

English for Life Reader
Home Language
Grade 5

Poetry

The sheep – Ann and Jane Taylor

1. The sheep and the boy
2. It is lazy. It does not do anything except lie around and eat.
3. Do not treat me this way.
4. Besides their wool, sheep are used for their skin, meat and even milk.
5. Cold nights, wet grass and not much to eat.
6. a) to look sheepish – look embarrassed
b) like a flock of sheep – with mindless obedience
c) to count sheep – to help you fall asleep
d) separate the sheep from the goats – separate good from bad
e) like a lamb – meek and mild

The most magnificent fishing – Robert D. Hoelt

1. “Like fish of sparkling light”. The stars are compared to a school of fish, sparkling in the sun.
2. “sparkling light”
3. He will make a strong, almost invisible line of spider webs and will put gold onto his hook.
4. He is prepared to wait all night long.
5. a) courageous
b) domineering
c) aggressive
d) affectionate

Answer to a child’s question – Samuel Taylor Coleridge

1. To the lark
2. It is the actual “words” of the linnets and thrush.
3. That winter is over, it is spring.
4. Filled to the top, to the point of overflowing with gladness and love.
5. It is the name by which someone is called – nickname.
6. What do birds say?

Fairy tale for a runaway – Fanie Viljoen

1. About someone who ran away from somewhere/something.
2. There was hope for everyone with broken hearts. The road is tough and one has to forgive and show pity.
3. "hope"
4. "This tough road, the rhyme read"
5. City life is hard and people do not show kindness and friendship and warmth to one another. Metaphor
6. Yes. The boy is still there, writing poetry.

The rooks – Jane Euphemia Browne

1. In spring
2. A semicolon (;) is used to indicate a pause longer than a comma, also to separate parts of a long, complicated sentence. A colon (:) is used to indicate that an explanation or some example is to follow.
3. "Caw, caw."
4. No. They are up at dawn and work until dusk.
5. Twigs, sticks and moss. Big and round.
6. a) sapling
b) kid
c) piglet
d) nestling/fledgling
7. Rooks speak all together while good children take turns to speak.

Daddy fell into the pond – Alfred Noyes

1. Own answer
2. No. One should always show respect and it is disrespectful/mean/rude to laugh at adults when they are in an embarrassing situation.
3. Everybody was unhappy.
4. They had nothing to do or to talk about.
5. a) Their mood lifted; they smiled.
b) He felt happy and he danced.
6. Probably Timothy, he wanted to take a picture of the funny situation.
7. "Click!" Onomatopoeia
8. gander – goose
colt – filly
bridegroom – bride
billy goat – nanny goat
ram – ewe
stallion – mare
tom-cat – tabby-cat

The world inside my mirror – Robert D. Hoeft

1. Four – Quatrain
2. Ladybugs, butterflies and bees. Diamond, emerald and ruby.
3. a) forests of ladybugs/ladybirds – swarms/loveliness or ten-spot
b) herds of dandelions – bunches/fields/gardens
c) mountains of butterflies – swarms/rabble
d) bands of dinosaurs – herds
4. An echo (plural echoes) is a reflection of sound, arriving at the listener some time after the direct sound.
5. Kilometre
6. No. He probably refers to the fact that the word dandelion meant lion's tooth in Old French and that the seeds are a silvery colour when ripe and will blow away in the wind.
7. Because of its name in Old French and with one blow on the seeds they will all drift off on the wind.

Media texts

Between the branches – pamphlet

1. Between the branches
2. Yes, because branches refer to trees
3. Crown Bay Nature Reserve's
4. 8 – 10 October
5. 09:00
6. R200
7. Crown Bay Tourism

Bat affairs – Cartoons

1. Because the bats are hanging upside down!
2. It is night time.
3. Blood-sucking bats/vampire bats.
4. The bat did not suck someone's blood for supper. It flew into a wall – it is its own blood around its mouth.
5. A photo of her new mouse boyfriend.
6. She is not impressed because it is not really a mouse, but a bat.
7. Her boyfriend lied to her and told her that he was a pilot, which impressed her.

Short stories

The great snake of Kalunga

1. The story tells the children that they should rather use their minds to think of a good solution to a problem than rushing into something without a plan.

2. Nampa was cunning because she knew that if her husband was successful they would be given riches, but she needed to show that she did not want her husband to go fight the snake.

Information texts

School plants trees – Newspaper report

1. Ten
2. To celebrate National Arbour Day.
3. When his children are at school.
4. He's concerned about all the trees that people chop down for firewood.
"Eventually there will only be empty patches of land," says Nathi. "When it rains, the soil will wash into the sea."
5. Exotic trees are harmful to the environment. They also often use more water. This means that there is less water available for the local South African plants.
6. Ask someone at a nursery. You could also consult books on trees or the Internet.

Water is life – Article

1. Water is of vital importance for people's survival. Water helps communities to develop – on economic, social and environmental levels.
2. "The water project is a wonder to behold. There is natural, glittering water as far as the eye can see. The landscape is breath taking and in winter, it is framed by snow-covered mountains."
3. South Africa and Lesotho.
4. The project provides water to the people of Gauteng. Lesotho benefits from the hydroelectric power which is generated. Lesotho also makes an income out of South Africa's water usage. The project helps with the development of the remote, mountainous regions of Lesotho.
5. On average, it gets 600mm – 1 000mm of rain per year.
6. The foundations of the water project's dams are made of basalt or sandstone.
7. They are ideal because they are strong, have few cracks and are very stable. Water doesn't seep away into the bottom of the dam.
8. The water project shows that two countries can work together to advance and grow.

Balacava Boy – Review

1. Tommy
2. Tommy wears an orange and red striped balacava to school every day. He even eats with the balacava on.
3. Cherise
4. Doo Dudes
5. This is a story about friendship and accepting somebody for who they are, and not what they look like.
6. No, this is a humorous and tension-filled story.
7. There is no right or wrong answer. The learner should be able to give an answer and motivate it.

Exam time – Graph

1. Names and time in minutes
2. Tina. She wants to study for 60 minutes.
3. Tina and Naledi both want to spend the same amount of time studying English – 60 minutes.
4. Tina. She wants to study Mathematics for 90 minutes.
5. Naledi. She wants to spend a total of 135 minutes studying, as opposed to Tina's 210 minutes.

Read and learn more about our national parks – Timeline

1. Major James Stevenson-Hamilton
2. 1927
3. Paul Bester
4. To provide a sanctuary for the eleven remaining elephants in the area
5. More than 450 elephants
6. No, it is more famous for its natural beauty.
7. 1963
8. In Cape Town
9. 1998
10. Fynbos
11. 1979
12. About 300 million years old

What does it look like inside the earth? – Diagram

1. The crust (the surface, mountains, sea, rivers)
2. The inner core
3. The upper and lower mantles
4. The distance from the middle of a circle to its edge

How to dry flowers and leaves – Instructions

1. Big flowers might not fit inside the book. Or there will not be enough space for other flowers or leaves, if the flowers are too big.
2. So that the pages of the book do not get damaged
3. 1 to 2 weeks
4. Cards, bookmarks or paintings (Learners can also add their own ideas to the list.)

How do time zones work? – Read and explain

1. Sundials
2. 1 hour
3. 24
4. C.J. Langenhoven
5. The British Railways
6. No. For example, China falls within more than one time zone but they only use one time zone across the country.
7. Cellphones and computers

8. GMT+02:00 Harare, Pretoria.

Drama

Rodney's retreat – M. Caufield

Allow the learners to provide you with possible answers.