

A Big Surprise

Michaela Morgan

- 1 For my presents, I said I'd like
Computer games,
A mountain bike,
An electric train
Or a model plane
But most of all
I'd like a bike.
- 8 I opened my presents
And what did I find there?
A hand-knitted hat
And a squeaky bear,
More underpants from my aunts
And socks (grey, one pair).
- 14 I said "thank you" nicely,
I tried to smile
But what was I thinking
All the while?
I was thinking
I wanted computer games,
A mountain bike,
An electric train
Or a model plane
But most of all
I'd have liked
A bike.
- 26 "There's just one last thing
to unwrap," they said.
"It's a big surprise
we've kept it in the shed.
It's special, it comes with love
From the lot of us ..."
- 32 Now I'm the only kid in school
With my own hippopotamus.

Name:	Class:	Date:
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1 Which present did the narrator want most of all?

2b

1 mark

2 What does the word “more” tell us in verse 2? Tick **one**.

He wanted underpants.

His aunts have given him underpants before.

He had already opened underpants in a different present.

He did not like his aunt.

2a

1 mark

3 “And socks (grey, one pair)” (verse 2). Why didn’t the poet write “And one pair of grey socks”?

2f

1 mark

4 Write **two** pairs of rhyming words from the first two verses.

2f

1 mark

5 Which word in verse 3 tells you the narrator didn’t feel happy?

2g

1 mark

6 Why did the narrator say “thank you” even if he didn’t like the present?

2d

1 mark

7 “It’s a big surprise/we’ve kept it in the shed” (verse 4).

a) What did the narrator think when he heard that?

b) Explain your answer.

2d

2 marks

8 How do you think the narrator will feel when he sees the present?

2e

1 mark

9 The poem has five verses. Draw lines to match the main idea to each of the five verses.

Verse 1 The child receives his big surprise.

Verse 2 The child is disappointed.

Verse 3 The child opens his presents.

Verse 4 The child is told there is one last big present.

Verse 5 The child says what he would like for his birthday.

2c

1 mark