

Chapter- 8

Georgie's Treat

STUDY NOTES

AT A GLANCE

In this poem Georgie's Treat we get the clear reflection of the love and affection of a son towards his sick mother. The boy was very small or young but on his shoulders was all the responsibilities of his family as his mother was sick and he had no father. It was a winter morning and there was no firewood at home. He could only gather few dried sticks and twigs from under the tree. He went to the woods (forest) to gather some firewood. While working in the woods, Georgie found some Scarlet berries which are red and wild covered in moss. He thought if he had buttered bread then it would taste really good. He then took steps to save the ripe red ones in a temporary cap made of leaves. As he sat by the river to taste the berries, he recalled of his mother and stopped eating. Georgie had a deep desire to eat the berries but he decided not to eat and share them with his mother. He packed them and started moving towards his hut to his mother in that same hungry manner. The moment he reached his hut he felt extremely happy for having decided to share the berries with his mother. He felt I would not have experienced this wave of happiness if I would have eaten the berries alone.

Get Going

A. Let us find the answers from the poem.

1) Answer the following questions.

a) Why did Georgie go to the forest?

Ans) Georgie went to the forest to fetch some firewood.

b) Till what time did Georgie work?

Ans) Georgie worked hard till the sun was high i:e afternoon.

c) Where did Georgie find the scarlet berries?

Ans) Georgie found the scarlet berries covered in moss under a tree in the forest.

2) Read the following sentences. Write T for true and F for false.

- a) Georgie wanted to eat the scarlet berries when he found them.
- b) Georgie had buttered bread with him.
- c) Georgie kept the berries in a small basket.
- d) Georgie's mother was not well.

B. Let us read between the lines.

1) Why was the winter described as 'harsh'?

Ans) The winter was described as 'harsh' because Georgie and his mother did not have any firewood to keep themselves warm.

2) Why was Georgie 'a loving son'?

Ans) Georgie was 'a loving son' because he helped his sick mother by collecting firewood from the forest and instead of eating all the berries he saved them for his mother.

3) What does the phrase 'wave of happiness' mean?

Ans) It means that Georgie was filled with happiness as he had saved half of the berries for his sick mother.

C) Let us go beyond the poem.

If you were in Georgie's place, would you have eaten the berries?

Ans) No, I too would not have eaten the berries. I would have packed the berries to share with my family members. (Opinion will differ)

VOCABULARY JUNCTION

1) Read the poem once again and list all the instances of alliteration you can find.

Ans) Had nothing **for fire** during a harsh winter.
 Dried sticks and **twigs** from under the **trees**
 He set to work saving the **ripe red** ones,
 By the river he sat **to taste** them
 '**Should I save** them?' he asked with a **sigh**,
 And not to eat all of **them there**.
 '**Had I eaten** would I ever sense', said **he**
 '**Half** this wave of **happiness**'?

- 2) Check if the following sentences are examples of alliteration. If they are, underline the words in which the consonant sounds are repeated.
- Adam ate the apple.
 - The giant was locked in the jar.
 - The audience clapped and cheered.
 - Som played the guitar.
 - Bats and balls are lying in the box.

GRAMMAR JUNCTION

- 1) Fill in the blanks with the correct conjunctions given in the box.

Unless but or although so until after before when while

- Make hay while the sun shines.
- Call me before you leave for football practice.
- Although her mother fixed the toy, she was still crying.
- We shall have dessert after the meal.
- The play is long but good.
- The party won't begin until everyone arrives.
- You could go to the park or watch the movie. There is no time for both.
- Shikha will not go to the supermarket unless you accompany her.

- 2) Complete the story by filling in the blanks with the conjunctions given in the box. You may use a conjunction more than once.

Georgie and his mother lived in a village near the forest. Although they were poor, they were very happy. As winter set in, cold winds had started blowing. Georgie realized that unless someone went to the forest, they would not get any firewood to keep the hut warm. Since his mother was sick, Georgie decided to go alone. He worked hard till afternoon. He soon felt tired. He decided to rest under the tree. Though Georgie craved for the berries, he did not eat them. He felt that if he gave them to his mother, she would be happy. So he packed the berries in a leaf and started for home. He kept them safe till he reached home.

WRITING JUNCTION

Paragraph writing (to be written by the child)

