

Grade IX

Lesson 7. The Duck and the Kangaroo

- Edward Lear

Poetry

Soul of the poem

Once a Duck wondered how a Kangaroo could hop. She wished if she could also go out of the pond and hop around like the Kangaroo. The Duck requested the Kangaroo to give her a ride on his back. She promised that she would sit quiet and say nothing but quack. She suggested that they would go to the 'Dee' and the 'Jelly Bo Lee'.

The Kangaroo agreed but said that her feet were unpleasantly wet and cold and he would get sick if she sat on his back. The Duck told him that she had bought four pairs of socks and a cloak to protect him from cold. She, out of her love for the Kangaroo, had also decided to smoke a cigar every day. The Kangaroo agreed and was now ready to take the Duck on ride. He asked the Duck to sit firmly on the end of his tail. They went with a hop and a bound. They hoped the whole world three times round. They enjoyed the trip and became happy.

Solved Question Bank

Reference-to-Context Questions

Q. Read the following extracts carefully and answer the questions that follow.

1. Said the Duck to the Kangaroo,

"Good gracious! How you hop!

Over the fields and the water too,

As if you never would stop!

My life is a bore in this nasty pond.

And I long to go out in the world beyond!

I wish I could hop like you!"

Said the Duck to the Kangaroo.

a. The Duck was astonished to see the _____ movement of Kangaroo.

Hopping

b. The Kangaroo could cross over the _____ and the _____.

Fields, water

c. The duck feels that its life is boring as it spends all the time in the same ocean.

True/False

False

d. The rhyme scheme of the above stanza is _____.

'Ababccaa'

2. "Please give me a ride on your back!"

Said the Duck to the Kangaroo.

"I would sit quite still, and say nothing but 'Quack',

The whole of the long day through!

And we'd go to the Dee, and the Jelly Bo Lee,

Over the land, and over the sea;

Please take me a ride! O do!"

Said the Duck to the Kangaroo.

a. In the above lines, the Duck _____ the Kangaroo to give it a ride on its back.

Requests

b. The duck promised that it would sit _____.

Quietly

c. The duck talks about the places they would visit. Dee and the Jelly Bo Lee are the places.

True

d. The sound of duck is _____.

'Quack'

3. Said the Kangaroo the Duck,

"This requires some little reflection;

Perhaps on the whole it might bring me luck,

And there seems but one objection,

Which is, if you'll let me speak so bold,

Your feet are unpleasantly wet and cold,

And would probably give me the roo-

Matiz!" said the Kangaroo.



a. The Kangaroo wants some time for _____.

Reflection

b. The _____ feels that the idea of travelling might bring it some fortune.

Kangaroo

c. The Kangaroo objected to the unpleasantly _____ and _____ feet of the Duck.

Wet, cold

d. _____ in the above stanza means 'thought'.

'Reflection'

4. Said the Duck, "As I sat on the rocks,

I have thought over that completely,

And I bought four pairs of worsted socks

Which fit my web-feet neatly.

And to keep out the cold I've bought a cloak,

And every day a cigar I'll smoke,

All to follow my own dear true

Love of a Kangaroo!"

a. Sitting on the _____ during the day, the Duck had thought over.

Rocks

b. In order to keep itself warm the Duck purchased a _____.

Cloak

c. The Duck got two pairs of worsted socks that fitted its web-feet neatly.

True/False

False

d. _____ in the above stanza means 'a type of woollen cloth'.

'Worsted'

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Short Answer Type Questions

1. Where did the Duck want to go? What did she promise the Kangaroo?

The Duck wanted to see the world around. She thought that she would visit the 'Dee' and the 'Jelly Bo Lee'. She promised the Kangaroo that she would sit still on the tail and say nothing but quack.

2. How did the Kangaroo react to her request?

The Kangaroo said that he required some thought. He had an objection. The Duck's feet were wet and cold. He might get sick. But he agreed to give her a ride on his tail.

3. What did the Duck do to remove his objection?

The Duck bought four pairs of worsted socks. She also bought a cloak to protect her from the cold. She promised to smoke a cigar every day. She would follow his direction.

4. 'My life is a bore in his nasty pond, And I long to go out in the world beyond!' Who is the speaker? What does the speaker wish? Why?

The Duck is the speaker. She longs to go out of the dirty pond. Her life is bore in the pond. She wants to get out of it and hop around like the Kangaroo.

5. 'I would sit quite still, and say nothing.' Who is 'I'? Where would it sit? Why?

'I' in the line stands for the Duck. The Duck would sit on the tail of the Kangaroo and hop around. It had a dull life in the dirty pond and requested the Kangaroo to take her around on his back.

6. "Your feet are unpleasantly wet and cold." Who is the speaker? Whose feet are wet and cold? Why?

The Kangaroo is the speaker. The feet of Duck were wet and cold because it lived in the dirty pond. The Kangaroo agreed to take her on a ride but objected to her cold and wet feet.

7. How did the Duck and the Kangaroo go round the world?

The Duck sat at the end of the Kangaroo's tail. She sat still and spoke nothing. The Kangaroo hopped and leapt. They went round the world three times. They enjoyed their journey and were very happy.

8. "And who so happy - O who!" Explain.

It conveys that they both enjoyed their journey. The Duck and the Kangaroo rode together round the world three times. They were extremely happy. It shows that they enjoyed each other's company.

9. How many times did they hop around the world? What does it signify?

The Duck and the Kangaroo hopped around the world thrice. It showed that they thoroughly enjoyed their journey. They were happy and comfortable with each other.

10. "And I bought four pairs of worsted socks." Why did 'I' buy the socks?

The Duck bought the socks for herself. She wanted to hop around with the help of the Kangaroo. The Kangaroo agreed to oblige her but objected to her wet and cold feet. The Duck responded by buying four pairs of socks to keep her feet warm.



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