

BOY BY ROALD DAHL
CHAPTER 'MR COOMBES' (pg 38)

1. What does Roald Dahl remember about Mr Coombes' appearance?
2. When Mr Coombes and Mrs Pratchett come out of the school what words and phrases does Dahl use to illustrate how frightening Mr Coombes was and how ugly Mrs Pratchett was?
3. Write down Mrs Pratchett's description of small boys who come into her shop. Copy it down exactly as it is written in the book.
4. Write down Mrs Pratchett's recollection of the moment she touched the dead mouse.
5. How does Dahl show the reader that Mrs Pratchett had an accent and missed sounds off the beginning and end of words?

Imagine the police are investigating the great mouse plot and have arrived at Mrs Pratchett's sweet shop to interview her. Write out Mrs Pratchett's version of events (from when the boys came into the shop) as if she was talking to the police. Use apostrophes, as Dahl has done, to illustrate how she talks.

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