

The Noisy Neighbor

Barbara couldn't take it anymore. Her upstairs neighbor was blasting his stereo again. She had asked him twice already to turn the volume down. The first time she asked, he was surprised. He said he didn't know that she could hear his stereo.

"Yes," she said, "it's just like your stereo was in my living room. I can hear every note!"

He said he would keep it down. She hoped that he was telling the truth. Of course, he wasn't. The very next day, he blasted his stereo. She marched upstairs to remind him of his promise. He said the volume was so low that he could barely hear it. She asked him to turn it lower. He said he would try. Barbara could swear that when she reentered her apartment, the music was louder than when she had walked upstairs.

So, this was the third time. She took her baseball bat upstairs with her. She knocked very loudly on his door. When he opened the door, she screamed at him like a crazy person. She told him

she would kill him if he didn't turn the music down and keep it down. His eyes got big.

She went back downstairs. She couldn't hear a note.

I can't believe I said that, she told herself.

Questions:

1. True/false:

- The first time Barbara asked her neighbor to turn the music down, he said: "No."
- Barbara told her neighbor that she would kill him if he didn't turn the music down.

2. How did Barbara's neighbor feel the first time she asked him to turn the music down?

3. What would you do if your neighbor had loud music on and would not turn the volume down?

4. What is the lesson (moral) you learned from this story?

5. Who are the characters in this story?

6. What is the setting of the story (time and place)?
