



MORE QUESTIONS SOLVED

SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

Q1. "Mind the apples!", says Mr Lamb. Why do you think, does he issue this instruction, to whom and how many times?

Ans: Mr Lamb issues this instruction to Derry, a boy of fourteen, who climbs over the garden wall and enters the garden. He asks Derry twice to mind the apples which have been blown down by the wind from the trees and strewn in the grass. He (Derry) could put his foot on some apple, fall down and hurt himself.

Q2. What is the attitude of Mr Lamb to the small boy who comes to his garden ?

Ans: Mr Lamb's attitude to the small boy is quite gentle, protective and accommodating. Like an elder in the family offering advice and instructions to the younger members, Mr Lamb advises the young boy to mind the apples lest he should trip. He also advises the boy not to feel afraid.

Q3. What explanation does the small boy offer for coming into the garden? How does Mr Lamb react to it?

Ans: The boy thought that this was an empty place. He did not know there was anybody there. Mr Lamb assures him that it is all right. He asks the boy what he is afraid of. He tells the boy that the house is empty as he is in the garden and is likely to stay there. Such a beautiful day should not be wasted indoors.

Q4. "I'm not afraid. People are afraid of me," says Derry. What do people think on seeing his face? How do they react then?

Ans: On looking at Derry's face they find it bad and frightful. They think that it is the ugliest thing they have ever seen. They call him a poor boy as one side of his face has been burnt by acid. Some of them are afraid of his ugly and horrible face.

Q5. How does Mr Lamb change the subject from ugly face to ripe apples?

OR

How does Mr Lamb keep himself busy when it is a bit cooler ?

Ans: There is a momentary pause in the conversation. Then Mr Lamb changes the subject. He says that when it is a bit cooler, he will get the ladder and a stick. Then he will pull down those ripe crab apples. He makes jelly. He calls these orange coloured and golden apples magic fruit. September is a good time to make jelly. He tells the boy that he could help him.

Q6. Why, according to Derry, has the old man changed the subject?

Ans: Derry says that people always change the subject. They don't ask him about his physical impairment. They simply pretend that it is not true and isn't there. They don't want the boy to mind and get upset. He thinks that the old man has changed the subject because he is afraid to ask him about his burnt face.

Q7. "You got burned in a fire," says Mr Lamb. What do you think, had happened to Derry's face?

Ans: Derry's face did not get burned in a fire. He got acid all down that side of his face and it burned it all away. Derry says that this

acid not only ate his face up, it also ate him up. One side of his face is ugly and it won't ever be any different.

Q8. How does Mr Lamb react to Derry's query: 'Aren't you interested'?

Ans: Mr Lamb tells Derry that he is interested in anybody and anything. There's nothing God made that does not interest him. Fruit and flowers, trees and herbs, grass and weeds all interest him. Even stuff or rubbish is interesting. He finds no essential difference between a "weed" and another "flower" as both represent life—developing or growing.

Q9. "We're not the same", says Derry. How does Mr Lamb try to convince him that there is no essential difference between them?

Ans: Derry and Mr Lamb are both of the same species. They represent various stages of growth. Derry is young, Mr Lamb is old. Both suffer from the same physical impairment. Derry has a burnt face. The old man has got a tin leg. But this physical disability is not important. What is important is that both are alive. Derry is standing there whereas Mr Lamb is sitting.

Q10. How, according to Derry, does the tin leg not trouble Mr Lamb? What explanation does the old man offer?

Ans: Derry thinks that the old man can put on trousers and cover up his tin leg. Then no one sees it. So, people don't have to notice and stare at, as they do at his face. Mr Lamb replies that some people do notice and stare at his disability. Some don't. In the end, they get tired of it. Moreover, there are plenty of things to stare at.

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