- 1. What are the things the child sees on his way to the fair? Why does he lag behind?
- A. On his way to the fair, the child sees the following things-
- 1. He saw toys that were displayed in the shops lined up on the way.
- 2. He saw the vast mustard field which seemed like melting gold.
- 3. There were brightly coloured dragonflies, butterflies and black bees which flapped their wings and sat on the flowers to suck nectar from them.
- 4. He also saw little insects and worms along the footpath that were crawling out of the holes in the footpath to get sunshine.
- 5. The child saw a dove bird in the grove.
- 6. Also, he saw hordes of people walking towards the fair.

The child often lagged behind because he would watch the different happenings around him. He would get attracted to these things and would stop in his way. Then, his parents would walk ahead and he would be left behind.

- 2. In the fair he wants many things. What are they? Why does he move on without waiting for an answer?
- A. In the fair, the boy wanted the following things-
- 1. He wanted to buy a burfi from the sweetmeat seller.
- 2. He wanted a garland of flowers from the flower seller.
- 3. Next, he saw a balloon seller and wanted a balloon.
- 4. When he saw the snake charmer he was attracted to the music of the flute and wanted to listen to it.
- 5. He wanted to take a ride on the roundabout swing.

The child moved ahead from all the stalls without waiting for a reply because he knew that his parents would not heed to his demands. He knew their replies in each case would be as follows -

- 1. For the burfi, they would say that he was a greedy child.
- 2. The garland of flowers would not be bought because it was considered cheap.
- 3. They would not buy him a balloon because he was grown up to play with it.

- 4. The child's parents had warned him from listening to such unpleasant music as was played by the snake charmers.
- 3. When does he realise that he has lost his way? How have his anxiety and insecurity been described?
- A. When the child raised his demand for a ride on the round about, his parents did not reply. He moved his head up to look for them. It was then that he discovered that he had lost his way. His anxiety and insecurity have been described in the following ways-
- 1. The child saw hefty men with murderous eyes and got scared of them.
- 2. He ran here and there looking for his parents.
- 3. His turban untied.
- 4. His clothes became dirty.
- 5. He was screaming at the top of his voice.
- 4. Why does the lost child lose interest in the things that he had wanted earlier? A. The lost child loses interest in the things that he wanted earlier because now he is sad as he has lost his parents. Before getting anything of his choice like sweets, flowers, balloons, joy rides and music, he wants to reunite with his mother and father.
- 5. What do you think happens in the end? Does the child find his parents? A. The ending of the story is not given. I think that in the end, the boy finds his parents standing at the fair reception. Thus, the child finds his parents and they reunite once again.