



Comprehension Check (Page 20)

1. Why is the Giant called selfish?
2. On one occasion the children said: "How happy we are here!"
Later they said: "How happy we were there!"
What are they referring to in both the cases?
3. (i) When spring came, it was still winter in the garden. What does winter stand for or indicate here?
(ii) Winter has been presented like a story with its own characters and their activities. Describe the story in your own words.
4. Was the Giant happy or sad over the state of the garden?
5. What effect did the linnet's song have over Hail and the North Wind?

Answers:

1. The Giant was called selfish because he wanted to keep his garden reserved only for himself. He banned the entry of outsiders there.
2. In both the cases the children are referring to the Giant's garden. In the first sentence they say that they are enjoying in the giant's garden. But in the second sentence it is beyond their reach.
3. (i) Winter indicates that flowers did not bloom in the Giant's garden. The birds didn't sing. There was no sign of joy and greenery.
(ii) Winter has been portrayed as destroyer. It has its own characters. Snow and frost are the most prominent factors. Trees have been covered with white cloak. The trees look lifeless. North wind has come to stay there permanently. Hails settle on the roof.
4. The Giant felt sad to see the state of his garden. Different seasons brought no change in it.
5. As an effect of the linnet's song the Hail stopped dancing over his head. Similarly the North Wind ceased roaring.

Comprehension Check (Page 24)

1. (i) The Giant saw a most wonderful sight. What did he see?
(ii) What did he realise on seeing it?
2. Why was it still winter in one corner of the garden?
3. Describe the first meeting of the little boy and the Giant.
4. Describe their second meeting after a long interval.
5. The Giant lay dead, all covered with white blossoms. What does this sentence indicate about the once selfish Giant?

Answers:

1. (i) The Giant saw that through a little hole in the wall the children had entered into the garden. They were sitting in the branches of the trees. In every tree that he could see there was a little child. And the trees were glad to have the children back again that they had covered themselves with blossoms and were waving their hands gently above the children's heads. The birds were flying and twittering with delight, and flowers were laughing.
(ii) He realised that he himself was to blame for the year round

winter in his garden. He called himself selfish.

2. Only in one corner of the garden there was winter still. The reason was that a little boy could not climb the tree like other boys. He stood under a tree weeping.

3. In the first meeting of the boy and the Giant, the Giant lifted him gently and put him in the branch of that tree. The tree suddenly broke into flowers and the birds began to sing. The child kissed the Giant.

4. In the second meeting after so many years, the Giant saw wounds on the little boy's palm and feet. He became furious. He wanted to kill the man who had wounded the child. But the boy said that those were wounds of love.

5. This indicates that the Giant had been blessed by Lord Christ himself. He was neither cruel nor selfish. So Christ forgave him and took him to paradise.

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