

The Hideous Blob's Amazing Comeback

A **Main Idea** and **Supporting Details** Spooky Story

The **main idea** is a story's big point. Often, you can figure out a story's main idea by asking yourself, "What is the main character's biggest problem?" **Supporting details** give you more information about the main idea. See how it works in this tale of a big blob who just isn't happy.

The Hideous Blob was a megastar. His last five movies—all horror movies, of course—had been smash hits. Fans adored him. Critics praised him. Everyone wanted a piece of him! The Blob was on magazine covers, TV shows, commercials, videos, you name it! He was America's favorite blob.

So was the Hideous Blob satisfied? Not a chance.

"I wish people would stop thinking of me as such a hideous blob," the Blob complained to his always-honest agent, Vickie Crackle.

"But you are a hideous blob—a gob of oozing goo," the ever-honest Vickie said. "And on top of that, you're nice!"

"But I want to stretch myself," the Blob said to Vickie. "I've been typecast. I know I can move into other roles. I don't want to be stuck playing blobs for the rest of my life."

"What kinds of roles were you thinking of?" asked Vickie.



"In my next movie," the Blob said, "I would like to play an action hero. Something like Harrison Ford would have done in his younger days—*Star Wars*, *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, that sort of thing.

"OK! I'm on top of it, Blob!" said Vickie. "But I have to be honest. I'm not sure it's a great idea."

1. What is the main idea so far?

- ☐ A. The Blob wants to be famous.
- ☐ B. The Blob wants to try new roles.
- ☐ C. The Blob wants to make commercials and TV shows.
- ☐ D. The Blob wants to quit acting and start a singing career.

2. Which detail supports the idea that the Blob is a big star?

- ☐ A. The Blob has an agent named Vickie Crackle.
- ☐ B. The Blob appears on magazine covers.
- ☐ C. The Blob is not satisfied with his career.
- ☐ D. The Blob likes Harrison Ford.

3. Which detail supports the idea that Vickie is always honest?

- ☐ A. Vickie says, "That may not be such a great idea."
- ☐ B. Vickie never takes any money from the Blob.
- ☐ C. Vickie says, "You are the best Blob in the entire world."
- ☐ D. Vickie says, "I'm on top of it."

In the Blob's next movie, fans got to see their favorite star drive a souped-up sports car, battle evil ninjas, and win the heart of a beautiful woman. Did they like the new him?

Not a chance. People hated the Blob's new movie.

"Ick!" they said.

"Disgusting!" they cried.

"I wish he'd go back to being the old Hideous Blob that we knew and loved," they said.

"The Blob is simply not believable as an action hero," wrote a famous movie critic. "The Blob is a blob, and that's all there is to it."

But the Blob didn't go back to being the old Hideous Blob. In fact, he made several more movies in which he got to "stretch" himself. In one, he was a romantic but emotionally damaged



math genius. In another he played a guy with glasses who was a meek newspaper reporter by day and a crime-fighting hero by night. They were complete flops as well.

Before, people stood in line to see the Blob's movies. Now, theaters showing his films were practically empty.

Finally, the Blob came to Vickie. "You've got to do something," he said. "You've got to help me become popular again!"

"OK," Vickie said, "but it's going to mean going back to horror movies."

"That's fine," said the Blob. "I understand now. I'm a great horror-movie actor, but I'm a terrible action hero."

"I have to say I agree with you," said Vickie. "But at least you gave it an honest try. It would have bothered you all your life if you hadn't!"

"And I have to admit it," said the Blob. "I always felt ridiculous in those cool-guy outfits."

So Vickie had the Hideous Blob make a new scary movie in which he was the old Hideous Blob again. Audiences loved it.

"This is great!" they cried.

"The Hideous Blob for president!" they shouted.

And so it went. The Hideous Blob became a big star again. He was on commercials, TV shows, and in magazines. And he got awards—Blob of the Year, Best Supporting Blob, even Comeback Blob of the Year.

Of course, the Blob gave tons of interviews. In each one, he took the opportunity to put in a plug for his new message: "Be happy with who you are." The Blob wasn't an action hero. But now, he was a different kind of hero. He was a hero to unusual people everywhere. And that was an exciting new role for him.

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4. What detail shows that audiences did not like the Blob in his new roles?

- ☐ A. A critic said the Blob should stick to horror movies.
- ☐ B. Vickie said she thought the Blob's plan to take new roles wasn't a good idea.
- ☐ C. The Blob took a role as a crime-fighting reporter.
- ☐ D. Theaters showing his films were nearly empty.

5. Audiences didn't like the new Blob because

- ☐ A. he wasn't believable.
- ☐ B. he lost his acting ability.
- ☐ C. he was too scary.
- ☐ D. he said nasty things about his fans.

6. The Blob asked Vickie to help him

- ☐ A. convince critics he was good in his new roles.
- ☐ B. play a blob again.
- ☐ C. get revenge on people who didn't like the new him.
- ☐ D. spread his new message.

7. At first, the Blob dreamed of becoming an action hero. Instead he became a hero to people who are

- ☐ A. scared.
- ☐ B. overweight.
- ☐ C. different.
- ☐ D. sick.

8. You are a writer for *Scary Teen Movie* magazine. On a separate sheet of paper, write a short article about the Blob's big comeback and his new mission in life.