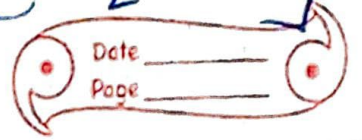


MACAVITY: THE MYSTERY CAT [CH-4]

Get going :-



[A] Let us find the answers from the poem.

① Which of the names has the speaker not given to Macavity?

Ans Griddlebone

② Which of these organisations has not been affected by Macavity?

Ans The United Nations

③ Write a brief description of Macavity based on your understanding of the third ~~st~~ stanza?

Ans Macavity is a ginger, ^{coloured} cat. He is very tall and thin. He can be recognised from his eyes which are deeply sunken in. He has lines on his forehead, steeped with

thoughts. He has a highly domed head, his coat is untidy and his whiskers are uncombed. Macavity moves like a snake and even when he is mistaken to be asleep, he is widely awake.

(4) Make a list of the crimes that Macavity has committed.

Ans Macavity has looted food from the larder, opened the jewel case, consumed all the milk etc. He has stifled Pekingese dogs, he has broken the greenhouse glass and destroyed the tulle. Whenever the foreign office has found that a treaty that has gone astray, or the Admiralty has lost some plans or drawings, they believed that Macavity is the culprit.

⑤ Who are Mungojerrie and Griddlebone? How are they related to Macavity?

Ans → Mungojerrie & Griddlebone are wicked cats, but their deceitfulness is nothing in comparison to Macavity. The poet compares Macavity to Napoleon, who is helped by his agents, Mungojerrie & Griddlebone, in controlling operations.

[B] Let us read between the lines.

① Why is it useless to investigate Macavity?

Ans → It is useless to investigate Macavity as he never leaves any evidence at the scene of crime. It always as if he was never present at the scene. Also, he

always has spare alibi to
prove innocence.

② What phrase is repeated
in almost every stanza? What
is the significance of this
repeated repetition?

Ans → ~~The~~ The sentence 'Macavity is
not there' is repeated
throughout the poem. It
signifies Macavity's cleverness
as he manages to commit
crimes everywhere but never
leaves behind any evidence.

③ The speaker has exaggerated
in some places for effect.
Point out a few such
instances. Write a line of
your own adding to the
description of Macavity using
the same effect.

Ans → The speaker has used exaggeration in many places. For example, Macavity can defy the law of gravity and move so fast that even the Scotland Yard is not even able to catch him.

[C] Let us go beyond the poem.

① Why do you think Macavity steals and commits crimes?

Ans I think Macavity intentionally commits crime. Activities that are regular to him might be considered a criminal offence by others as they comprise minor destruction of property or distress disturbance to people.

② Do you think the speaker is really talking about a cat in the poem?

Ans I ~~do~~ don't think the poet is talking about a cat in the poem. He must have presented a demon in the form of a cat.

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CH-3

✓ SLIGHT MISUNDERSTANDING

Date _____
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I recently got one of these little black cars - you know, the sort everybody else has. I did not know why it is, but whatever ~~car~~^{car} I get, everybody else suddenly seems to have the same idea. Anyway, I drove into my nearby shopping centre the other Saturday to get some fish