

The Ghost Ball

6 Strange dance music sets the pace
12 while phantoms move with eerie grace.
17 Pale, paired dancers sway along
23 as shimmering bodies turn to song.

29 Transparent musicians dressed in matching coats
33 expertly play mysterious notes
40 using fingers and hands that oddly glow.
48 Most of their songs are from long ago.

55 Ghosts smile and spin in perfect time
61 over ancient dirt and dusty grime.
67 Some move near the ballroom floor
73 while overhead some like to soar.

78 Memories flood the spectres' faces
85 as they dance steps from other ages.
90 Smokey dresses and tuxedo tails
96 rustle and twirl, leaving gleaming trails.

104 If the living were to spy the sight,
110 they would have an awful fright.
116 Tonight, the dancers enjoy the room.
122 Tomorrow, they'll return to their tomb.



Questions



1. Who is playing mysterious notes?



2. Which words are synonyms for the word **ghosts**?
Tick **two**.

- ☐ spectres
- ☐ dancers
- ☐ dresses
- ☐ phantoms



3. Where are the ghosts dancing? How do you know?



4. Look at the fourth verse.
How does the phrase **memories flood the spectres' faces** help us to understand how the ghosts are feeling?

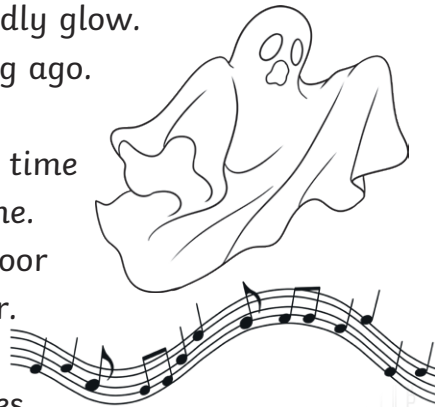
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Answers



1. Who is playing mysterious notes?
The transparent musicians dressing in matching coats are playing mysterious notes.



2. Which words are synonyms for the word **ghosts**?
Tick **two**.

- ☒ **spectres**
☐ dancers
☐ dresses
☒ **phantoms**



3. Where are the ghosts dancing? How do you know?
Pupils' own responses, such as: The ghosts are dancing on the floor and up in the air. It says they move near the ballroom floor and soar overhead.



4. Look at the fourth verse.
How does the phrase **memories flood the spectres' faces** help us to understand how the ghosts are feeling?
Pupils' own responses, such as: I think this phrase shows the reader that the ghosts are remembering back to when they used to dance before they were ghosts.