



Multiple Choice Questions

1. Which poetic device is used in the below line:

Belinda was as brave as a barrel full of bears.

- (a) Alliteration (b) Simile
(c) Paradox (d) Metaphor

2. Who is the Protagonist of the Poem, The Tale of Custard the Dragon?

- (a) Mustard (b) Belinda
(c) Custard (d) Ink

3. Why did Belinda address her Dragon as a Coward creature?

- (a) He addressed it in a sarcastic manner
(b) He was afraid of little things
(c) He kind of kept himself in an Isolation in his cage
(d) She didn't like him

4. How many bullets did the pirates fire on the Custard the Dragon?

- (a) Three (b) Two
(c) Four (d) Five

5. In the poem The Tale of Custard the Dragon, Belinda called the dragon as

- (a) Mustard (b) Dragon
(c) Blink (d) Custard

6. Who helped Belinda and made her safe in getting her out from the adverse situation?

- (a) Mustard (b) Blink
(c) Ink (d) Custard

7. Which writing style is used in the poem, The Tale of Custard the Dragon?

- (a) Sonnet (b) Ballad
(c) Haiku (d) Limerick

8. Which poetic device is used in the below line:

Belinda paled and she cried help!help!

- (a) Metaphor (b) Imagery
(c) Illusion (d) Repetition

9. What is the rhyming scheme of the first stanza of the poem, The Tale of Custard the Dragon?
- (a) abcb (b) aabb
(c) abca (d) abaa
10. In the poem, The Tale of Custard the Dragon, the dragon's mouth was like a
- (a) mantelpiece (b) fireplace
(c) Pot (d) chimney

Fill in the blanks :

11. Belinda's kitten was named _____.
12. Custard the dragon always cried for _____.

True / False

13. Custard the dragon was always considered the bravest among Belinda's pets.
14. The poem is written in a rhyming and humorous ballad form.

Very Short Type Questions

15. The usage of words like realio trulio creates a wonderful poetic effect. How? Answer in the context of the poem The Tale of Custard the Dragon..
16. Ogden Nash's The Tale of Custard The Dragon is a humorous ballad - a song on a poem that tells a story. Justify

Short Type Questions

17. Bring out the central idea of the poem, The Tale of Custard the Dragon.
18. What makes Custard, the dragon look fearsome? Explain.

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Essay Type Questions

19. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

Belinda is as brave as a barrel full of bears
And Ink and Blink chase lions down the stairs,
Mustard is as brave as a tiger in a rage,
But Custard keeps crying for a nice safe cage.

- i. Pick the option that does not display a simile from the extract.
 - a. ...as brave as a barrel full of bears
 - b. ...chase lions down the stairs
 - c. ...brave as a tiger in a rage
 - d. none of the above
- ii. Fill in the blank with one word. The coward behaviour of _____ animal is described here in these lines.
- iii. How does the poet describe the pets of Belinda in this extract?
- iv. A hyperbole is a poetic device where the poet purposely and obviously exaggerates to an extreme. Comment on the hyperbole from the extract.

20. What is the theme of the poem The Tale of Custard the Dragon?

HOTS

21. **Assertion (A)** : Custard was called a coward by everyone.

Reason (R) : He looked weak and had no strength to fight.

- (a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A
- (b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A
- (c) A is true, but R is false
- (d) A is false, but R is true

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Poem-9 | The Tale of Custard the Dragon?

Worksheet-1

Answer & Solution

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1. (b)
The poetic device used here is simile.
Here, Belinda's bravery is compared to the barrel full of bears.
2. (c)
Categorically, the protagonist means the main character. Here in this poem, the protagonist is Custard as the poem content is woven around him. Adding to this, his name is also mentioned in the title of the poem.
3. (c)
Belinda and her three pets were very brave creatures, but the Dragon didn't fall into the category of brave creatures. The reason was his introvert nature. He kept himself in an isolation in his cage and never tried to come out of it. Belinda perceived the Dragon as he was a coward creature who always looked for his safety which was absolutely wrong. That's why Belinda addressed the Dragon as a Coward creature.
4. (b)
The pirate had a one on one with the Dragon. He fired two bullets at Custard. Fortunately, he didn't get harmed from it and therefore he engulfed the pirate.
5. (d) Custard
6. (d)
Belinda was pleading for help as she was completely helpless at that moment. Custard, the Dragon helped her out that adverse situation, as he was not a Coward or a timid animal, it was just a blind perception of Belinda of him.
7. (b)
This poem is written in the form of a ballad which usually means a song or a poem that tells a story. This is a ballad which tells a story of a Dragon named Custard.
8. (d)
The poetic device used here is Repetition. In that line, the word, 'help' is repeated twice which brings up to the point that the poetic device used here is Repetition.
9. (b)
The rhyming scheme used in the first stanza of the poem is aabb. Categorically, the first two lines of the stanza end with the same rhyming words while the last two lines of the stanza end with the same rhyming words.
10. (b) fireplace
11. Ink
12. nice safe cage
13. False
14. True

15. The poet Ogden Nash is remembered for his 'non-sense poetry'. The poem is full of rhyming words like 'realio trulio' which create wonderful rhyme in the poem.
16. Ogden Nash's "The Tale of Custard the Dragon" fits the definition of a humorous ballad because it tells a lively story with playful language and rhymes. It narrates Belinda and her pets' adventures with a pirate, mixing humor with suspense. Nash's use of rhythm and rhyme enhances the storytelling, making it enjoyable and easy to remember, like a song.
17. This poem is written by Ogden Nash. The central idea of this poem shows that everything created whether small or big has its specific importance. Usually, we underestimate talented persons but they prove themselves by their wits and right actions. We should never look down on others. Moreover, correct and timely actions are always beneficial. In other words, a stitch in time saves nine, which is also the nucleus of the poem. "The Tale of Custard the Dragon" explores themes of bravery and cowardice through the adventures of Belinda and her pets. While Belinda and her other pets show courage when faced with danger, Custard, the dragon, is initially timid. However, when a pirate threatens them, Custard overcomes his fears and displays unexpected bravery, ultimately saving the day despite his initial reluctance.
18. Custard, the dragon, appeared fearsome due to his large size, sharp claws, and fiery breath. His scales shimmered ominously, and his piercing eyes conveyed a sense of menace. His roaring and aggressive demeanour instilled fear in those who encountered him. In "The Tale of Custard the Dragon", Custard is described as fearsome, with sharp teeth, spikes, and dagger-like claws.
- 19.
- (b)chase lions down the stairs
 - dragon (as he was looking for a nice cage)
 - The poet describes the bravery of the pets in this extract. Ink and Blink have the power to chase away someone as strong as a lion. The bravery of the dog is compared to that of a tiger. But, Custard was not at all brave as he was looking for a nice safe cage.
 - It is too much of an exaggeration that a small girl is as brave as many bears combined together into one. The comparison of the bravery of other pets is an example of hyperbole.

20. The theme of the poem is that everyone has their own capabilities and should never be judged on the basis of their appearance and preferences. In the poem, Belinda and all pets she owns boast. However, Custard never boasted about its might and power and instead always cried for a nice and safe cage, which made the dragon the butt of their joke. At the time of danger, all the brave characters got frightened and it was Custard who came to the rescue and faced the pirate.

The dragon not only tackled him but also ate him up. The story tells us that we should not be judgmental as everyone is unique and capable in their own way.

21. (c)

Custard was called a coward, but not because he lacked strength. In fact, he was physically strong but lacked confidence.

विश्व ज्ञान
पढ़ें: जब चाहें, जहाँ चाहें, जैसे चाहें!

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