

The Goblin and the Grocer - Short story – Worksheet PDF

Questions and Answers - The Goblin and the Grocer –Set 1

1. Who are the titular characters of the Goblin and the Grocer?
 1. The titular characters of the story are a student, a grocer and house goblin.
2. What does the Grocer give to the Goblin every Christmas?
 1. Every Christmas, the grocer treated the Goblin with porridge and a large lump of butter. The Goblin loved this dish and was attached to the grocer because of it.
3. Where does the student find the poem?
 1. One day the student discovers the grocer wraps their cheese with pages from a poetry book, so he bought the book instead of the cheese.
4. Why is the Goblin angry at the student?
 1. The student jokes that the grocer knows nothing about poetry which even the grocer finds funny. The goblin is however very offended by the joke.
5. What does the Goblin do in order to learn more about poetry?
 1. The goblin goes around using his magic to ask everything in the room about poetry. They all say that poetry was useless.
6. When the goblin goes to see the student, what does he find?
 1. The goblin goes to tell the student that poetry is useless, but he sees a beautiful, marvellous tree of light in the student's room. This tree represents the poetry which he finally sees in its true form of raw beauty. The poetry is the most splendid thing the goblin had ever seen. The goblin falls in love with what he sees.

Questions and Answers - The Goblin and the Grocer –Set 2

1. Explain the internal conflict faced in the story the Goblin and the Grocers?
 1. The goblin falls in love with the poetry but does not want to give up the porridge with the lump of butter. He wants to stay with the student but also feels that the student cannot afford him "his" bowl of porridge.
2. What happens on the day of the fire?
 1. Everybody was terrified and wanted to rescue what they treasured most.
 2. The grocer's wife put her gold earrings in her pocket to save them.

3. The grocer ran to get his stocks and bonds.
4. The servant ran for the silk mantilla she had scrimped so hard to buy.
3. On the night of the fire, what does the Goblin learn?
 1. The goblin saves the book as he considers that it is the most precious thing to him. He thus learns that he must stay with the student as he has fallen in love with poetry.
4. What happens the day after the fire?
 1. When the fire was put out, the goblin decides to divide between the grocer and the student. His rationale is that he cannot give up the grocer, because of the porridge.
5. What does symbolism in the Goblin and the Grocer?
 1. In the story, the goblin's internal conflict, symbolizes the fight between the greed of man versus the appreciation of beauty. The goblin's chooses to stay with the grocer for the porridge and the butter though he truly loves the magic of poetry.