



# My Nan's Chocolate Cake

I open my eyes;  
have I been asleep?  
I close them again  
and try counting sheep.

I plump my pillow –  
I toss and I turn –  
but my belly growls  
with a grumbly churn.



Now on my mind,  
as I lie awake,  
is the chocolate icing  
on Nan's scrumptious cake.

Though I do my best  
to fall back to sleep,  
my thoughts are of chocolate –  
not cute, fluffy sheep.

I pull back the covers  
and step out of bed;  
I don't make a noise  
as I carefully tread.



Along the long landing  
and down the steep stairs,  
I wind and I sneak  
right past Nan's special chairs.

Everywhere's dark  
and I hear Nan's clock,  
ticking away  
with a tickety-tock.



I get to the kitchen  
and tiptoe right in.  
That's when I spy it:  
Nan's special cake tin.

**Q1:** In which room is Nan's special cake tin kept?

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**Q2:** *ticking away with a tickety-tock*

Explain why the poet has written this line in this way.

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**Q3:** What impression is the reader given about the time of day that this poem is set?  
Give evidence to explain your answer.

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Sitting up high,  
above the freezer,  
is Nan's delicious  
chocolate teaser.

So I clamber up  
on Nan's favourite stool;  
that's when my mouth  
begins to drool.



I know that it's mean,  
I know that it's bad;  
I don't want to make  
my sweet nanny sad.

But the cake is calling -  
it's singing my name!  
To leave it up there  
would be such a shame.

I lift up the lid  
and stare right inside,  
but what's staring back  
is a huge surprise!



The cake has vanished!  
Just a tiny crumb!  
I stick a hand in  
and lick my sweet thumb!

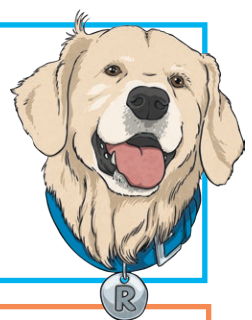
How could anyone  
steal my Nan's cake  
after all the hours  
it took her to bake?



My heart hit the floor,  
my tummy was rumbling,  
then, I turned around  
to hear somebody mumbling!

**Q4:** What does the poet use to help them to reach the cake tin?

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**Q5:** Comment on how the poet's emotions change during this part of the poem.

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**Q6:** How is the reader given the impression that the poet is disappointed?

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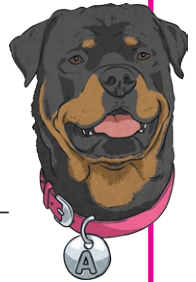
**Q7:** *But the cake is calling – it's singing my name!*

Why do you think the poet uses this phrase?

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Stood in the moonlight,  
all small and thin,  
was my nanny grinning –  
chocolate on her chin!



“Over here!” she called.  
“Come and grab a spoon!”  
my nanny declared  
in the light of the moon.

So I clambered down  
and tiptoed to near her.  
Now I could see  
the grand cake much clearer.

Most of the cake  
was now in Nan's tummy;  
the rest of the cake  
still looked really yummy.

“Nan! How could you  
steal your chocolate cake?  
How long have you  
been here, wide awake?”

Nan looked at me  
as she took a bite;  
she said that she  
does this every night!

So now I know,  
when I stay with Nan,  
that when it's bedtime  
we have our own plan.

If I'm hungry  
and I lie wide awake,  
I'll join my fab nan  
for night chocolate cake!



**Q8:** Give **two** ways that the poet gives the impression that there were no lights on in the kitchen.

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**Q9:** *What kind of person do you think Nan is?* Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

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**Q10:** What do you think will happen the next time the poet stays at Nan's house?



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**Q11:** Summarise the events of the poem in 30 words or less.

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# My Nan's Chocolate Cake Answers

**Q1:** In which room is Nan's special cake tin kept?

**Accept the answer 'kitchen' only.**

**Q2:** *ticking away with a tickety-tock*

Explain why the poet has written this line in this way.

**Accept any answer which discusses the fact that the alliterative 't' sound and the rhythm of the line creates a sound similar to the clock's ticking, e.g.**

- **The author's choice of words sounds like the noise the clock is making.**

**Q3:** What impression is the reader given about the time of day that this poem is set?

Give evidence to explain your answer.

**Accept any answer which discusses the fact that the poem is set at night, providing that evidence is given which supports their answer, such as:**

- **The reader is given the impression that the poem is set at night because the poet is in bed, which only usually happens at night, and the poem says that 'everywhere's dark'.**

**Q4:** What does the poet use to help them to reach the cake tin?

**Accept the answer 'a stool' only.**

**Q5:** Comment on how the poet's emotions change during this part of the poem.

**Accept any reasonable commentary on how the poet's emotions change during this part of the poem, such as:**

- **At first, the poet was excited to eat the chocolate cake but then they became disappointed when they realised it was gone.**
- **The poet was disappointed when they realised the cake was gone but then they became curious when they heard a noise in the kitchen.**

**Q6:** How is the reader given the impression that the poet is disappointed?

**Accept any reasonable discussion which gives the phrase 'my heart hit the floor' as evidence in support of the poet's disappointment, such as:**

- **The reader is given the impression that the poet is disappointed because they use the phrase 'my heart hit the floor', which shows the poet's change in mood.**

**Q7:** *But the cake is calling – it's singing my name!*

Why do you think the poet uses this phrase?

**Accept any reasonable answer which explains that the author uses the phrase to add to the impression that the cake was irresistible, e.g.**

- **I think the poet uses this phrase to show just how irresistible the cake was to the poet. It was as if the cake was calling out to them.**

**Q8:** Give two ways that the poet gives the impression that there were no lights on in the kitchen.

**Accept any two of the following points:**

- **Nan was stood in the moonlight.**
- **Nan declared something in the light of the moon.**
- **The poet couldn't see the cake clearly until they moved closer.**

**Q9:** What kind of person do you think Nan is? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

**Accept any reasonable answer provided that evidence from the text is given in support, such as:**

- **I think that Nan is a fun and light-hearted person because the text says that she was stood in the kitchen grinning, chocolate on her chin.**

**Q10:** What do you think will happen the next time the poet stays at Nan's house?

**Accept any reasonable prediction based on the events of the poem, such as:**

- **Next time the poet goes to Nan's house, I think they will get up in the middle of the night and eat more cake.**

**Q11:** Summarise the events of the poem in 30 words or less.

**Accept any reasonable summary of the events of the poem in 30 words or less, such as:**

- **The poet is hungry so they sneak downstairs for a slice of chocolate cake. When they get there, they find Nan doing the same thing.**