

DAD AND THE CAT AND THE TREE

[Working with the Poem]

Question 1. Why was Dad sure he wouldn't fall?

Answer: Because he thought that he was a great climber.

Question 2: Which phrase in the poem expresses Dad's self-confidence best?

Answer: "Easy as winking to a climber like me" expresses Dad's self-confidence the best.

Question 3: Describe Plan A and its consequences.

Answer: Plan A was to climb the tree with the help of a ladder. But the ladder slipped and Dad fell on the ground.

Question 4: Plan C was a success. What went wrong then?

Answer: Plan C was a success. Dad reached the place where the cat was stuck. But, the moment he reached the place, the cat jumped onto the ground.

Question 5: The cat was very happy to be on the ground. Pick out the phrase used to express this idea.

Answer: "Smiling and smirking" is used as a phrase to express the cat was very happy to be on the ground.

Question 6: Describe the Cat and Dad situation in the beginning and at the end of the poem.

Answer: In the beginning, the cat was stuck on the tree and Dad was looking at it from the ground. At the end, Dad got stuck on the tree and the cat was on the ground.

Question 7: Why and when did Dad say each of the following?

- (i) Fall?
- (ii) Never mind
- (iii) Funny joke
- (iv) Rubbish

Answer:

- (i) **Fall?:** when his wife warned him against falling, Dad said “fall?”, “A climber like me? Child’s play, this is! You wait and see.”
- (ii) **Never mind:** As Dad fell from the tree, he said “Never mind” while brushing the dirt off his clothes.
- (iii) **Funny joke:** As his wife warned him again, he said “funny joke”.
- (iv) **Rubbish:** Dad said this when he was again warned by his wife “Stop it, you’ll break your neck!” when he fell after trying plan B too.

Question 8: Do you find the poem humorous? Read aloud lines which make you laugh.

Answer: Yes, the poem is humorous. Lines that made me laugh are:

“Then he swung himself up

On a branch. It broke.”

“The cat gave a yell

And sprang to the ground,”