

Deepening Understanding

YR4 Classic Fiction Text Answers

This set of questions is based upon 'The Wizard of Oz' written by Frank Baum.

Q1

Read the opening as far as '...had a big bed in one corner' What is your first impression of Dorothy's house?

1 mark for an explanation that the house is very small and basic but has everything they need

2 marks for a deeper explanation that links to the text. E.G. The house is very small because the wood (lumber) had to be carried many miles. It has everything in just 1 room. It is probably old because the stove is rusty.

2 Marks

Q2

Find and copy the clause that shows the whirlwinds are powerful

2 marks for the complete direct quote...'... mighty enough to crush any building in its path'

2 Marks

Q3

How do you think Dorothy feels when she stands in the doorway and looks around?

1 mark for evidence of understanding that Dorothy felt bored or lonely

2 marks for further development of the explanation - because everywhere she looked it was grey and there were no other houses around so she would have no friends nearby or nothing much to do.

2 Marks



Q4

What evidence is there that the climate was hot?

A mark for any of these (maximum 2 marks)

- The sun had baked the ploughed land into a grey mass, with little cracks running through it
- the sun had burned the tops of the long blades
- the sun blistered the paint

2 Marks

Q5

...she was thin and gaunt..Circle the word closest in meaning to 'gaunt'.

skinny

tall

haggard

pretty

1 mark for correct answer circled

1 Mark

Q6

'Aunt Em had been so startled by the child's laughter that she would scream and press her hand upon her heart'

Why did Aunt Em do this?

1 mark for demonstrating an understanding that Aunt Em wouldn't have heard laughter for a long time and it shocked her.

2 marks for a more developed answer and explanation -E.g. this is because she had lived in Kansas for so long and because it was grey and boring, she would not have laughed herself for a long time either.

2 Marks



Q7

Why do you think Uncle Henry 'did not know what joy was'?

2 marks for an understanding that recognises Uncle Henry must have lived in Kansas all his life and he must not have seen any colour, nor had many people to spend time with. He also works hard all day.

2 Marks

Q8

Why did Toto make Dorothy laugh?

1 mark for any of the following points: Toto was not grey; he was a little black dog, with long silky hair and small black eyes that twinkled merrily on either side of his funny, wee nose. Toto played all day long.

1 Mark

Q9

Do you think that Dorothy was happy?

Yes

No

Maybe

Explain why.

1 mark for children justifying answers. E.g. yes because she has Toto to laugh with and play with

Maybe because even though it was dull and boring, she had Toto to play with.

1 Mark



Q10

What evidence is there that the family are used to cyclones?

1 mark for each point - a maximum of 3 marks

- The sky was greyer than usual - uncle Henry was looking at the sky so he knew that was a sign
- Uncle Henry knew he had to sort out the 'stock'
- They had a cellar built for sheltering from cyclones

3 Marks

