

Honeydew Poem 1 The Ant and the Cricket By Adapted from Aesop's Fables

Summary

The ant and the cricket is a fable in the form of poetry by Aesop. This poem is a story of a desperate and silly cricket and a miserly ant. The cricket would sing during the months of summer and spring. He never stored food for the winters. In the winter season, he finds that there is no food to eat at home. He was starving and thus, he went to the ant. He requested the ant to lend him some food and shelter. The ant refused to help him and told him to pass the winter also dancing. After saying this, the ant threw the Cricket out of his house.

Question 1.

The Cricket says, "Oh! what will become of me?" When does he say it, and why?

Answer:

The winter has set in. He has nothing to eat. He can't find even a crumb on snowcovered ground. He is worried and starved. At that time he says so.

Question 2.

(i) Find in the poem the lines that mean the same as "Neither a borrower nor a lender be" (Shakespeare).

Answer:

The following lines have the same meaning : 'But we ants never borrow, we ants never lend'. It conveys the same sense as 'Neither a borrower nor a lender be'.

(ii) What is your opinion of the ant's principles ?

Answer:

The ants' principles are appropriate. As a principle it deserves applaud. But we should not so hard as let the other die of starvation. However, one should make one realise one's mistake.

Question 3.

The ant tells the cricket to 'dance the winter away'. Do you think the word 'dance' is appropriate here ? If so, why?

Answer:

The word 'dance' is appropriate as it suits to the carelessness of the cricket.

Question 4.

(i) Which lines in the poem express the poet's comment ? Read them aloud.

Answer:

Folks call this fable. I'll warrant it true : Some cricket have four legs, and some have two (Read aloud)

(ii) Write the comment in your own words.

Answer:

People say that this story of the cricket and the ant is imaginary or a fable with a moral. But I think that the story is true and educative. Some people live only in the present. They spend what they earn, and make merry. But they regret this habit later on.