



Quick Comprehension

6.2B

Poetry

Pre-reading work

Match the words to their closest synonym.

voyage

post

warbled

journey

rash

despite

in spite of

reckless

mast

sang

Skimming and scanning for information

Find the words **above** in the text below and **highlight** them.

The Jumblies By Edward Lear

I

They went to sea in a Sieve, they did,
In a Sieve they went to sea:
In spite of all their friends could say,
On a winter's morn, on a stormy day,
In a Sieve they went to sea!
And when the Sieve turned round and round,
And every one cried, 'You'll all be drowned!'
They called aloud, 'Our Sieve ain't big,
But we don't care a button! we don't care a fig!
In a Sieve we'll go to sea!
Far and few, far and few,
Are the lands where the Jumblies live;
Their heads are green, and their hands are blue,
And they went to sea in a Sieve.

II

They sailed away in a Sieve, they did,
In a Sieve they sailed so fast,
With only a beautiful pea-green veil
Tied with a riband by way of a sail,
To a small tobacco-pipe mast;
And every one said, who saw them go,
'O won't they be soon upset, you know!
For the sky is dark, and the voyage is long,
And happen what may, it's extremely wrong
In a Sieve to sail so fast!'
Far and few, far and few,
Are the lands where the Jumblies live;
Their heads are green, and their hands are blue,
And they went to sea in a Sieve.

III

The water it soon came in, it did,
The water it soon came in;
So to keep them dry, they wrapped their feet
In a pinky paper all folded neat,
And they fastened it down with a pin.
And they passed the night in a crockery-jar,
And each of them said, 'How wise we are!
Though the sky be dark, and the voyage be long,
Yet we never can think we were rash or wrong,
While round in our Sieve we spin!
Far and few, far and few,
Are the lands where the Jumblies live;
Their heads are green, and their hands are blue,
And they went to sea in a Sieve.

IV

And all night long they sailed away;
And when the sun went down,
They whistled and warbled a moony song
To the echoing sound of a coppery gong,
In the shade of the mountains brown.
'O Timballo! How happy we are,
When we live in a sieve and a crockery-jar,
And all night long in the moonlight pale,
We sail away with a pea-green sail,
In the shade of the mountains brown!
Far and few, far and few,
Are the lands where the Jumblies live;
Their heads are green, and their hands are blue,
And they went to sea in a Sieve.

V

They sailed to the Western Sea, they did,
To a land all covered with trees,
And they bought an Owl, and a useful Cart,
And a pound of Rice, and a Cranberry Tart,
And a hive of silvery Bees.
And they bought a Pig, and some green Jack-daws,
And a lovely Monkey with lollipop paws,
And forty bottles of Ring-Bo-Ree,
And no end of Stilton Cheese.
Far and few, far and few,
Are the lands where the Jumblies live;
Their heads are green, and their hands are blue,
And they went to sea in a Sieve.

VI

And in twenty years they all came back,
In twenty years or more,
And every one said, 'How tall they've grown!'
For they've been to the Lakes, and the Terrible Zone,
And the hills of the Chankly Bore;
And they drank their health, and gave them a feast
Of dumplings made of beautiful yeast;
And everyone said, 'If we only live,
We too will go to sea in a Sieve,—
To the hills of the Chankly Bore!'
Far and few, far and few,
Are the lands where the Jumblies live;
Their heads are green, and their hands are blue,
And they went to sea in a Sieve.

Summarise

Summarise the text in less than **15 words**.

1. Name ten items that the Jumblies bought in the 'land all covered with trees'.

3 marks

2. What time of year was it when the Jumblies set sail?

1 mark

3. There are four lines repeated in each stanza. What are they and why do you think the poet chose to repeat them?

2 marks

4. What did the Jumblies do at sunset?

2 marks

5. This poem is known as a 'nonsense' poem. Find four pieces of evidence to support this statement.

3 marks

6. Name two things they did to keep themselves dry.

2 marks



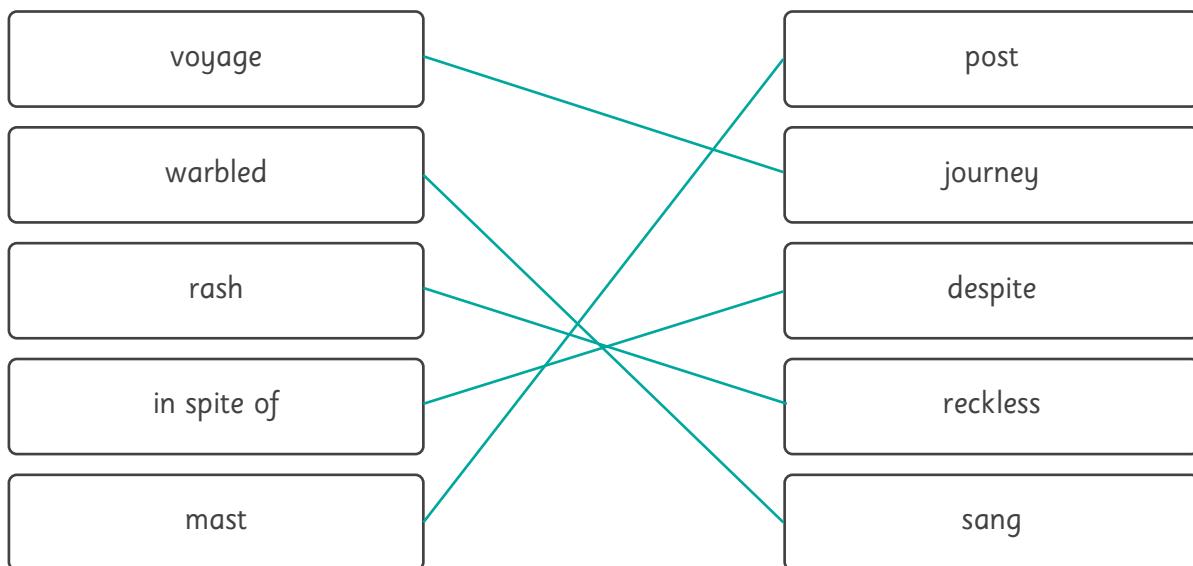
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To a small tobacco-pipe **mast**;
And every one said, who saw them go,
'O won't they be soon upset, you know!
For the sky is dark, and the **voyage** is long,
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Summarise

Summarise the text in less than **15 words**.

Creatures called Jumblies go to sea in a sieve and return twenty years later.

1. Name ten items that the Jumblies bought in the 'land all covered with trees'.

an owl, a cart, a pound of Rice, a Cranberry Tart, a hive of Bees, a Pig, green Jackdaws, a monkey, 40 bottles of Ring-Bo-Ree, Stilton Cheese

2. What time of year was it when the Jumblies set sail?

winter (On a winter's morn)

3. There are four lines repeated in each stanza. What are they and why do you think the poet chose to repeat them?

'Far and few, far and few,
Are the lands where the Jumblies live;
Their heads are green, and their hands are blue,
And they went to sea in a Sieve.'

It has been used to draw the reader's attention to that bit of the poem and to make it more memorable.

4. What did the Jumblies do at sunset?

They whistled.
They sang.
They played a coppery gong.

5. This poem is known as a 'nonsense' poem. Find four pieces of evidence to support this statement.

Any four of the following:
They go to sea in a sieve.
They have green heads and blue hands.
They use a tobacco pipe as a mast.
They spend the night in a jar.
They buy strange items such as a pig and a monkey with lollipop paws.
The poem includes invented words such as Ring-Bo-Ree.

6. Name two things they did to keep themselves dry.

They wrapped their feet in a pinky paper.
They spent the night in a crockery-jar.