

A Lost Companion

By Ciara Carroll

I can't get by without them:
I don't even know where to look.
I can't watch my favourite movie
I can't read my favourite book.

I can't enjoy the garden.
I can only smell the flowers.
I won't bother to hunt for insects.
It would take me hours and hours!

Most kids in my class don't need them
But my dad and my teacher do.
My sister uses them for work
And my Grandpa needs them too.

They're no use when I'm sleeping
But, in the morning, things look funny.
When it's warm outside, they get steamy
And I change them when it's sunny.

I've found them! Here, under my bed,
My lost companion returned.
My surroundings take shape when I put them on
And I'm no longer quite as concerned.

Finally, things become clearer.
I'm squinting and frowning no more.
Just like two shiny new eyeballs,
I can view the world better than before.

So, what is this special invention
That has given me endless support?
Is it two shiny new eyeballs?

No, no...
It's my glasses, of course!

Questions

02

- 1 Who or what is the 'lost companion'? (tick)

- ☐ the poet's family member
- ☐ the poet's friend
- ☐ the poet's glasses
- ☐ the poet's eyes

- 2 How many stanzas are there in this poem?
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- 3 Which lines in each stanza rhyme? (tick)

- ☐ lines 1 and 3
- ☐ lines 2 and 4
- ☐ lines 1 and 2
- ☐ lines 3 and 4

- 4 The poet was thinking about adding a new stanza to this poem. Which line could they use to rhyme with the line below?

I can't paint as well as I would like (tick)

- ☐ And I can't play my favourite video game
- ☐ And I can't do my homework
- ☐ And I can't find my keys
- ☐ And I can't ride my brand new bike

- 10 In which stanza does the poet find their lost companion? (tick)

- ☐ 1
- ☐ 2
- ☐ 3
- ☐ 4
- ☐ 5
- ☐ 6
- ☐ 7

6 In which stanza does it become clear that the lost companion is not a person? (tick)

- ☐ Stanza 1
☐ Stanza 2
☐ Stanza 3
☐ Stanza 4

7 Why can the poet only smell the flowers? (tick)

- ☐ She is wearing a blindfold.
☐ She is too sad to look at the flowers.
☐ She can't see them clearly.
☐ She only wants to smell the flowers.

8 Who does NOT need glasses? (tick)

- ☐ most kids in the poet's class
☐ the poet's teacher
☐ the poet's dad
☐ the poet's sister
☐ the poet's grandpa

9 What does the line 'My surroundings take shape' mean? (tick)

- ☐ The poet can see shapes around her.
☐ The poet can see what is around her.
☐ The poet's surroundings start to move.
☐ The poet can see shapes she's never seen before.

10 Match the stanza with the correct summary of its lines.

- ☐ The narrator tells us that some people need this item though most people don't.
☐ The narrator finds the object they have lost.
☐ The narrator reveals to the reader that the item they had lost was their glasses.
☐ The narrator has lost something and they describe things they can't do without it.

Score:

Answers

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- 1 Who or what is the 'lost companion'? ☒ the poet's glasses
- 2 How many stanzas are there in this poem? seven
- 3 Which lines in each stanza rhyme? ☒ lines 2 and 4
- 4 The poet was thinking about adding a new stanza to this poem. Which line could they use to rhyme with the line below?
- I can't paint as well as I would like
- 5 In which stanza does the poet find their lost companion? ☒ 5
- 6 In which stanza does it become clear that the lost companion is not a person? ☒ Stanza 3
- 7 Why can the poet only smell the flowers? ☒ She can't see them clearly.
- 8 Who does NOT need glasses? ☒ most kids in the poet's class
- 9 What does the line 'My surroundings take shape' mean? ☒ The poet can see what is around her.
- 10 Match the stanza with the correct summary of its lines.
- ☐ 3 The narrator tells us that some people need this item though most people don't.
- ☐ 5 The narrator finds the object they have lost.
- ☐ 7 The narrator reveals to the reader that the item they had lost was their glasses.
- ☐ 1 The narrator has lost something and they describe things they can't do without it.