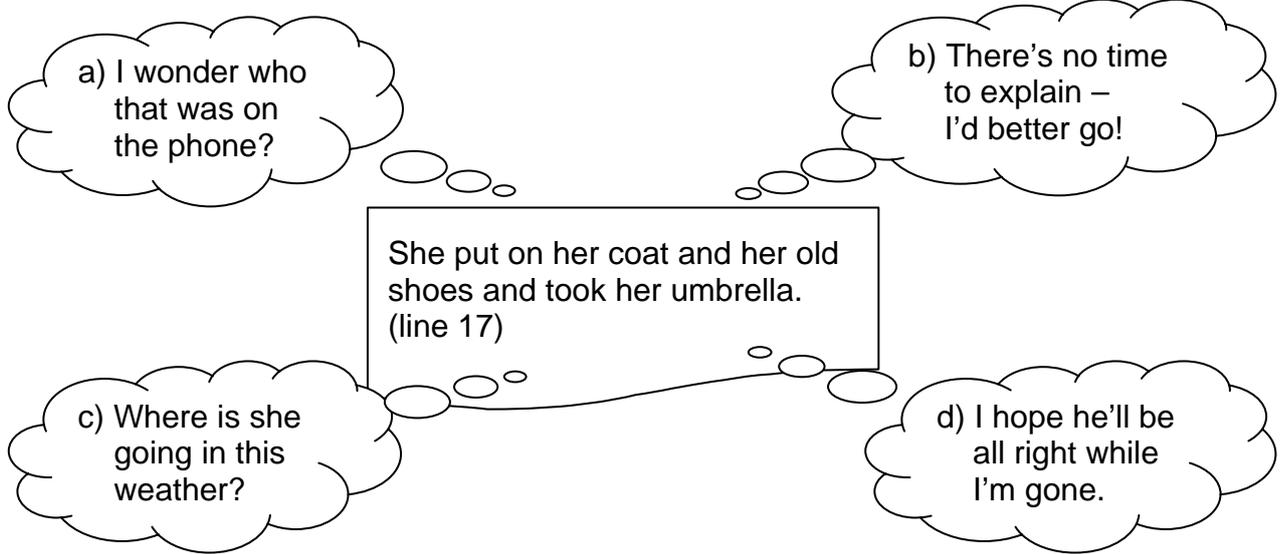


Inferring Characters' Thoughts

You will find the story more interesting if you understand what the characters think or how they feel when something happens to them.

1. Read the thought bubbles below. Which character from 'The Knock at the Door' does each thought belong to? Write the names of the characters in the spaces provided.
- 2.



a) Joey b) Mother c) Joey d) Mother

3. What might the characters be thinking when the following events happen? Write down their thoughts in the table below. (Answers may vary)

Event	Character	Thought
She left quickly. The door closed behind her with a bang. (line 22)	Joey	<i>What's going on?/I hope she'll come back soon./I hope nobody tries to get in.</i>
BANG! Something hard hit the roof. Joey jumped. He sat down on the sofa and held on to the book he had been reading. (lines 30-31)	Joey	<i>What was that?/I should stop reading this book - it's too scary!/ I hope mum is okay in this weather.</i>
Carefully, he opened the window and looked out. There were a few lights in the distance – other houses. (lines 48-49)	Joey	<i>Looks like the rain has stopped./ If anything happens to me, nobody will know./I wonder where mum is now.</i>

Event	Character	Thought
His mother was running across the room towards him... Her clothes were wet, and her long, wet hair fell across her face. (lines 101-105)	Joey	<i>Is mum okay?/What happened to mum?/Who is mum running away from?</i>
“...Where did I put it? He can’t come in yet. Not until...” (lines 107-108)	Mother	<i>Where is the ___? (gun/knife/money/etc.)*</i>
	Person at the door	<i>I’ll kill her and the boy if she doesn’t let me in soon!/I can’t wait to see my little boy!/Hurry up, I’m getting wet!*</i>
That night, Joey and his mother sat in their dark house and ate pizza for dinner. (line 133)	Joey	<i>Thank goodness mum’s back and everything is okay./Hah! There was nothing to be afraid of./Great pizza!</i>
While they were eating, someone knocked at the door. (lines 133-134)	Mother	<i>Who could that be?</i>
	Joey	<i>Maybe, this time, it’s dad!</i>
	Person at the door	<i>Hurry up and answer the door.</i>

* If students complete the table as they read the story for the first time, they will not know who the person at the door is. Their answers should reflect who they *think* it is (e.g. Joey’s dad, a neighbour, a murderer, a ghost). If students complete the table after reading the story, they will know that the person at the door is just the pizza man.