

NO SUDDEN MOVES

Answer the following questions about “No Sudden Moves.” **Sample answers**

1. Part A: Which of the following statements best expresses the overall theme of the story?

- A. Do not change things that are working well.
- B. Never forget where you come from.
- C. Change can be difficult but also rewarding.**
- D. Big changes are best made quickly.

Part B: Describe how the setting of the story is important to the theme.

The setting in Colorado is a big change from what Dani misses so much in Virginia, but she learns that this place offers beauty and growth opportunities for her mother and herself.

2. Read the following sentence from paragraph 1.

She had to admit, grudgingly, that it was beautiful here in Colorado.

What effect does the word grudgingly have in the story?

- A. It shows that Dani loves living in Colorado because of its beauty.
- B. It shows that Dani has completely changed her opinion about moving to Colorado.
- C. It shows that Dani believes Colorado is not a good place to live.
- D. It shows that Dani does not want to point out the positive things about her new home.**

3. In paragraph 2, what does the idiom “Dani had been giving her parents the cold shoulder” illustrate about Dani’s behavior?

- A. Dani has been purposely distant and unpleasant towards her parents.**
- B. Dani is acting quiet to show she doesn’t care about the move.
- C. Dani has been arguing with her parents since the move.
- D. Dani is not bothered by the move for her mother’s job.

4. In paragraphs 5-7, we learn that Dani, Julian, and Zoe are on high alert. Complete the table with evidence from the text that shows their feelings.

Dani	<p>“as alarmed as she had felt”, “thunderous pounding in her ears”, “immediately regretted dismissing her dad’s warnings”</p>
Julian	<p>“lips in a thin line and both arms up in the air”, “whispered seriously”</p>
Zoe	<p>“staring suspiciously at something on the ground”</p>

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5. Part A: From Dani’s thoughts in paragraph 3, what inference can you make about her?

- A. She believes there’s a chance she’ll be allowed to return to Virginia.
- B. She hopes to one day be a pilot just like her mother.
- C. She suspects that there is danger nearby.
- D. She is beginning to regret how she’s been acting about the move.

Part B: Describe the details in the paragraph that support this inference.

As Dani watches the airplane, she feels “a wave of pride” for what her mom will be doing and acknowledges that it’s her mom’s “dream job.” It says, “She knew that she had to stop punishing her parents for the move.”

6. What does intensified most likely mean based on its use in paragraph 13?

Intensified most likely means became stronger.

7. How does Dani’s experience with the snake help resolve the story’s main conflict? Select two answers.

- A. It helps Dani make new friends in her new home.
- B. It makes Dani realize how perfect her new home in Colorado is.
- C. It helps start a conversation between Dani and her parents.
- D. It gives Dani something to write about to her friends in Virginia.
- E. It helps Dani forget about her old life and accept her new one.

8. Read the following sentence from paragraph 24.

Dani immediately noticed their faint smiles and raised eyebrows.

What do the underlined words in this line tell you about how Dani’s parents are feeling?

They are confused about why Dani is stopped on the trail. Raised eyebrows and a slight smile suggest that someone feels pleasantly surprised at what they see.

9. Look at how the phrase “sudden moves” is used in paragraphs 5, 9, and 26. What are the two different meanings of the phrase?

The author uses the phrase “sudden moves” to describe Dani’s physical movements when she is near the snake. The author also uses the phrase to refer to Dani’s family’s abrupt relocation, or “sudden move”, across the country for work.

10. Write a summary of “No Sudden Moves.”

While feeling gloomy about her family’s move across the country, Dani is suddenly surprised by an encounter with a snake. Some kind strangers help her out, and she realizes that her new life in Colorado might not be so bad after all.