

Unit 5: Don't be Afraid of the Dark and Helen Keller

NCERT · Class 4 · English

Reading is Fun

Question 1

What is the poem about?

Solution

The poem is all about children overcoming the fear of darkness in the night.

Question 2

What happens when the day is over?

Solution

When the day is over, darkness slowly appears, which is called the night. The moon and stars start shining in the sky.

Question 3

What does the earth do when the day is over?

Solution

The earth takes rest when the day is over.

Question 4

What does the poet want us to do at night?

Solution

The poet wants us to think about our friends and relatives and be friendly with them.

Question 5

Are these sentences TRUE or FALSE?

- (a) The poet tells the child to be afraid when it is dark. _____
- (b) The poet says that stars will always shine at night. _____
- (c) The poet tells the child to think of friends after it is dark. _____

Solution

- (a) False
- (b) True
- (c) True

Word Building

Question 1

Find a word in the poem which is the opposite of —

war _____ enemies _____ gentle _____

light _____ night _____ start _____

Solution

war × peace

enemies × friends

gentle × harsh

light × dark

night × day

start × cease

Question 2

Look at these words in the poem

don't, won't

Here are their full forms

don't — do not

won't — will not

Now, write the full forms of the following words:

didn't _____

shouldn't _____

wouldn't _____

couldn't _____

mustn't _____

Solution

didn't – did not

shouldn't – should not

wouldn't – would not

couldn't – could not

mustn't – must not

Let's Talk

Question 1

Are you afraid of the dark? Why?

Solution

Yes, I am afraid of the dark because I cannot see anything in the darkness, and I may fall down.

Question 2

What do you do when it is dark?

Solution

When it is dark I simply go to bed and sleep.

Question 3

Have you ever been very frightened? Tell your partner about it.

Solution

Yes, once I got very frightened once when I was alone at home. I could hear dogs crying outside my home, which scared me.

Say Aloud

Question 1

What is the word that starts with 't' rhymes with 'cease', and means to playfully make fun of?

Solution

Tease

Question 2

What is the word that starts with 'c', rhymes with 'near' and 'Tear', and means easy to see, hear and understand?

Solution

Clear.

Question 3

Where did the tip of the tongue touch?

Solution

The tip of the tongue touches the teeth ridge.

Question 4

Listen and repeat Ca -t

Solution

Do yourself.

Question 5

Did you hear what your tongue did?

Solution

Do yourself.

Question 6

Say these words and feel what your tongue does when you say- toe, top, tie, ten.

Solution

Do yourself

Work in Pairs

Make the 'cough' sound.

I came down

I coughed "K, k, k, k!"

And cough again "K, k, k, k!"

Did you hear the 'K' sound

at the end of the word 'book'?



Repeat

book look neck duck chick sack clock

All these words start with the same sound.

All these words start with the same sound

kangaroo

key



curtain

kind

king

kitten



Team Time

Question 1

Divide the class into four groups.

Solution

Do it yourself.

Question 2

Imagine life without the sun.

Solution

Do it yourself.

Question 3

What are the things that may happen if there is no sunlight?

Solution

If there is no sunlight there would be complete darkness. Plants will wither in darkness, without sunlight.

Question 4

Discuss with the group and write your ideas in your notebook.

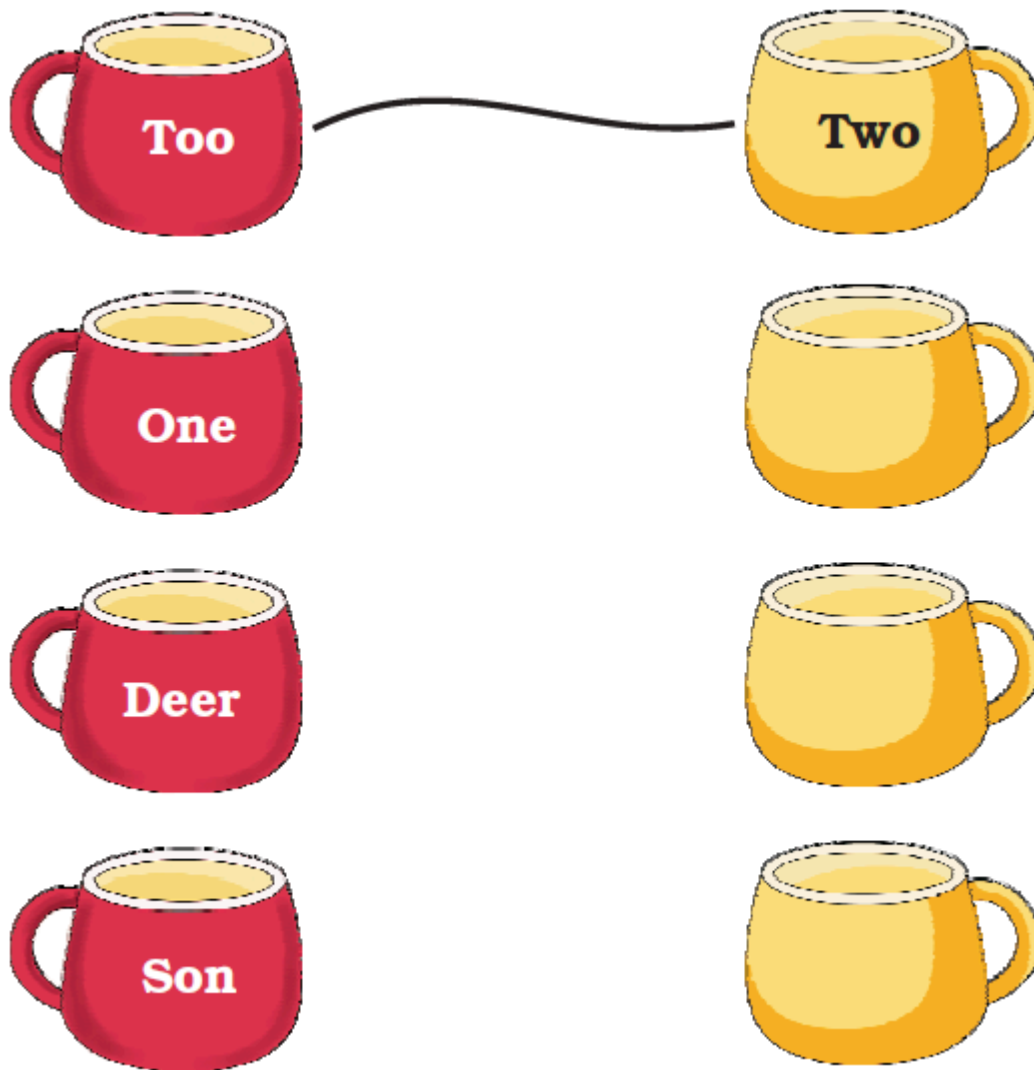
Solution

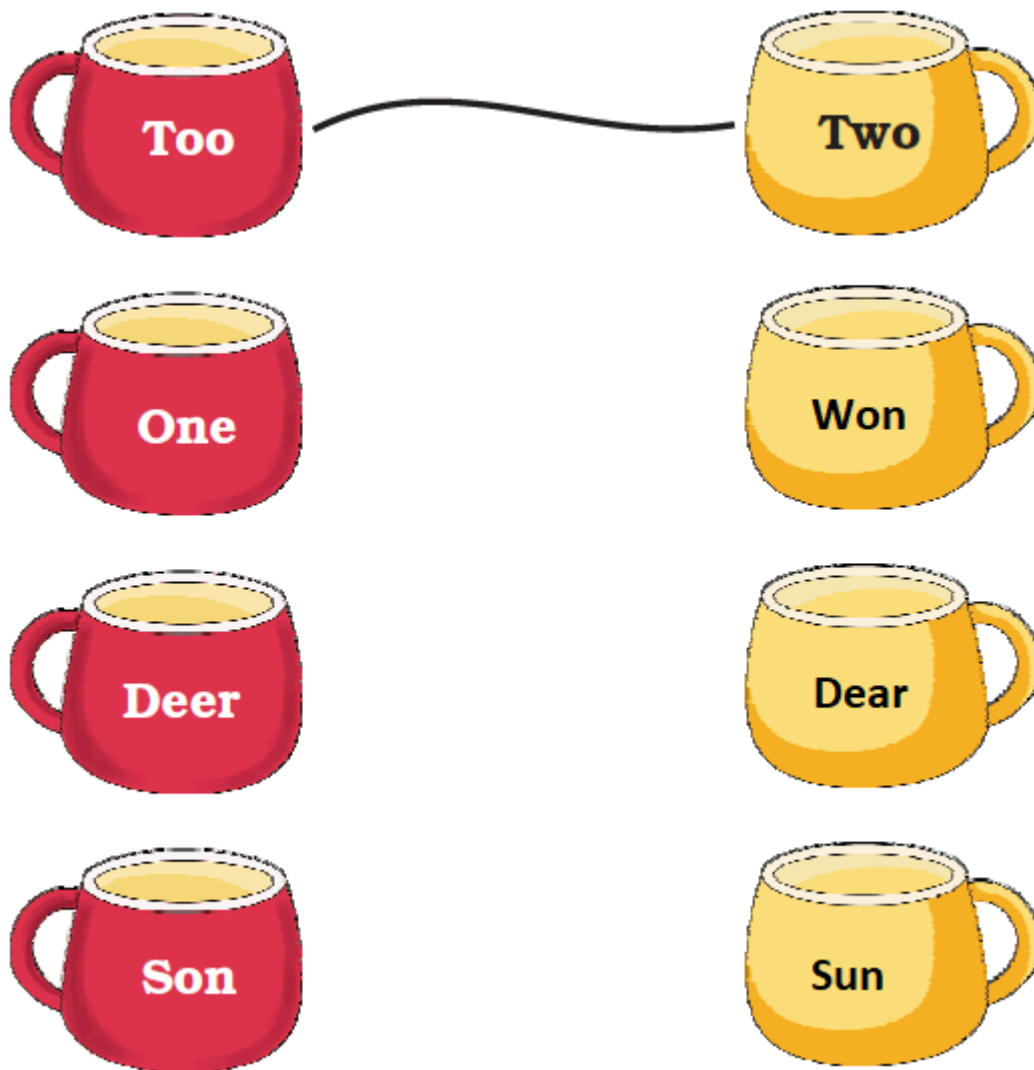
Do it yourself.

Let's Write

Question 1

The red tea cups are filled with a particular word. Fill in the yellow tea cups with similar sounding words. Note the example given.



Solution**Question 2**

Now complete the following sentences, choosing the right word.

- (a) The sum was _____ difficult for the class to solve. Only _____ students could do it. (two, too)
- (b) There was only _____ boy who _____ the prize. (one, won)
- (c) The golden _____ was very _____ to him. (dear, deer)
- (d) Ramu's _____ loved to play in the _____. (sun, son)

Solution

- (a) The sum was too difficult for the class to solve. Only two students could do it. (two, too)

- (b) There was only one boy who won the prize. (one, won)
- (c) The golden deer was very dear to him. (dear, deer)
- (d) Ramu's son loved to play in the sun. (sun, son)

Let's Listen

Question 1

Relax your feet, legs and entire body. Be as quiet as you can.

2. Listen to the sounds around you.
3. Tell your partner softly what you heard and ask, "What did you hear?"
4. Let your partner talk about or copy those sounds.

Solution

Do it yourself.

Question 5

Read out the following phrases aloud. Divide them into loud and softer sounds.

clapping hands • a worm moving • stamping feet,
a bud blooming • a butterfly flying
a feather dropping • an ant walking • a car moving
the wind blowing • sssshhhh whisper • tiptoe • a leaf falling

Loud sounds	Softer sounds

Solution

Loud sounds	Softer sounds
1) Clapping hands 2) Stamping feet 3) A car moving	1) A worm moving 2) A bud blooming 3) A butterfly flying 4) A feather dropping 5) An ant walking 6) The wind blowing 7) Sssshhhh 8) Whisper 9) A leaf falling 10) Tiptoe

Reading is Fun (2)

Question 1

“Something is wrong,” said Helen’s mother. What was wrong with Helen?

Solution

Helen could not hear or see when she was born.

Question 2

Although Helen could not hear or see, what kind of girl was she?

Solution

Helen was smart and a bright little girl.

Question 3

Who agreed to help Helen?

Solution

Miss Sullivan, a young teacher, agreed to help Helen to learn to see the world.

Question 4

How did Miss Sullivan help Helen?

Solution

Miss Sullivan taught Helen many words with the help of hand signs.

Question 5

What did Helen learn when the teacher put her hand into the running water?

Solution

Helen learnt the word WATER. She understood that water meant something wet, running over her hand.

Question 6

What was the most important thing that Helen finally understood?

Solution

Helen finally understood that words were the most important things in the world. Words would tell her everything she wanted to know.

Let's Talk (2)

Question 1

Using sign language, make these letters with your hand.

'C', 'H', 'E', 'K'.

Solution

Do it yourself.

Question 2

Spell these words through hand signs.

(a) Helen (b) was

Solution

Do it yourself.

Question 3

How do people who cannot see, read?

Solution

Blind people read with the help of a special sign language.

Question 4

What is the script for children who cannot see called?

Solution

The script for children who cannot see is called 'Braille script'.

Question 5

How do you think you can help children who cannot see?

Solution

We can help blind children by holding their hands and playing indoor games with them so that they can learn something from it.

Let's Write (2)

Question 1

Match the two parts of sentences given under column 'A' or 'B'. Add 'but' to join the two parts and write complete sentences.

Column A	Column B
(i) Helen lived after her illness	(a) her mother thought she could learn.
(ii) She could not see or hear	(b) she did not understand what she was doing.
(iii) People thought that she could not learn anything	(c) she could not hear or see.
(iv) Helen copied the words	(d) she was kind to Helen.
(v) Miss Sullivan was strict	(e) she was very intelligent.

Solution

- (i) Helen lived after her illness but she could not hear or see.
- (ii) She could not see or hear but she was very intelligent.
- (iii) People thought that she could not learn anything but her mother thought she could learn.
- (iv) Helen copied the words but she did not understand what she was doing.
- (v) Miss Sullivan was strict but she was kind to Helen.

Team Time (2)

Question 1

Read the following sentences

- (a) Her clothes were always dirty.
- (b) She was often angry.
- (c) Sometimes she lay on the floor.
- (d) Her parents never scolded her.

2. Ask yourself the following questions. Put a tick mark under the right column.

Questions	Always	Often	Sometimes	Never
How often do you (a) obey your parents?	✓			
(b) visit your grandparents?		✓		
(c) fight with your brother or sister?			✓	
(d) help others?	✓			
(e) throw waste in the dustbin?	✓			
(f) switch off the lights, when you go out of the room?	✓			
(g) leave the tap on while brushing your teeth?				✓
(h) tear pages from your notebook?				✓

3. Now your friend will ask you the same questions.

Solution

Solution coming soon.
