

CHAPTER 3 MACAVITY- THE MYSTERY CAT

WORKING WITH THE POEM

1. Read the first stanza and think.

a) Macavity is a cat. b) If not, Macavity can be a thief.

2. Complete the following sentences

A. a) A master criminal is one who is never caught.
b) The Scotland yard is baffled because with all its might, it is unable to lay its hand upon Macavity.
c) Flying squad is not able to get Macavity because Macavity moves much faster than the flying squad.

3. “A cat I am sure, could walk on a cloud without coming through”. Which law is Macavity breaking in the light of the comment above?

A. The law of Gravitation.

4. Read the stanza 3 and then describe Macavity in two or three sentences of your own.

A. Macavity is a ginger coloured very tall and thin cat with sharpen eyes and high head. He is always alert and moves his head from side to side like a snake.

5. Say false or true for each of the following statements.

i) True ii) False iii) False iv) False v) True

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

A. The poet is fond of cats. So he describes a big cat in such detail. However, for the rats the cat is certainly a friend and monster. So the poet gives him those adjectives as well.

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

A. Yes the following lines show that

“He is bafflement of Scotland yard the flying squad’s despair.” (stanza -1)

“His powers of levitation would make a fakir stare.” (stanza - 1)

“For his a friend in feline shake, a monster of depravity.” (stanza - 4)