

B IS FOR BEAR ANSWER KEY FOR LESSON 27

PHONICS EXERCISE A

1. church
2. surprise
3. burn
4. nurse
5. sturdy
6. hurt
7. fur
8. hurry
9. surface
10. disturb

PHONICS EXERCISE B

1. fluffy
2. funny
3. chilly
4. runny
5. tiny
6. dizzy
7. baggy
8. sudsy
9. slippery
10. silly

READING QUESTIONS A

1. a
2. c
3. a
4. c
5. c

READING QUESTIONS B

1. b
2. a
3. c
4. a
5. b

READING QUESTIONS C

1. The speaker in the poem draws up a very colorful picture of a barefoot boy. In your own words, describe the “barefoot boy” as he is presented in the poem.

The barefoot boy has tan cheeks, showing evidently that he enjoys the outdoors. He wears pants that are too long for him (he has to turn up the cuffs) and a hat with a torn brim.

2. The speaker gives reasons why the barefoot boy is “rich.” Can you explain in your own words why he thinks so? What can the barefoot boy buy that a millionaire cannot?

Teachers may begin a discussion of this question by asking the students to say what they think being “rich” is. Is being rich having a lot of money, or something else, such as being able to enjoy beautiful music, having friends and family that love them, and knowing God. In the poem, the boy is rich because all nature is “his,” meaning that the pleasures of nature are his to enjoy. More than adults, children can enjoy the pleasures of “humming-birds and honey-bees.” Teachers may point out that this poem is typical of the Romantic Period poets such as William Wordsworth. Romantic Period poets often wrote about nature and praised its virtues.

3. Give one example of a metaphor, personification, and a simile used in the poem.

Metaphors. A metaphor is a figure of speech in which a comparison is made. Teachers should ask what is being compared in each of the metaphors and what the poet is communicating through the metaphors.

- “prince thou art” Here the poet is comparing the barefoot boy to a prince, expressing the idea that though he is not wealthy in money, he is wealthy in his enjoyment of nature.
- “Larger grew my riches too” The poet is comparing the enjoyment of nature to riches.

Personification. When poets describe or treat things or animals as human beings, they are using personification.

- “Plied the snouted mole his spade”
- “Laughed the brook for my delight”
- “Whispering at the garden wall”
- “Talked with me from fall to fall”

Simile. A simile is a figure of speech in which a comparison is made using the words “like” or “as.”

- “All the world I saw or knew/Seemed a complex Chinese toy” Here the poet is comparing the world to a complex Chinese toy. A Chinese toy in the 19th century would have been a strange, exotic and fascinating plaything for a child, and so the poet is pointing out the wonder and joy that the barefoot boy has for the natural world.

4. In the last stanza, the poet is talking about the time when he himself was a barefoot boy. Explain what the speaker means by the following lines: *When all things I heard or saw,/ Me, their master, waited for.*

The speaker is stressing that because of his ability to enjoy nature in a way that adults cannot, he was the “master” (another metaphor) of the squirrel, etc. The idea is further stressed by the shift in meter from iambic to trochaic with the word “me” at the beginning of the line.

5. Why does the speaker mention flowers, trees, hummingbirds, honeybees, a squirrel, a mole, blackberries, a brook, a pond, walnut trees and an apple orchard?
They are all objects of nature that the barefoot boy is rich in.

LITERARY WORDS EXERCISE A

1. F
2. F
3. T
4. T
5. T

LITERARY WORDS EXERCISE B

1. C
2. R
3. C
4. R
5. R
6. R
7. R
8. R
9. C
10. R

GRAMMAR EXERCISE

1. bigger
2. darker
3. cleaner
4. fluffier
5. thinner
6. fatter
7. faster
8. finer
9. happier
10. curlier