

as far west as Turkey, and as far east as the Russian and Chinese coasts.

The Giraffe and the Pelly and Me Swarit Nath GB

Reading

A. Answer these questions.

1) Who are the members of the Ladderless Window-Cleaning Company?

Ans- The members of the Ladderless Window Cleaning Company are the Giraffe, the pelican, the monkey and Billy.

2) How did the Company initially prove to the Duke of Hampshire that they were good at what they did?

Ans- The company initially proved to the Duke of Hampshire that they were good at what they did by picking the big black juicy cherries from the tall cherry tree. They

offered the cherries to the Duke, who was highly impressed by their efforts.

3) Why was the company called the Ladderless Window-Cleaning Company? What role did each of the members play?

Ans - They called themselves the Ladderless Window-Cleaning Company because they could clean any window at any height without using a ladder. The tall Giraffe with his long neck was like a ladder. The Pelican would hold water in his beak like a bucket and the Monkey would use his hands to do the cleaning. This way each of them had specific roles to play.

4) The song the monkey sings has some strong, descriptive and vivid images. What are they?

Ans - We can imagine the Monkey polishing the glass with all his strength. The glass is so squeaky clean, that its shine appears

like that of brass, and it sparkles like the rays of the Sun sparkle on the sea. Another image the Monkey creates is one where all the three animals are working so hard, that we can see their effort on their face. They look as though they are blue with sweat and toil.

B. Read three lines from the text and answer the questions.

1) "Has the whole world gone completely dotty"?

(a) Who said these words?

Ans- The Duke of Hampshire said these words.

(b) What emotion was the speaker feeling? Why?

Ans- The Duke was shocked and about to have a fit. First, he saw a pelican with a boy in its beak picking his cherries. Then, out of nowhere, a talking giraffe and monkey appeared suddenly from the bushes. The animals and their behaviour completely

surprised the Duke.

2) "Don't argue with me, you foolish creature!"

(a) Who said these words to whom?

Ans- The Duke of Hampshire said these words to the Ladderless Window Cleaning Company.

(b) Why was the speaker arguing?

Ans- He was arguing because he thought that it was impossible to clean the windows of the two top floors of the Hampshire House. The argument was resolved when the Monkey asked the giraffe to show the Duke what he could do with his magical neck. The Giraffe's long neck went further longer and longer and higher and higher until the Monkey sitting on his head could easily reach the windows of the top floor.

3) "It was the most magical thing I had ever seen."

(a) Who is the speaker?

Ans- Billy is the speaker.

(b) What was the magical thing he saw?

Ans- He saw the giraffe's magical neck get longer and longer and higher and higher until the monkey sitting on his head could easily reach the windows of the top floor and clean them.

(c) What effect did this have on the Duke?

Ans- It left the Duke speechless. He was struck with amazement, while the other animals were happy proud for doing the job well.

C. Think and Answer.

1) The Duke of Hampshire is a fussy and bossy old man. Give examples to support this statement.

Ans: The Duke is a fussy and bossy old man. First, he was stubborn about getting the black and juicy cherries from the very top of the tree, even though the gardener was unable to climb that high on the ladder. Secondly, he refused to listen to the Giraffe when he said they could clean the windows on the top floor. The Duke stubbornly ordered the Giraffe to stop arguing and to leave those windows.

2) ~~Which animal~~ would you rather be in the

Appreciating the Text

1) What are the different elements that make 'The Giraffe and the Pelly and Me' an imaginative story?

Ans- → The animals can speak like humans.

→ The animals along with Billy have formed a Cleaning Company, which gives a funny imaginative element to the story, as we don't find animals running businesses in reality.

→ They even perform tasks like humans, such as filling water from the tap, cleaning the windows and so on which gave them human-like qualities.

→ The giraffe's neck magically getting longer and higher also adds an imaginative aspect to the story.

2) What do you think makes the story film-like and dramatic?

Ans- 'The Giraffe and the Pelly and Me' is made dramatic and film-like by the exaggerated way in the characters, especially the Duke, behave. Here are some examples from the text :- "I want those big black ones at the top of the tree" the man was shouting, "Get me those great big black ones!".

We peered round the bushes and saw an old fish man with a huge white moustache standing under a tall cherry tree and pointing his walking-stick in the air.

→ Down below us, the Duke was shouting, "Some monster of a bird is stealing my best cherries! Be off with you, sir! Go away!"

(1) ^{side}
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"These are my chimneys, not yours!"

→ The Duke was staggered. His eyes popped nearly out of their sockets. "Great Scott!" he gasped. "Good Lord! What's this? Who are you?"

→ He looked as though he was about to have a fit. "Who are these creatures?" he bellowed. "Has the whole world gone completely dotty?"

→ The monkey's song

→ The Duke was speechless. So was I. It was the most magical thing I had ever seen.

Using Words

Complete these sentences with the idiom from the box.

1. I haven't eaten since nine in the morning - I could eat a horse right now.
2. I just asked if you wanted help - you don't have to bite my head off.
3. She was over the moon about her first-class

exam results.

4. I dislike performing on stage. I was shaking like a leaf right before my dance at the Annual Day.
5. My heart sank when I heard that the picnic had been cancelled.