

Scissors by Allan Ahlberg

Nobody leave the room.
Everyone listen to me.
We had ten pairs of scissors
At half-past two,
And now there's only three.

Seven pairs of scissors
Disappeared from sight.
Not one of you leaves
Till we find them.
We can stop here all night!

Scissors don't lose themselves,
Melt away or explode.
Scissors have not got
Legs of their own
To go running off up the road.

We really need those scissors,
That's what makes me mad.
If it was seven pairs
Of children we'd lost,
It wouldn't be so bad.

I don't want to hear excuses.
Don't anyone speak.
Just ransack this room
Till we find them,
Or we'll stop here ... all week!



Name:	Class:	Date:
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1 (a) What time of day is it?

(b) Explain how you know.

2 Why is the teacher cross?

3 “*Just ransack this room till we find them*” (line 23)
Suggest another word the poet could have used instead of “*ransack*”.

4 Why does the writer mention scissors having “*legs*” (verse 3)?

5 In the poem the teacher is cross because scissors have disappeared.
Write **two** things about the scissors that you know to be true.

6 What do you think will happen next in the classroom?

2d
☐
2 marks

2b
☐
1 mark

2a
☐
1 mark

2g
☐
1 mark

2b
☐
2 marks

2e
☐
1 mark