

7. Eldorado

Answer the following questions with reference to context.

1. In sunshine and in shadow,
Had journeyed long,
Singing a song,
In search of Eldorado.

a) Who had journeyed long?
The knight had journeyed long.

b) What was he/she looking for?
He was looking for the city of Eldorado.

c) What is Eldorado?
Eldorado is a mythical city believed to have lots of wealth, especially gold.

2. And, as his strength,
Failed him at length,
He met a pilgrim shadow -
'Shadow', said he,

a) What do the words, 'his strength / failed him' mean?

The words 'his strength / failed him' mean that the knight grew weak and weary.

b) What help does the knight seek from the shadow?

The knight asked the shadow for direction or guidance to reach Eldorado.

c) What does the shadow tell the knight?

The shadow tells the knight about the location of Eldorado saying that his search will have to continue beyond the valley of the shadow.

3. 'Over the Mountains
Of the Moon,
Down the valley of the shadow,
Ride, boldly ride.'
The shade replied, —
'If you seek for Eldorado!'

a) The figure of speech used in 'Ride, boldly ride' is repetition

b) Who said, 'Over the Mountains/Of the Moon...?'
The shadow said these lines.

c) What does the line 'If you seek for Eldorado' mean?

This line means that the knight must continue riding boldly if he wants to find Eldorado.

I Answer the following questions:-

1. What is the rhyme scheme of the poem?
The rhyme scheme of the poem is aabccd.

2. How does the mood of the traveller transform in each stanza? Write in detail.

In the first stanza, the knight is regal and cheerful. As the journey progresses, the mood shifts, and the knight grows old. He becomes sad as he realizes that he cannot find Eldorado.

III Answer in detail:-

1. What does 'the valley of the shadow' represent? Do you think the traveller found his Eldorado finally?

'The valley of shadow' represents a challenging and difficult phase in life. It is implied that the knight may not have found Eldorado and the shadow directs him to continue his search by riding 'Over the Mountains of the Moon' and 'Down the Valley of the Shadow'.

Signature

8. The Ransom Of Red Chief.

I Answer the following questions with reference to content.

1. Bill turns and sees the boy, and loses his complexion and sits down plump on the ground and begins to fluck aimlessly at grass and little sticks. For an hour I was afraid for his mind.

a) Why does Bill lose his complexion?

Bill loses his complexion because he is shocked and distressed to see Thonny.

b) Why was Sam afraid for Bill's mind?

Sam was afraid for Bill's mind because Bill's reaction after seeing Thonny was extreme. Bill's lack of complexion, sitting down abruptly and flucking aimlessly at grass and sticks made Sam worried.

c) What had Bill expected?

Bill had expected to be relieved of Thonny's presence after sending him home.

2. 'I'm not as strong as I used to be but I think I can promise you ten minutes.'

a) Who is the speaker of the above lines?
Ebenzer Dorset is the speaker.

b. What is the 'ten minutes' needed for?

The 'ten minutes' are needed to give Bill and Sam a head start before Dorset releases Johnny.

c. What does Bill do after this?

After hearing this, Bill decides to make a quick escape, intending to cross several states and head for the Canadian border.

II. Answer the following questions:

1. What did Sam want to hear while at the post office? Was he satisfied?

While at the post office, Sam heard that the town was upset on account of the little boy's kidnapping. Yes, he was satisfied.

2. What was the twist in the tale in this story? Did you expect it?

The twist in the tale in this story was that instead of getting money for kidnapping the child, the kidnappers paid his father money to return him. It was an unexpected turn of events.

3. Why did Sam readily agree to pay the ransom and let go of Johnny?

Sam agreed to pay the ransom and let go of Johnny because the boy, Red Chief, was proving to be so difficult and troublesome that it became more of a burden for Sam and Bill to keep him than the ransom was worth.

III Answer in detail:

1. Write a character sketch of Johnny.

Johnny, also known as Red Chief, is a 10-year-old boy with a wild and mischievous nature. He is imaginative and enjoys playing make believe games, especially pretending to be a native American warrior, Red Chief. Johnny is talkative, asks endless questions and has a playful and unpredictable demeanour that makes him a handful for Sam and Bill.

2. The title 'The Ransom of Red Chief' is a suitable title for this story. Justify.

The title is suitable because it includes the central plot of this story. While the

initial play was to ransom Thonny for money.
the situation became ironic as Thonny's
troublesome behaviour made the kidnappers
desperate to be rid of him.

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