
Working with the Text

Answer the following questions. (Refer to that part of the text whose number is given against the question. This applies to the comprehension questions throughout the book.)

Question 1:

What did Patrick think his cat was playing with? What was it really?

Solution 1:

Patrick thought that his cat was playing with a little doll. But in reality, it was a very small sized man, an elf.

Question 2:

Why did the little man grant Patrick a wish?

Solution 2:

The little man granted Patrick a wish as Patrick had saved his life from the cat.

Question 3:

What was Patrick's wish?

Solution 3:

Patrick hated doing homework. So he made a wish that the little man should do all his homework till the end of the session.

Question 4:

In what subjects did the little man need help, to do Patrick's homework?

Solution 4:

The little man was weak in Maths, English and History. So, he needed Patrick's help in these subjects.

Question 5:

How did Patrick help him?

Solution 5:

Patrick sat beside the little man and guided him to do homework. Moreover, he brought books from library and read out to him.

Question 6:

Who do you think did Patrick's homework - the little man, or Patrick himself?

Give reasons for your answer.

Solution 6:

It was Patrick himself who actually did all the homework. Because he had to assist the elf again and again with guidance and books.

Working with Language**Question A:**

Fill in the blanks in the sentences below with the words or phrases from the box. (You may not know the meaning of all the words. Look such words up in a dictionary, or ask your teacher.)

Out of luck

mystery

true to his word

chores

Semester

between you and me

look up

1. Some people find household _____ a bore, but I like to help at home.
2. Who stole the diamond is still a _____
3. This _____ we are going to have a class exhibition.
4. ----- the elf began to help Patrick.
5. Can you _____ this word in the dictionary?
6. I started early to be on time, but I was _____. There was a traffic jam!
7. She says she's got a lot of books, but I think most of them are borrowed.

Solution A:

1. Some people find household **chaos** a bore, but I like to help at home.
2. Who stole the diamond is still a **mystery**.
3. This **semester** we are going to have a class exhibition.
4. **True to his word**, the elf began to help Patrick.
5. Can you **look up** this word in the dictionary?
6. I started early to be on time, but I was **out of luck**. There was a traffic jam!
7. She says she's got a lot of books, but **between you and me** I think most of them are borrowed.

Question B:

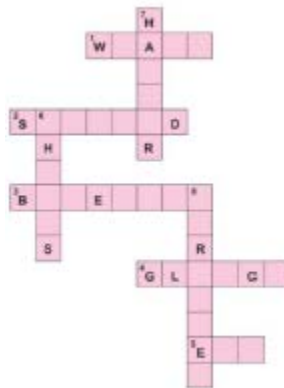
Use the clues given below to complete this crossword puzzle.

Across

1. very tired
2. had an angry look on the face
3. short trousers
4. a fault in a machine that prevents it from working properly
5. a small and naughty boy-fairy

Down

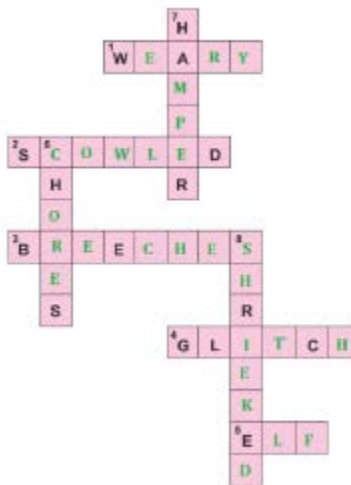
6. work that must be done everyday, often boring
7. a basket with a lid
8. gave a short, high-pitched cry

**Solution B:****Across**

1. Weary
2. Scowled
3. Breeches
4. Glitch
5. Elf

Down

- 6. Chores
- 7. Hamper
- 8. Shrieked

**Speaking****Question A:**

In the story Patrick does difficult things he hates to do, because the elf pretends he needs help. Have you ever done something difficult or frightening, by pretending about it in some way? Tell your classmates about it.

Or

Say what you feel about homework. (The words and phrases in the boxes may help you.) Do you think it is useful, even though you may not like it? Form pairs, and speak to each other.

For example:

You may say, "I am not fond of homework."

Your partner may reply, "But my sister helps me with my lessons at home, and that gives a boost to my marks."

(not) be fond of	(not) take to	(not) develop a liking for
(not) appeal to	(not) be keen on	(not) have a taste for

support	assist	with the aid of
help	be a boon	give a boost to

Solution A:

- I am not very fond of video games.
- But my brother does used to do this.
- I have not developing a liking for non veg.
- But my cousin does not support me.
- I have taken to play football.
- I have developed a liking for online net surfing.
- I appeal to my friends to play some outdoor games.
- Sports can be a boon in career making.
- They give a boost to my confidence.
- My classmate is keen to know about how to play chess.
- I hope he will assist me in preparing study plans.

Writing**Question A:**

This story has a lot of rhyming words, as a poem does. Can you write out some parts of it like a poem, so that the rhymes come at the end of separate lines?

For example:

Patrick never did homework. "Too boring," he said.

He played baseball and hockey and Nintendo instead.

Solution A:

- The man was too small in size
He was true and wise.
- The elf promised to all that
As Patrick saved him from cat
- Patrick love the paly not work
Always keep pending homework

Question B:

Look at these sentences.

1. "Too boring," he said.
2. Cleaned his room, did his chores.

When we speak, we often leave out words that can easily be guessed. We do not do this when we write, unless we are trying to write as we speak (as in the story).

So, if we were to write carefully, we would say:

- "Homework is too boring," he said.
- He cleaned his room and did his chores.

Question C:

Rewrite the following incomplete sentences carefully, so that the reader does not have to guess what is left out.

1. more and more books
2. too difficult
3. got up late, missed the bus
4. solved the mystery

Solution C:

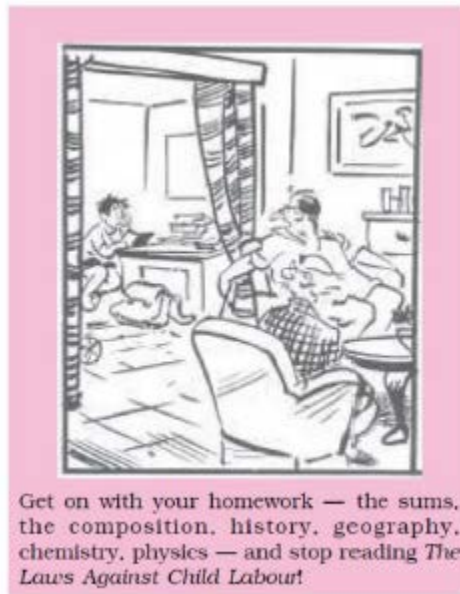
1. My teacher read more and more books.
2. Geometry is too difficult to understand.
3. When he got up late on Monday morning, he missed the bus for school.
4. ISRO and NASA solved the mystery of universe.

Question D:

Look at this cartoon by R. K. Laxman. Read the sentence given below the cartoon.

Discuss the following questions with your partner.

- What is it about?
- Do you find it funny? If so, why?
- Do you think a cartoon is a serious drawing? Why or why not?



Solution D:

- It is about a parent's concern for the "betterment of the child to work hard (labour).
- Yes, the cartoon is really funny. Father orders the child to work hard (labour) with studies. But he forbids the boy to read the laws against child labour.
- A cartoon is chiefly meant to make us laugh. It is also a serious drawing in one sense. It draws our attention to some problem that affects us all.