

Name.....

The Railway Children 1

The dining-room opened out of the kitchen. It looked much darker than the kitchen when they went in with the one candle. Because the kitchen was whitewashed, but the dining-room was dark wood from floor to ceiling, and across the ceiling there were heavy black beams. There was a muddled maze of dusty furniture--the breakfast-room furniture from the old home where they had lived all their lives. It seemed a very long time ago, and a very long way off.

There was the table certainly, and there were chairs, but there was no supper.

From The Railway Children by Edith Nesbit

1. Why did it look darker in the kitchen?
.....(1)

2. Find a **group of words** which show that the room was not very well organised?
.....(1)

3. Using **quotes** from the text, explain how we know that the family had fallen on hard times?
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.....(2)

4. Why might it have seemed 'a very long time ago, and a very long way off' if they had only moved recently?
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.....(1)