

Spooky Poems

From Colin McNaughton – *Making Friends with Frankenstein*

SHARK IN THE SHOWER

There's a shark in the shower
Sings a little song.
I have to get to school today
I hope he won't be long.



1. Why is this poem funny? _____

2. Why does the author of the poem hope the shark “won’t be long”?

3. _____ What is the rhyming pattern of the poem?
 - a. All lines rhyme with each other.
 - b. There are two pairs of rhyming lines.
 - c. The first and last lines rhyme.
 - d. None of the lines rhyme.

The Alien Visitor

When the alien visitor
Visits our school,
Please be polite to him,
Don't play the fool.

His skin may be purple
Or orange or blue,
But you must not be rude,
Whatever you do.

He may be all hairy;
He may have no hair.
Don't **ogle** or **gawk** –
I **forbid** you to stare!

He may be enormous,
He may be quite small,
But don't call him "Shorty"
That won't do at all.

1. What does "don't play the fool" mean?

- a) Play fun games with the visitor.
- b) Don't act rude or silly.
- c) Don't play Twister with the alien.

2) **What is the rhyming pattern of this poem?**

- a) All of the lines rhyme. AAAA
- b) Every other line rhymes. ABCB
- c) The first and third lines rhyme and the second and fourth lines rhyme. ABAB

3) What do **ogle** and **gawk** mean?

- a) They are types of birds.
- b) Hairless
- c) to stare

4) What does **forbid** mean?

- a) do not allow
- b) want
- c) hope

He may have two heads
But you musn't make fun.
Remember that two heads are better than one.

He may well give off
A **peculiar** smell.

The first one to shout,
"What a stink!" I'll expel!

Speak when you're spoken to,
Don't be a pest.
Try to remember
That he is our guest.

Should he wobble or tremble
Or rumble or shake,
Remember the pride
Of the school is **at stake!**

5. What does "two heads are better than one" really mean in real life?

- a) A two-headed alien is smarter than a one-headed alien.
- b) Two people thinking together are smarter than one person thinking on his own.
- c) Too bad the alien can't find a sweater to fit his heads.

6. What does **peculiar** mean?

- a) flower-like
- b) perfume
- c) smelly

How did you know?

7. Who is writing this poem? _____

8. How do you know?

9. What does "the pride of the school is at stake" mean?

- a) Juicy steak dinners are delicious.
- b) If we make fun of visitors to our school, no matter how different they may be, then our school could get a bad reputation.
- c) We want aliens from outer space to attend our school.

THE ONE WHO INVENTED TRICK OR TREAT

Yes, I invented “trick or treat”
So you could fill your mouth with sweets—
Candy bars and lemon drops,
Marshmallows and Tootsie Pops,
Butterscotch and bubble gum.
Hold out your hand—they’ll give you some
Chocolate kisses, Jujubes,
Sourballs and jelly beans.
Have a cake – some cookies too.
Take a couple – grab a few
Peppermint sticks and Mary Janes,
Licorice whips and candy canes.
Slurp some soda, munch a pie,
Don’t let those M&Ms go by,
Chew that toffee, munch those treats,
Get that caramel in your teeth.
Then come see me, I’ll be here—
I’m your friendly dentist, dear.

--Shel Silverstein

Every Thing On It

1. Why did the dentist write this poem?

2. Shel Silverstein’s message to the reader is what?

a) Halloween candy is fun.

b) Don’t eat any candy on Halloween.

c) Be careful eating candy because it is bad for your teeth.

d) Anyone who eats candy will get cavities.

3) What is the rhyming pattern?

a) Every other line rhymes. ABAB

b) All of the lines rhyme.

c) Each pair of lines rhyme. AABB

d) Every third line rhymes. ABACADA