

The Queen of Death by John Milne

- 1 (b) and (c) are the most reasonable choices. (a) and (d) could not be chosen as a result of information from the cover.
- 2 Student's own answer. Possible answer: They will die and then many more people will die. Perhaps the first person will catch some kind of disease and give it to other people. Or perhaps the first person will go mad because of the curse and kill other people.
- 3 Student's own answer. Details needed:
What I know: Dr Farrow: wrote the book, 'The Mystery of Queen Axtarte'/is an archeologist/claims to have discovered the burial place of Queen Axtarte – he found the information in writing on a pillar from Karnak which is in the British Museum/28 years old/was brilliant student at Cambridge/left Cambridge about 3 years ago/went to live with friends in Wales/didn't write to anyone/didn't tell anyone about visits to British Museum and interest in pillar/is now in Egypt/going to search for tomb/hasn't been to Egypt before/going to stay there for 4 weeks/is married/has been in trouble with police in England – has used drugs/other personal details on visa application form (page 15).
What I want to find out: Where is Farrow now? Who else knows about the writing on the pillar? Why did Farrow say he was going to Egypt as a tourist? Why did he say he was a schoolteacher? Why did Farrow contact 'The Sunday Times'? Is Farrow involved in drug smuggling? Is Farrow smuggling antiquities?
- 4 Student's own answer. Main details:
 (a) *Leila Osman:* Salahadin's assistant/aged 27/studied Ancient History/one of youngest police inspectors in Egyptian police/works with Ahmed Abbas/finds book and message in it from Farrow/searches for Christine Farrow/finds her and helps to rescue her and arrest Greer. (b) *Salahadin El Nur:* Chief Inspector in Egyptian police force/studied Ancient History at Cairo University/aged 33/in charge of investigation into what Farrow is doing in Egypt/follows smugglers to the valley where the tomb of Queen Axtarte is/tricks Dr Strengel and his men when they are stealing the mummy of the Queen so that the mummy is returned to the tomb/shoots Strengel/creates an explosion which seals the tomb forever/rescues Farrow. (c) *Dr Peter Earl:* Friend of Salahadin/lives in London/investigates Farrow in England for Salahadin. (d) *Dr Farrow:* (See 3 above.) (e) *Ahmed Abbas:* Chief Inspector in Egyptian police force/investigates Farrow's arrival in Egypt/searches Farrow's hotel room/searches for Christine Farrow/arrests Greer and rescues Christine Farrow. (f) *Professor Goumouchian:* Friend of Salahadin/lives in Zamalek/about 80 years old/tells Salahadin about Queen Axtarte and about the possibility of disease in the tomb. (g) *Chief Inspector Beaston:* Chief Inspector of police in England/gives Salahadin information about Farrow. (h) *De Fries:* Smuggler – sells antiquities for money/Dutch/wears dark glasses/is small/takes Farrow to where the tomb is supposed to be/dies after getting into the tomb by using explosives. (i) *Keesing:* Smuggler – sells antiquities for money/Dutch/tall with red beard/working with De Fries/dies after getting in to the tomb. (j) *Christine Farrow:* Wife of Dr Farrow/held prisoner by the smugglers so that Farrow does as they want. (k) *Greer:* Smuggler – sells antiquities for money/kidnapper/cruel/heartless/keeps Christine Farrow prisoner and keeps in contact with the other smugglers by radio/is caught by Ahmed Abbas and Leila. (l) *Fatima:* Looks after Christine Farrow – has never seen her/overheard by Leila talking about Christine Farrow/lets Leila pretend to be her in order to rescue Christine Farrow. (m) *Police Inspector Musa Angheli:* Inspector at Luxor/has worked with Salahadin before/goes with Salahadin after the smugglers/assists Salahadin in preventing the smugglers from stealing the mummy of Queen Axtarte. (n) *Dr Josef Strengel:* German father/Lebanese mother/smuggler of antiquities for his own collection – doesn't sell them/follows De Fries, Keesing and Farrow to the tomb/wears protective clothing to avoid being contaminated by whatever is in the tomb/steals the mummy from the tomb/is shot by Salahadin because he refuses to put it back and dies.
- 5 Student's own answer. Student could use reference books on Ancient Egypt from a library to get ideas for a description.
- 6 Student's own answer. Details needed: Farrow forced by smugglers to go to where he thought Queen Axtarte's tomb was/wife kidnapped to make him do this/smugglers (2 different lots of smugglers – Amsterdam Ring and Josef Strengel) die in the attempt to steal the mummy of Queen Axtarte/the curse is true/Farrow rescued by Salahadin El Nur of the Egyptian Police.
- 7 Student's own answer. Details in story: The tomb is near Luxor on the east bank of the Nile. (page 20)/'A snake with raised head and a sitting man guard the tomb of Queen Axtarte. Those words are written on the pillar from the Temple of Karnak.' (page 46)/ 'And where's the tomb?' said Keesing turning to Farrow. 'Somewhere between the legs of the sitting man', he told Keesing. (page 46). *It is not certain from the text that the curse of Queen Axtarte is on the pillar but students may want to write it there.* "I am Queen Axtarte, Queen of Queens. I shall live forever. These are my words: anyone who enters my tomb – anyone who steals from my tomb – anyone who touches my body – that person will die – that person will die a terrible death. And many more shall die with him."

