

About the passage

The passage is about an encounter with the little men in Jonathan Swift's novel 'Gulliver's Travels'. Finding Gulliver unconscious on the sea, the little men bind him with ropes. Their chief comes to meet him.

Para 1

The orator ordered his men to put ladders against Gulliver. Little men climbed the ladders and put baskets of meat into his hands. Gulliver ate happily. Wine was brought to him, drank two casks. He was surprised at his appetite.

GLOSSARY

1. commanded : ordered
2. appetite : hunger
3. performed : did

The orator understood me very well. He descended from the stage, and *commanded*¹ that several ladders should be put against my side. A hundred of the people climbed up the ladders and walked towards my mouth with baskets full of meat, sent by the Emperor. There were the shoulders and legs of several animals but they were smaller than the wings of a small bird. I ate them two or three at a mouthful, and took three loaves of bread at a time. They supplied me as quickly as they could, showing a thousand marks of wonder and astonishment at my size and *appetite*². I then made another sign that I wanted a drink. They had found by my eating that a small quantity would not be enough for me. So, they drew up one of their largest casks and rolled it towards my hand. I opened the top and drank off the small quantity of wine it contained. It was delicious. They brought me a second cask, which I drank in the same manner, and made signs for more but they had none to give me. When I had *performed*³ these wonders, they shouted for joy, and danced upon my body, repeating several times as they did at first, *Hekinah degul*.

3.1 Choose the option which is correct or most appropriate :

1. Who is 'I' in the passage ?
 - (a) the orator
 - (b) Emperor
 - (c) ✓ the narrator Gulliver
 - (d) one little man
2. Baskets of meat were sent for Gulliver by _____.
 - (a) the chief
 - (b) ✓ the orator
 - (c) the Emperor
 - (d) a rich man
3. The little men were wonderstruck to see the size and _____.
 - (a) volume of Gulliver
 - (b) ✓ appetite of Gulliver
 - (c) excitement of Gulliver
 - (d) thirst of Gulliver
4. The wine which the little men gave to Gulliver was _____.
 - (a) sweet
 - (b) bitter
 - (c) ✓ very delicious
 - (d) fresh
5. When Gulliver performed these wonders the little men felt _____.
 - (a) very sad
 - (b) ✓ very happy
 - (c) very jealous
 - (d) very hungry

