

5. The Pied Piper of Hamelin

Worksheet 1

COMPREHENSION

Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

[Sherlock Holmes, Dr Watson and Inspector Lestrade wait on a foggy night to catch a culprit as the fog drifts away. The 'I' here is Dr Watson.]

A sound of quick steps broke the silence of the moor.... The steps grew louder, and through the fog, as through a curtain, there stepped the man we were awaiting. He looked round him in surprise as he emerged into the clear, starlit night. Then he came swiftly along the path, passed close to where we lay, and went on up the long slope behind us. As he walked, he continually glanced over either shoulder, like a man who is ill at ease....

Suddenly, Holmes' eyes started forward in a rigid, fixed stare, and his lips parted in amazement. At the same instant, Lestrade gave a yell of terror and threw himself face downward upon the ground. I sprang to my feet, my inert hand grasping my pistol, my mind paralysed by the dreadful shape which had sprung out upon us from the shadows of the fog. A hound it was, an enormous coal-black hound, but not such a hound as mortal eyes have ever seen. Fire burst from its open mouth, its eyes glowed with a smouldering glare, its muzzle and hackles and dewlap were outlined in flickering flame. Never in the delirious dream of a disordered brain could anything more savage, more appalling, more hellish be conceived than that dark form and savage face which broke upon us out of the wall of fog.

With long bounds, the huge black creature was leaping down the track, following hard upon the footsteps of our friend..... Then Holmes and I both fired together, and the creature gave a hideous howl, which showed that one at least had hit him. ...But that cry of pain from the hound had blown all our fears to the winds.... If we could wound him, we could kill him.

- 'The Hound of the Baskervilles' by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

A. Answer the following questions briefly.

1. What broke the silence of the moor?

2. Who were the three people who were waiting to catch the culprit?

3. What was 'the dreadful shape' which sprang out of the fog?

4. What did Sherlock Holmes and Dr Watson do?

5. What did the creature's howl show?

B. Give other words or phrases to explain the following.

1. ill at ease

2. the wall of fog

3. blown our fears to the wind

4. the delirious dream of a disordered brain

C. Fill in the blanks with suitable adjectives from the passage.

1. It was an _____ coal-black hound.

2. The creature gave a _____ cry.

3. He emerged into the clear, _____ night.

4. Its eyes glowed with a _____ glare.

5. My mind was paralysed by the _____ shape.

Worksheet 2

GRAMMAR

A. Fill in the blanks with appropriate pronouns from the Help Box.

mine him it Who you yourself Everybody yours myself

1. _____ is your favourite cricketer?
2. This book is _____, and that one is _____.
3. Introduce _____ please.
4. The food which _____ like most is the curry, isn't _____?
5. I _____ took care of _____.
6. _____ loves his/her country.

B. Identify the pronouns and mention their antecedents in the following sentences.

1. Sardar Bhagat Singh sacrificed his life for our country.
2. The person who treats patients is called a doctor.
3. The thing which I bought at the emporium is valuable.
4. The object through which we are unable to see is called an opaque object.
5. Rip Van Winkle avoided his ill-tempered wife.

C. Underline the verbs and state if they are Transitive [T] or Intransitive [IN].

1. They play football in the park.
2. The boys danced at the party.
3. He has written a very nice letter.
4. Anil Kumble represented India in the test match.
5. Sonu Nigam sings beautifully.

D. Fill in the blanks with gerunds, infinitives or participles from the box.

calming roaring to make Claiming to visit painting

1. Will you teach me _____?
2. I am longing _____ Bhutan.
3. Parker was a _____ success at the sports meet.
4. _____ an old friendship, the wizard cheated Aladdin.
5. No one is _____ a noise while I talk to the Principal.
6. Penny has a very _____ influence on the children.

Worksheet 3

VOCABULARY AND WRITING SKILLS

A. Select the right word from the box to complete the sentences below.

perennial weekly decade fortnight annual

1. We have a _____ test every Friday.
2. Holi celebrations are an _____ feature in our colony.
3. The banyan tree is a _____ plant.
4. Suniti and Meera have been classmates for a _____.
5. After a _____ we will have an elocution competition; you have two weeks to prepare.

B. Give the antonyms of the following words.

- | | | | |
|-----------|-------|---------------|-------|
| 1. Deny | _____ | 2. Miserable | _____ |
| 3. Friend | _____ | 4. Particular | _____ |
| 5. Hope | _____ | 6. Always | _____ |

C. Edit the following.

you have explained all but one thing cried the colonel where was the horse ah
it had bolted and was cared for by one of your neighbours said holmes
