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Dad and the cat and the tree

Glossary

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- * Stuck: unable to move, or set in a particular position, place.
- * Climber: a person who climbs mountains as a sport.
- * Ladder: a piece of equipment used for climbing up and down, that consists of two vertical bars or pieces of rope joined to each other by a set of horizontal steps.
- * Slipped: to slide suddenly and without intending to.
- * Dirt: dust, soil or any substance that makes a surface not clean.
- * Swung: to move easily and without

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interruption backwards and forwards or from one side to the other, especially from a fixed point, or to cause something or someone to do this.

* Easy as winking: Extremely easy, simple, requiring very little skill or effort.

* Crook: a bent part of something, esp. the inner part.

* yell: To shout something or make a loud noise, usually when you are angry, in pain or excited.

* Wobbly: Unsteady

* For goodness' sake: an exclamation expressing

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Summary of the Poem

One morning, a cat got stuck in the tree.

The narrator's dad decided that he will easily be able to take care of it. Narrator's father decided to climb the tree. His wife warned him

that he might fall, but ignoring her warnings he climbed the ladder, slipped and fell. Having fallen once, he thought of trying again, another

way. Yet again ignoring his wife warnings, he swung himself up on a branch. The branch

broke and again he fell. Not giving up still, the father climbed up the garden wall. Luckily this time he did not fall. However, the moment he

sprang onto the tree the cat jumped to the

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ground, safe and sound. Poor father, on the other hand, got stuck in the tree.

A) Let us find the answers from the poem.

1) Match the plans that Dad hatched with the fate they met.

* Plan A	Landed on the cat
* Plan B	Branch Broke
* Plan C	Fell in the flower bed

2) How did Dad try to save the cat first time?

Ans → Dad tried to save the cat first time by using a ladder to reach it.

3) What was plan B?

Ans → Plan B was to swing himself up on a branch and

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reach the cat. However, the branch from which he was trying to swing broke and he landed back on the deck.

4) Describe plan C. Why did it fail?

Ans → Plan C was to climb the garden wall and jump onto the crook of the tree trunk where the cat was stuck. He executed the plan successfully and landed in the exact spot. In fact he landed right on the cat. The cat yelled and jumped off the tree. Dad, however fit snug in the crook and got stuck there.

5) Find an idiom from the poem that means 'extremely delighted.'

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Ans → An idiom is a word or phrase which means something different from its literal meaning.

Idioms are common phrases or terms whose meaning is changed, but can be understood by their popular use.

Pleased as Punch is an idiom used in the poem that means 'extremely delighted.'

B) ~~Let us read between the lines.~~

1) What kind of a person do you think Dad was?

Substantiate your answer with lines from the poem.

Ans → I think Dad was an overconfident person because every time mum warned him against doing

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something he boldly answered back using phrases like 'child's' play this is!' and 'Easy as winking.' At the same time Dad is persistent because every time he fails he makes a different plan and tries to execute it.

2) What was Mum's role in this narrative? Did Dad heed her advice?

Ans → Mum repeatedly tried to warn Dad of the possible dangers of climbing the tree but Dad did not pay any heed to it.

Q) Let us go beyond the poem.

1) Which of the three plans do you think was the best?

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Ans → That's plan-C seems to be the best as he was almost able to execute the plan successfully. It couldn't be carried through because he landed directly on the cat which made the cat yelp and jump off the tree.

2) What would you do if you had to help the cat?

Ans → I would have probably arranged for a ladder to reach the branch where the cat was stuck.

Da) My dad asked me to get the jackhammer back from the neighbours. get the jackhammer back

b) What are you looking for? Looking for

c) Are you opting for any new subjects this

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Vocabulary junction

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semester? option for

d) Only after the third hint was the contestant able to catch on to the song. option for

2) Choose the correct two-part verbs from the box to complete the sentences.

a) It was so cold, I had to put on a sweater and a jacket.

b) The matter will be brought up in the next committee meeting.

c) Take down the instructions for the game before you start.

d) The players did not want to put off the match till the next day.

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3) Fill in the blanks with appropriate two-part verb

- a) Fill in the form carefully.
- b) The children are going to set up the christmas tree tonight.
- c) We usually step into the ice-cream parlour on our way back from the market.
- d) Everyone in the house got up when the rooster started crowing.

Pronunciation function

- 1) How many syllables do these words have?
 - a) flower → two syllable
 - b) hour → one syllable
 - c) tune → one syllable
 - d) sincerely → three syllable

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e) reduce → two syllable

f) ceremony → four syllable

g) dangerous → three syllable

h) you → one syllable

i) serious → three syllable

j) powerful → four syllable

Grammar function

1) Underline the verbs in the following sentences
and state whether they are transitive or
intransitive. Circle the objects if the verbs are
transitive.

a) Sunil passed the (exam). (Transitive verb)

b) The dog was barking loudly. (Intransitive verb)

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c) She called (her mother) early in the morning.

(Transitive verb)

d) I saw the children playing (tennis) (Transitive verb)

e) She studied (archaeology). (Transitive verb)

f) She slept for 12 hours. (Intransitive verb)

g) I ate only a sandwich for dinner. (Transitive verb)

h) The tea has gone (cold). (Transitive verb).

i) The little girl let the balloon loose. (Transitive verb)

j) Shalini took the puppy out for a walk. (Transitive verb)

k) I don't drink (coffee). (Transitive verb)

l) The shop was closed. (Intransitive verb)

2) Make a transitive and intransitive verb sentence

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with each of the form of verb given below.

a) Design → Rahul designed the cupboard in his room. (Transitive)

b) Continue → The ceremony is expected to continue for 2 hours. (Transitive)

* They want me to continue as the class monitor. (Intransitive)

c) Tear → I saw my sister tearing the letter into tiny pieces. (Transitive)

* Can you tear it for me? (Intransitive)

d) Run: My uncle runs restaurant. (Transitive)

* The truck runs on diesel. (Intransitive)

e) Speak: My sister speaks both German and

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Spanish. (Transitive)

f) Sleep → Our new resort in Goa sleeps 50 people.
(Transitive)

* The baby couldn't sleep because of the noise.
(Intransitive)

g) Switch: I switched the old toy with a new one when the baby was sleeping. (Transitive)

* The school management has switched to short the summer hours. (Intransitive)

h) Change → Rohan changed the topic to sports.
(Transitive)

* My life has changed completely after the accident. (Intransitive)

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i) Teach → She teaches history. (Transitive)

* She teaches in the middle school. (Intransitive)

j) Drive → I drive my car every Sunday.

(Transitive)

* My sister drives in a rash manner.

(Intransitive).