

Lesson -10

The Balloon Man

1. Why do you like balloons?
2. What occasions do you use them on?

He always comes on market days,
And holds balloons - a lovely bunch
And in the market square he stays,
And never seems to think of lunch.

They are red and purple, blue and green,
And when it is a sunny day,
Tho' carts and people get between
You see them shining far away.

And some are big and some are small,
All tied together with a string,
And if there is a wind at all,
They tug and tug like anything.

Some day perhaps he'll let them go
And we shall see them sailing high
And stand and watch them from below,
They would look pretty in the sky!



- Rose Fyleman

EXERCISES

Listen and Repeat

days	bunch	green	high
stays	lunch	teen	sigh
rays	munch	between	tie

Word Power

A) Pick out the rhyming words from the poem for the following words:

fold	_____
funny	_____
dining	_____
mug	_____
failing	_____

B) Write the encircled words against their correct meanings:

cart	sky	market
balloon	string	

- Where the things are sold _____.
- A bag of thin rubber that becomes larger and rounder when filled with air _____.
- A vehicle with two or four wheels pulled by a horse _____.
- A thread used to tie the balloon _____.
- The space above the earth that you see when you look up _____.

Comprehension

Answer the following questions:

- Who always comes on market days?
- What does he hold?
- What are the colours of the balloons which shine far away?

- d) What do the balloons look like in the sky?
- e) Write any four lines of this poem.
- f) What does the poet say in the third stanza?

Let's Read

Read the following passage carefully:

In a small village, there lived a rich man. He had a friend, who could not hear. The deaf friend learned that the rich man was ill. So he went one afternoon to visit the rich man.

“I must see my friend and try to make him happy,” he said to himself. “But I must think of what I’m going to say. I must take care and not say anything that might make him angry. First I’ll ask, ‘Well, how are you today?’ He’ll answer, ‘Fine, Thank you.’ Then I’ll ask him about his food. He’ll say, ‘Rice without salt.’ And I’ll say, ‘That’s good for you. I hope it helps you.’ Then I’ll ask, ‘who is your doctor?’ and he will tell me that such and such person is his doctor, and I’ll say, “I hope god will help him with his work.”

The deaf man then reached the rich man’s house and sat down near his bed. The rich man was too sick and was not too happy to have someone to talk to.

“My dear friend, how are you?” asked the deaf man.

“I’m troubled with a bad fever,” answered the rich man. “I can’t sleep at night.”

The deaf man smiled and said, “Very good! I hope god will keep you this way!”

Then he asked, “What do you eat?”

By this time the rich man was angry. “The dust of the earth!” he answered.

“That’s good for you,” said the deaf man. “I hope it helps you. And tell me, who is your doctor?”

“Doctor?” cried the rich man. “Death himself!”

“Oh, that’s good,” said the deaf man. “I hope god will help him with his work.” And he returned home.

Now answer the following questions:

1. Where did the rich man live?
2. Why did the deaf friend go to visit the rich man?
3. Fill in the blanks with the correct words given in brackets.
 - a) The _____ man was ill. (deaf / rich)
 - b) The deaf man wanted to make the rich man _____. (angry / happy)
4. Say whether the following statements are True or False:
 - a) The deaf man's questions made the rich man happy. []
 - b) The deaf man said all the 'wrong' things because he could not hear the rich man's answers. []
 - c) The deaf man went home, thinking that he had made his friend happy. []

Let's Write

Read carefully the second stanza of the poem again. The poet has described the colours of the balloons. Have you ever been to a fair and seen a balloon seller? Write a paragraph about the shapes and colours of the balloons and also other things he sells. Begin like this

Once I had been to a fair near my village _____

Let's do it

1. Form groups and read the poem loudly.
2. Make a scrap book (or an album) of pictures of things and different shapes of balloons sold in the fair you have visited. Write the names of the things and the colours of the balloons in your notebook.