

CLASS – VIII

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CHAPTER – 3rd (Poem) Macavity: The Mystery Cat

ANSWER

Working with the poem

Q. 1. Read the first stanza and think.

(i) Is Macavity a cat really ?

Ans. No.

(ii) If not, who can Macavity be

Ans. Macavity can be an imagination of the poet or it can be a criminal who has covered himself in a cat's coat/fur.

Q. 2. Complete the following sentences.

(i) A master criminal is one who

Ans. can defy the law

(ii) The Scotland Yard is baffled because.....

Ans. they do not find Macavity on the spot of crime.

(iii).....because Macavity moves much faster than them.

Ans. The Flying Squad can not catch Macavity.

Q. 3. "A cat, I am sure, could walk on a cloud without coming through."

(Jules Verne)

Which law is Macavity breaking in the light of the comment above ?

Ans. Macavity breaks the law of gravity and can fly in the air.

Q. 4. Read stanza 3, and then, describe Maca in two or three sentences of your own.

Ans. Macavity is a ginger cat which is very tall thin, has sunken eyes, deeply lined eyebrows, highly doomed head, dusty coat and uncombed whiskers. He moves like a snake and is always wide awake,

Q. 5. Say False' or True' for each of the follow statements.

(i) Macavity is not an ordinary cat.

True

(ii) Macavity cannot do what a fakir can easily do.

False

(iii) Macavity has supernatural powers.

True

(iv) Macavity is well-dressed, smart and bright.

False

(v) Macavity is a spy, a trickster and a criminal, all rolled in one.

True

Q. 6. Having read the poem, try to guess whether the poet is fond of cats. If so, why does he call Macavity a fiend and monster?

Ans. The poet is fond of cats. For him cat is a mysterious creature. Macavity may be his mischievous pet who did lawless activities. So the poet calls him a fiend and monster.

Q. 7. Has the poet used exaggeration for special effect ? Find a few examples of it and read those lines aloud.

Ans. Yes, the poet has used exaggeration for special effects. For example:

- (i) 'His power of levitation would make a fakir stare.'
- (ii) 'He sways his head from side to side, with movements like a snake;'
- (iii) 'For he's a fiend in feline shape'.