

From a Railway Carriage

- 6 Faster than fairies, faster than witches,
12 Bridges and houses, hedges and ditches,
20 And running along like troops in a battle,
28 All through the meadows, the horses and cattle,
38 All of the sights that I see from the train,
44 Fly as thick as driving rain,
54 And all at once, in the blink of an eye,
58 Painted stations whistle by.
- 66 Here is a child who clambers and scrambles,
72 All by himself and gathering brambles,
80 Here is a man who stands and gazes,
89 And here is a field for picking the daisies!
96 Here is a forest of mighty oak,
103 Next to a factory pumping out smoke,
113 And here is a road, and there is a river:
119 Each a glimpse and gone forever!



Quick Questions



1. What does the poet say the train is faster than?



2. What do you think the phrase 'in the blink of an eye' means?



3. Why do you think the train is described as 'running along like troops in a battle'?



4. Where do you think the poet is travelling to on the train?

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Answers



1. What does the poet say the train is faster than?
fairies and witches.



2. What do you think the phrase 'in the blink of an eye' means?
Very fast - faster than the time it takes to blink.



3. Why do you think the train is described as 'running along like troops in a battle'?
Accept any inference that relates to the text, e.g. because troops in a battle move quickly and the train is moving quickly.



4. Where do you think the poet is travelling to on the train?
Accept any sensible prediction e.g. I think the poet might be going on holiday.

How to Repair a Bicycle Puncture

11 You will need: a pump, a bucket of water, tweezers, a
19 patch kit and an adult to help you.

30 1. Take the wheel off the bike and take the inner tube
42 out of the tyre (ask an adult to help you with this).

49 2. Blow the tube up using the pump.

57 3. Squeeze the tube gently, listening for a hissing
66 sound. This will tell you where the puncture is.

78 4. If you can't hear the hiss, put the tube in a bucket
87 of water and squeeze gently. Look for the bubbles.

93 5. When you have found the puncture,
98 use the tweezers to remove
101 whatever made it.

105 6. Apply a small amount
110 of glue and a patch
113 over the hole.



Quick Questions



1. What do you do after taking the wheel off the bike?



2. Which word in the text means the same as 'carefully'?



3. In step 4, why must you look for the bubbles?



4. Can you order these steps by putting numbers 1-4 in the boxes?

- Find the puncture.
- Take the wheel off the bike.
- Blow up the tube.
- Apply a patch to the puncture.

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Answers



1. What do you do after taking the wheel off the bike?

Take the inner tube out of the tyre.



2. Which word in the text means the same as 'carefully'?

gently



3. In step 4, why must you look for the bubbles?

Accept any inferential answer e.g. because the bubbles will tell you where the puncture is/ because the air is coming out of the hole.



4. Can you order these steps by putting numbers 1-4 in the boxes?

3 Find the puncture.

1 Take the wheel off the bike.

2 Blow up the tube.

4 Apply a patch to the puncture.

The London Underground

8 The London Underground is the world's largest and
16 oldest underground rail network. It is often called
25 the Tube because the tunnels are shaped like tubes.

34 The first line opened in 1863 and ran from
42 Paddington to Farringdon. Other lines such as the
51 Circle line, Northern line and Central line were soon
60 added. The first carriages were made of wood, lit
71 by gas and pulled along by a steam train. In 1890,
76 the first electrical-powered lines opened.

86 Today the trains are made of metal. There are 270
91 stations, 11 different lines and
96 over 250 miles of track.

100 Despite their name, many
102 London Underground
106 trains now travel *above*
108 the ground.



Quick Questions



1. Why is the London Underground often called the Tube?



2. Why is the word 'above' written in italics?



3. Why do you think the carriages were changed from wood to metal?



4. Can you order when these things happened by putting numbers 1-3 in the boxes?

Other lines were added.

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1. Why is the London Underground often called the Tube?

Because the tunnels are shaped like tubes.



2. Why is the word 'above' written in italics?

Example answer: To show surprise because you would think that all of the underground trains ran under the ground and not above it.



3. Why do you think the carriages were changed from wood to metal?

Accept any inferential answer e.g. because metal is safer/stronger/lasts longer than wood.



4. Can you order when these things happened by putting numbers 1-3 in the boxes?

2 Other lines were added.

1 The first line opened in 1863.

3 The first electrical powered lines opened.

The Naughty Bus

10 There was once a very naughty bus. None of the
19 bus drivers wanted to drive him, because they all
25 knew how cheeky he could be.

35 When the naughty bus saw a big puddle he would
43 deliberately drive through it to soak everyone on
53 the street! When the bus got to a roundabout he
63 would drive straight over it to ruin all the lovely
72 plants! When people were waiting at the bus stop,
80 he would drive straight past them, even when
89 he had plenty of room! What a mischievous bus
91 he was!

99 Everyone agreed that something had to be done
103 about the naughty bus,
105 but what?



Quick Questions



1. What would the naughty bus do when he got to a roundabout?



2. Can you find an exclamation sentence in this story?



3. How do you think the bus drivers feel about the naughty bus?



4. What do you think will happen next?

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Answers



1. What would the naughty bus do when he got to a roundabout?

drive straight over it



2. Can you find an exclamation sentence in this story?

What a nasty bus he was!



3. How do you think the bus drivers feel about the naughty bus?

Accept any inference based on the text, e.g. I think they feel disappointed in the naughty bus because he makes the bus drivers look bad too.



4. What do you think will happen next?

Accept any sensible prediction, e.g. I think the bus drivers will teach the naughty bus a lesson and he will stop being naughty.