

Name _____ Date _____

Directions: Read the passage and answer the questions.
Write your answers on separate paper or on the back of this page.

Just One Thing

- 1 Jack sat on his bed, his shoulders slumped in defeat. His room was such a disaster area that he did not know where to start, but his mom had said he couldn't come downstairs until everything was put away.
- 2 Jack thought about clearing his desk. He could pick everything up, but where would he put it? His closet was packed, and his bookcase was overflowing. Groaning, Jack fell back on the bed and stared at the ceiling until his big sister Dory poked her head in the door.
- 3 "Taking a break?" asked Dory.
- 4 "I haven't even started," Jack moaned, "because it's impossible. There's no way I can clean all this."
- 5 "Nothing gets done all at once," said Dory. "Do you read a whole book at one time?"
- 6 "Well, I thought about starting on my desk, but—"
- 7 "Don't think about it. Just get up and do one thing."
- 8 "And then what?"
- 9 "Do another," said Dory, exiting.
- 10 Jack trudged to the clothes corner, picked up a shirt, folded it, and put it away. Then he picked up a pair of dirty jeans and put them in the hamper. One item at a time, he put all the clothes away. Turning to his desk, Jack sighed, and then he picked up a notebook.



Comprehension Questions

1. **Underline one sentence that shows how Jack's messy room affects him.**
2. **What does Jack learn by the end of the story?**
3. **What is the theme of the story?**
4. **Write two details from the story that support the theme.**

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