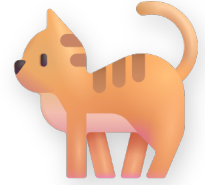


Read the story carefully. Then answer each question below in a full sentence.

Think about what happened first, what caused it, and what happened because of it. Trace the chain of events!

Whiskers' Kitchen Catastrophe



Whiskers the cat was a curious creature, always looking for new heights to conquer. One sunny afternoon, she spotted a tempting stack of board games on the top shelf of the living room bookcase. With a mischievous glint in her eyes, Whiskers launched herself upwards, paws scrabbling for purchase.

As she reached the top, her tail swished, sending a domino-effect cascade through the neatly piled games. "CRASH!" went the boxes, tumbling onto the floor with a loud clatter. Dad, who was in the kitchen making his famous triple-decker sandwich, jumped at the sudden noise. His hands flew up, sending a dollop of mustard and a handful of pickles flying through the air.

The mustard landed with a splat on the polished floor, and the pickles bounced merrily. Buster, the family dog, who had been napping under the kitchen table, woke with a start. Seeing the unexpected snack, he bounded over, tail wagging furiously, and began enthusiastically licking up the mustard. But a slippery pickle proved too much for him; Buster slid across the floor and landed with a thump right inside the open laundry basket, tipping it over and scattering clean clothes everywhere.

Mom, hearing the commotion, walked in to find Dad covered in mustard, Buster tangled in socks, and Whiskers calmly grooming herself on the now-empty shelf. Dad sighed, "Well, at least the games are off the shelf!" He tried to wipe up the mustard with a paper towel, but his foot slipped on another pickle, sending him sliding across the floor too, much to Mom's amusement.



COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

(1) Which of these **BEST** explains why the board games fell? Circle the correct answer.

- A Dad accidentally bumped into the bookcase.
- B A strong gust of wind blew through the window.
- C The bookcase was old and wobbly.
- D Whiskers the cat climbed onto the shelf and knocked them over.

(2) Complete the sentence: Because Whiskers climbed onto the shelf, the board games _____.

(3) What was one immediate effect of Dad jumping when the games fell?

(4) Describe how Whiskers' action led to Buster getting tangled in laundry.

(5) What might have happened if Whiskers had NOT climbed onto the shelf? Explain.



