

Rent-a-
genius

By Gillian Cross

Chapter 1 - Other People's problems

Sophy told her Dad to wear _____. Instead, he managed to get _____ on his trousers.

Sophy told her sister Alice she shouldn't let pickles sit on her lap because _____. Sophy didn't want Alice to ruin her _____.

Sophy picked up her brothers clothes because she thought _____ Ben and her mother didn't notice her as they were so busy _____.

Why didn't mum thank Sophy?

Why didn't Ben thank Sophy?

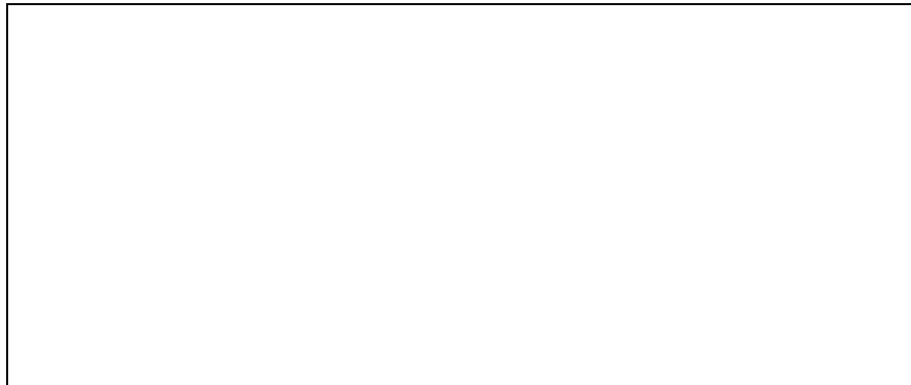
Why does Sophy think everyone in the house is horrible?

Sophy wrote:

RENT-A-GENIUS

Got a problem?
Sophy Simpson will solve it for you.
Only 50p a problem!
Satisfaction, or your money back!

Re-design the advert to make it more appealing and eye-catching. Think about the slogan, type of lettering, a symbol and short sharp pieces of information.



List 6 places where would you post these adverts in order to make the most money and solve the most problems?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

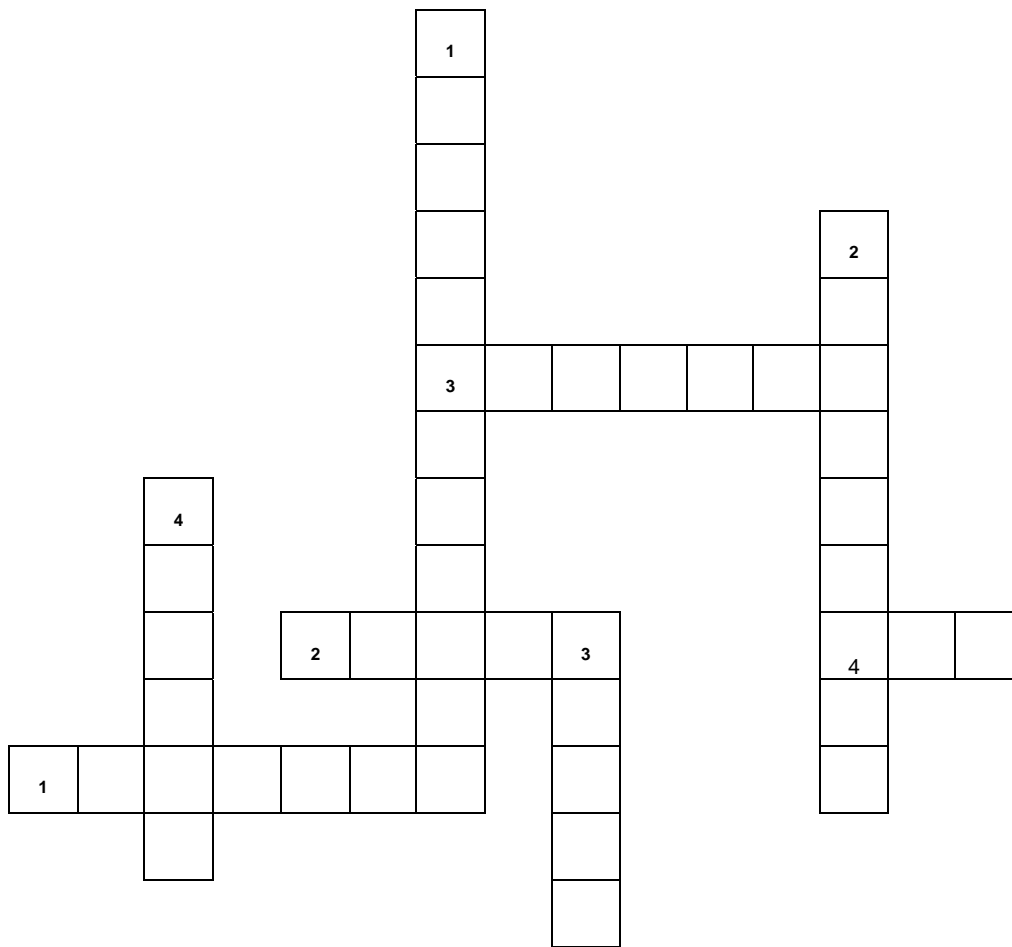
Put in the missing punctuation

paul called sophy he looked round oh hello sophy but he didnt smile
whats up why are you wearing those clothes paul shuddered dont
ask I dont want to talk about it sophy looked at him again and
suddenly her eyes lit up this was it paul she said gently have you
got a problem paul pulled a face I certainly have

Use the information in this chapter to compare the 2 different
Paul's.

| 'Normal' Paul | Paul with a problem |
|---------------|---------------------|
| | |

Chapter 2 - Double Trouble



Down

1. Paul's 2 problems.
2. The problem made Paul _____ (meaning sad)
3. He had to have his hair cut and _____ cleaned.
4. Paul had to wear a _____

Across

1. Paul's grandmothers want to meet his _____
2. He ought to be a dear little boy with _____ hands.
3. To be polite, show good behaviour (good _____)
4. Opposite of girl.

Use this notebook page to record the notes that Sophy made while talking to Paul.



Explain Sophy's plan to solve Paul's problem.

Has Sophy made any money yet? Why or why not?

Chapter 3 – A spot of bother

What notes would you make in order to solve this problem?

Remember to include the person, problem and solution.



Draw a picture of Maria, and place all the things you know about her, from this chapter, around the outside. Remember to include things that you have concluded and deduced from the information in the text.

e.g. think about what Maria complaining about having spots tells you about the sort of person she is.

Chapter 4 – Dirty Work

1. Why was Sophy surprised when Ryan asked for her help?
2. Why did Ryan think Rent-a-genius was a joke?
3. What is Ryan's problem?
4. How did this problem occur?
5. Who will solve the problem? How?
6. When does the problem need to be solved by?
7. What are Sophy's 3 solutions and what are Ryan's reactions to them?
 - 1)
 - 2)
 - 3)

Chapter 5 - The tomato disaster

Draw a picture of the rooms in Natalies house. Label them to show all the different problems Sophy finds in each of the rooms.

Chapter 6 – Nice little friends

Use this page to explain Sophy's problem in this chapter. Include what people want her to do, and why she cannot sort their problems out.

Chapter 7 – Problems Solved

| Person | Problem | Sophy's Solution | Actual Solution |
|---------|---------|------------------|-----------------|
| Paul | | | |
| Maria | | | |
| Ryan | | | |
| Natalie | | | |
| Sophy | | | |

