One of my neighbours plays baseball, although she is a chicken. Another drives a fire truck, although he is a rabbit. I used to have a neighbour, a sleek and thoughtful seal, who could balance a ball on her nose from dawn until dusk. Her voice was like the throaty bark of a dog chained outside on a cold night. Children wished on pennies and tossed them into her plastic pool. They glowed on the bottom like flat copper stones. The seal was hungry one day (or bored perhaps) so she ate one hundred pennies. Mack said she’d be fine. He was mistaken.

Questions:

1. Mack said 'she'd be fine.' how is the apostrophe used here?

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2. Why do you think the author has written, 'Mack said she'd be fine. He was mistaken?'

(2)

3. Why do you think the seal may have been bored?

(2)

4. Why do you think she ate exactly 100 pennies?

(1)

5. Why do children wish on the pennies they toss into the pool?

(1)