

Chapter 4: The Phantom Tollbooth (A Book Review)

EXERCISE [PAGES 93 - 97]

Exercise | Q 1. (a) | Page 96

Read the passage and answer the following:

Which book is introduced in the passage?

SOLUTION

The book 'The Phantom Tollbooth' is introduced in the passage.

Exercise | Q 1. (b) | Page 96

Read the passage and answer the following:

Where does the story take place?

SOLUTION

The story takes place in San Francisco in the States.

Exercise | Q 1. (c) | Page 96

Read the passage and answer the following:

Who is the main character in the story?

SOLUTION

A small boy called Milo is the main character in the story.

Exercise | Q 1. (d) | Page 96

Read the passage and answer the following:

Why is the tollbooth called a 'phantom' tollbooth?

SOLUTION

The tollbooth is called the 'phantom' tollbooth because like a ghost, it disappears after Milo has passed it.

Exercise | Q 1. (e) | Page 96

Read the passage and answer the following:

When was the book written?

SOLUTION

The book was written more than 50 years ago.

Exercise | Q 1. (f) | Page 96

Read the passage and answer the following:

Who has written the book?

SOLUTION

Norman Juster has written the book.

Exercise | Q 2 | Page 96

List the various people and places mentioned in the passage. The places Milo visits and the people he meets have unusual names. Write the meanings of those names.

SOLUTION

The people Milo meets and the meanings :

	People Milo meets	Meanings of the names
1.	Rhyme	words that end with the same sound
2.	Reason	cause or explanation for something
3.	Lethargarians	lazy and lethargic people
Places Milo visits		
1.	Land of expectations	a place where you go with high hopes of getting something
2.	Kingdom of Wisdom	a place where people are wise and get wisdom
3.	The Doldrums	a place where everyone is feeling sad or depressed

Exercise | Q 3 | Page 96

List the various things that the Lethargarians do or want to do. Can you sum up all of it in one word or phrase?

SOLUTION

The Lethargarians do the following things: daydreaming, taking naps, dawdling, delaying, biding their time, lingering and loitering, putting off for tomorrow what they can do today, loafing and lounging, dillydallying and complaining. The Lethargarians want to do the following things: brooding, lagging, plodding, and procrastinating. Summing it up in a single phrase, they do nothing but complain.

Exercise | Q 4 | Page 96

In the novel, the Lethargarians give a whole day's time table of their activities. Can you guess what it would be like?

Use your own ideas and prepare their time table.

SOLUTION



Reading the book review, I'd say the Lethargartans' timetable would be something like this:

Wake up: 9 am

Breakfast: 9-11 am

Nap: 11-1 pm

Lunch: 1-3 pm

Relaxing/Daydreaming: 3-5 pm

Tea: 5-6 pm

Loafing and lounging: 6-8 pm

Dinner: 8-10 pm

Complaints: 10-11 pm

Bed: 11 pm

Exercise | Q 5 | Page 96

Try to write interesting time tables for imaginary people or creatures.

SOLUTION

Students can do it on their own.

Exercise | Q 6 | Page 97

Activity:

Start a collection of new and interesting words. Write the words in colored ink on cards of equal size and arrange them in alphabetical order. Try to use the words in your writing or conversation from time to time

SOLUTION

Students do it on your own.

Exercise | Q 7 | Page 93

Discuss what makes the following sentences funny.

- Your wasted time will be refunded.
- There was no highway attached to the booth.

SOLUTION

Students do it on your own.

Exercise | Q 8 | Page 97

Write a review of your favorite book. Use the following points :

- Title of the book
- Author/Authors

- The central idea or story
- The important characters
- Some special features of the book
- Why it is your favourite book.

SOLUTION

The Mystery of the Invisible Thief

I recently read the book 'The Mystery of the Invisible Thief' written by Enid Blyton. This is one of the 'Five Find-Outers' series of books by the author.

The book is about five children, Fatty, Larry, Pip, Daisy and Bets, and their little dog, Buster. The 'five children and dog' find themselves suddenly in the middle of a mystery. Robberies have taken place in their little village - and the thief seems to be invisible! At the same time, he appears to be a huge man, wearing huge shoes and gloves. How can such a large man remain invisible?

The book tells us how the children make a chart of duties, find clues, and investigate. They try to outwit the village policeman, Mr. Goon. They are, of course, troubled by Mr. Goon, and they in turn trouble him.

The book is written in a very exciting and interesting manner, with something happening at every moment. The children are of course, successful in the end, and win over their enemy, Mr. Goon. Who is the thief? How do they find the thief? What proof do they have? If you want to read a well-written book with a nice plot, and children who are intelligent and sensible, go for it!

