

The Snow Queen

Kay lived next door to his best friend, Gerda. They loved each other like brother and sister. One day, the children were playing together in Kay's grandmother's house. It was warm inside the house. But outside it was getting colder.

'Look out of the window, Kay!' cried Gerda. 'Look! It's snowing!'
Kay's grandmother came and stood next to them. 'The snowflakes look like white bees on my roses,' she said.
'Have the bees got a queen bee?' asked Kay.
'The Snow Queen is the queen bee,' said his grandmother. 'She is the biggest snowflake. She flies through the streets on winter nights. She brings the snow and ice.'

That night, Kay looked out of the window again. A big snowflake lay on one of the roses. The snowflake grew bigger and bigger until it became a beautiful ice woman. The woman turned and looked at Kay coldly. Kay was afraid of the ice woman. He got into bed and felt a cold wind on his face.
'What's that?' thought Kay. 'Is it the ice woman?'

The next morning, the sun melted some of the snow. Kay and Gerda went to play in the rose garden. Suddenly, Kay cried out. He put his hand to his face.
'There's something in my eye. Ow! It hurts!'
'Let me see,' said Gerda and she looked into his eye. But she couldn't see anything there.

The imp in the sky looked down and laughed. 'Kay has got a piece of glass in his eye! It came from my mirror! It will turn into ice and will make Kay naughty and rude!'
And that is what happened.

Suddenly, Kay was like a different boy. He looked angry and he spoke rudely.
'You look ugly, Gerda!' he shouted.
'Kay, what's wrong? Why are you being so rude?'
Kay was usually polite. But everything he said that day was rude and everything he did was naughty. Gerda felt very sad. What was wrong with her best friend?

A. Choose and underline the correct answer.

1. Who was Gerda?
 - a) Kay's sister
 - b) Kay's brother
 - c) Kay's best friend

2. What did Kay's grandmother say the snowflakes on her roses looked like?
 - a) queen bees
 - b) white bees
 - c) snow bees

3. What did Kay want to know?
 - a) Have the bees got a queen bee?
 - b) Have the snowflakes got a queen?
 - c) Are bees really snow?

4. What did Kay's grandmother say the Snow Queen does on winter nights?
 - a) brings snow and ice
 - b) gets bigger and bigger
 - c) flies south

5. What did Kay see the big snowflake on one of the roses change into?
 - a) an ice man
 - b) a very big snowflake
 - c) a beautiful ice woman

6. How do we know that the ice woman did not smile at Kay?
 - a) She looked at him angrily.
 - b) She looked at him coldly.
 - c) She didn't look at him.

7. What did Gerda see in Kay's eye?
 - a) Nothing
 - b) We don't know
 - c) A piece of glass

8. What did the imp say about the piece of glass in Kay's eye?
 - a) It will change Kay.
 - b) It will melt.
 - c) It will help Kay.

9. Why did Kay tell Gerda she looked ugly?
- a) Gerda was different now.
 - b) Kay was unhappy.
 - c) The glass turned into ice and made Kay rude.

10. Why did Gerda feel sad?
- a) Kay was polite.
 - b) Kay was not polite and he did bad things.
 - c) Kay's eye hurt.

B. Write True or False

11. The children were playing together in Gerda's grandmother's house.

12. It was warm inside the house. _____

13. The Snow Queen flies through the streets on summer nights.

14. A big snowflake lay on one of the roses. _____

15. Kay was not afraid of the ice woman. _____

16. Kay had something in his eye. _____

17. The piece of glass in Kay's eye came from the imp's mirror.

C. Fill in with a suitable word.

18. The piece of glass will turn into _____ and will make Kay

_____ and _____.

Marks: 1 mark each