Drawing a Conclusion

Where we read a text, the author does not always tell us everything. The author may leave out details on purpose. He may also depend on the reader's general knowledge to fill in the blanks.

Read each paragraph and answer the questions.

PART I

Sarah lit the candle as the room grew darker. The clock chimed eight times, so she knew it would soon be bedtime. She hurried to find her chalkboard slate. She had not finished her lessons yet. She knew the teacher would be disappointed in her if she did not finish.

1. The paragraph takes place in: A. in the morning  B. at night
   Why do you think that?

2. The paragraph takes place in: A. modern times  B. historical times
   Why do you think that?

PART II

Claude walked slowly to the barn. He could hear the puppies as they cried for their mother. It would be a long night if she did not come back soon.

1. Claude is: A. male  B. female
   Why do you think that?

2. Claude is: A. a human  B. an animal  C. don't know
   Why do you think that?

PART III

As I walked in the door, I knew there was trouble right away. The trash can was turned over, and papers were everywhere. The sofa cushions were on the floor. One of the pillows had been ripped open. Stuffing was all over the floor. As I looked around I saw Ringo in the corner. He had a ball in his mouth, ready to play.

1. What is Ringo?

2. What happened to the trash can, the sofa cushions and the pillow?