

Class 10th English

Lesson - 10

Bodo Medium

The Tale of Custard the Dragon

काष्टार्ड डा ड्रागननि सल 'बाथा

Textual Questions and Answers

Thinking about the poem

1. Who are the characters in the poem ? List them with their pet names.

(खनथायाव थानाय आखुफोरा सोर सोर ? बिसोरनि दोनजानाय मुंजों बिसोरनि मोनसे फारिलाइ बनाय ।)

Ans: There are five characters in this poem. These are Belinda, a little black kitten, a little grey mouse, a little yellow dog and the dragon. They lived with Belinda. Their names were Ink, Blink, Mustard and Custard respectively.

2. Why did Custard cry for a safe cage ?

Why is the dragon called "cowardly dragon"?

(काष्टार्डआ मानो रैखाथिगोनां फिनजारिनि थाखाय गाबखावदोंमोन ? द्रागनखौ मानो 'गिख' द्रागन' बुंनाय जादों?)

Ans: Custard cried for a safe cage, because he was coward. So. custard is called 'cowardly dragon'.

3. "Belinda tickled him, she tickled him unmerciful" - why?

("बेलिण्डया बिखौ गेदावदोंमोन, बियो बिखौ अननाय गैयाजासे गेदावदोंमोन- ।" मानो ?)

Ans: Belinda tickled Custard without mercy because a pirate had come there with pistols in his hands. She tickled Custard to save her from the pirate.

4. The poet has employed many poetic devices in the poem. For example "Clashed his tail like iron in a dungeon' The poetic device here is a simile. Can you, with your partner, list some more such poetic device used in the poem ?

(खनथाइगिरिया खन्थाइयाव गोबां खनायारि आदब बाहायदों। बिदिनथि महरै "हासिनि जोबसालिनि सोर बायदि बियो बिनि लानजाइखौ बुब्राबदोंमोन" - बेवहाय खनाथायारि आदबा जादों रुपक। नों नोंनि लोगोफोरजों खनथाइयाव बाहायनाय बिब्दि खनथायारि आदब दिहुननो हागोन ना ?)

Ans : (a) Similes :

(i) The little yellow dog was sharp as Mustard.

(ii) Mouth like a fireplace.

(iii) Belinda was as brave as a barrel full of bears.

(iv) Mustard was as brave as a tiger in rage.

(v) Snorting like an engine.

(vi) Tail like irons.

(vii) The pirate like a robin at a worm.

(b) Metaphor :

(i) Chimney for a nose.

5. Read stanza three again to know how the poet describes the appearance of the dragon.

(खनथाइगिरिया द्रागननि महरखौ माबोरै फोरमायदों बेखौ मिथिनो थाखाय थामथि खोलोबखौ फिन फराय।)

Ans: In this stanza the poet says

That the dragon had big sharp

Teeth, spikes on its top and

Scales below him. His mouth was

like a fireplace and nose like a

Chimney. His toes were like daggers.

6. Can you find out the rhyme scheme of two or three stanzas of the poem?

(खनथाइनि मोननै एबा मोनथामसो गोरोबनाय खाबाम नों दिहुननो हागोन ना ?)

Ans: The rhyme scheme in the first stanza is a a b b and the second stanza is also : a a b b. The same scheme is found in the rest stanzas.

7. Writer use words to give us a picture or image without actually saying what they mean. Can you trace some images used in this poem?

(लिरगिरिया बेफोर थारै मा ओंथि खालामो बेखौ बुडाजासे जोंनो सावगारि एबा नेरसोनथि होनो सोदोबफोरखौ बाहायदों ? बे खनथाइयाव बाहायनाय मोननैसो नेरसोन फोरखौ नों दिहुननो हागोन ना ?)

Ans: Yes, the poet draws the image of the physical structure of the dragon and of the pirate. He also brings dungeons and engine as images.

8. Do you find the Tale of Custard the Dragon to be serious or a light-hearted poem? Give reasons to support your answer.

(नों द्रागन काष्टार्डनि सल 'खौ गोथौथिगोनां एबा रेर्जे गोसोनि होनना सानोना ? नोंनि फिननायखौ मदद होनो जाहोन हो।)

Ans: In fact, this is a light hearted poem. Because all the brave characters fled in times of danger but the coward did the real work of bravery. As soon as the danger is over they again pretended to be brave.

Additional Question Answers

1. Who wrote the poem "The Tale of Custard the Dragon"?

("काष्टार्ड द्रागन" सल' बाथाखौ सोर लिरदोंमोन ?)"

Ans: Ogden Nash wrote the poem, "The Tale of Custard the Dragon."

2. Where did Belinda live?

(बेलिण्डाया बबेयाव थायोमोन ?)

Ans: Belinda lived in a little white house.

3. Who else lived with Belinda?
(बेलिण्डाजों सोर सोर थाफायोमोन ?)

Ans: A kitten, a mouse, a dog and a dragon lived with Belinda.

4. How was Belinda brave?
(बेलिण्डाया माबायदि साहासिमोन ?)

Ans: Belinda was brave like a barrel full of bears.

5. Who chased the lions down the stairs?
(सिरिनि गाहाइथिंजाय सिंह 'खौ सोर होसोदोंमोन ?)

Ans: Ink and Blink chased the lions down the stairs.

6. When was Mustard brave?
(माष्टार्डआ माब्ला साहसि जादोंमोन ?)

Ans: Mustard was brave when he was hungry.

7. Why did Custard want a safe cage?
(काष्टार्डआ मानो रैखागोनां फिनजारि नागिरदों मोन ?)

Ans: Custard wanted a safe cage because he was coward.

8. Whom did Belinda tickle?
(बेलिण्डाया सोरखौ गेदावना होदोंमोन ?)

Ans : Belinda tickled the dragon.

9. How did Belinda tickle the dragon?
(बेलिण्डाया माबोरै ड्रागनखौ गेदावदोंमोन ?)

Ans: Belinda tickled the dragon mercilessly.

10. What did Ink, Blink and Mustard call the dragon?
(इंक, ब्लिंक आरो माष्टार्डमोना माष्टार्डखौ मा होनजा गाबज्रियोमोन?)

Ans: They called the dragon percival.

11. How did they make fun of the dragon?
(बिसोर ड्रागनखौ माबोरै एदावोमोन ?)

Ans: They laughed at him.

12. What did the pirate have in his arms?
(लैथो दाखुहा आखाइयाव मा दंमोन ?)

Ans: The pirate had pistols in his arms.

13. Where did the pirate hold a cutlass bright?
(लैथो दाखाता गोजों सिखाखौ बबेयाव लादोंमोन ?)

Ans: The pirate held a cutlass bright in his teeth.

14. What did the pirate mean ?
(दाखुआ मा मतलब खालामदोंमोन ?)

Ans: The pirate meant no good.

15. What did the Custard do?
(काष्टार्डआ मा खालामदोंमोन ?)

Ans: The Custard jumped up.

16. How did the Custard snort?
(काष्टार्डआ माबोरै हंख्रायदोंमोन ?)

Ans: The Custard snorted like an engine,

17. How did the Custard jump up?
(काष्टार्डआ माबोरै बारसिनदोंमोन ?)

Ans: The Custard jumped up with courage.

18. Who did Custard face?
(काष्टार्डआ सोरजों मोगा-मोगि जादोंमोन ?)

Ans: Custard faced the pirate.

19. Why did the pirate gaped at the dragon ?
(दाखुआ मानो ड्रागनखौ खुगाब्लांसिदोंमोन ?)

Ans: The pirate gaped at the dragon to terrify.

20. Why did the pirate gulp some gorg?
(दाखुआ मानो इसे जौ लोंदोंमोन ?)

Ans: The pirate gulped some gorg to gather courage.

21. What did the pirate finally do?
(दाखुआ जोबनायाव मा मावदोंमोन ?)

Ans: The pirate fired two bullets.

22. What did the dragon do?
(ड्रागनआ मा खालामदोंमोन ?)

Ans : He swallowed the pirate.

23. Who proved himself to be really brave?
(सोर गावखौनो थरैनो साहसि होनना फोरमान होदोंमोन ?)

Ans: Custard proved himself to be really brave.

24. What was Mustard's comment?
(माष्टार्डनि बिबुंथिया मा मोन ?)

Ans: Mustard's comment was that he was twice brave had he not been nervons.

25. What did Ink and Blink said?
(इंक आरो ब्लिंकआ मा बुंदोंमोन ?)

Ans: Ink and Blink said that they could have been three times brave.

26. What did Custard agree?
(काष्टार्डआ मा राजि-जादोंमोन ?)

Ans: Custard agreed that they were braver than he.

27. How did the dragon look?
(ड्रागनखौ माबायदि नुयोमोन ?)

Ans: Custard looked like a dragon. It had big sharp teeth and spikes on top of him and scales underneath. His mouth was like a fireplace and nose was like a chimney. He had also daggers on his toes.

28. How did the pirate appear before them?
(दाखुआ बिसोरनि सिगाडाव माबायदि नुजादोंमोन ?)

Ans: Suddenly a pirate appeared before them with pistols in his hands. There was a sharp sword in his teeth. He had a black beard and his one leg was of wood. His motive was evil.

29. What did the pirate do when the dragon faced him?
(द्रागनंजों मोगा मोगि जाब्ला दाखुआ मा खालामदोंमोन ?)

Ans: When the dragon faced the pirate the pirate looked at him with an open mouth. The pirate tried to terrify him by his looks. He swallowed some liquor from his pocket flagon. In an attempt to kill the dragon, he fired two bullets but they did not hit him.

30. How did Custard, the dragon overpower the pirate?
(काष्टार्ड द्रागना दाखुखौ माबोरै फेजेनदोंमोन ?)

Ans: Custard, the dragon prepared himself to put a brave fight with the pirate. He jumped over his enemy. He snorted like an engine. He struck with his tail. His tail was like irons. He attacked the pirate like a robin at a worm and started gobbling him slowly.