

Name:

Date:

Read the text, then answer the questions.

1. What do we know about the writer's dream from the first verse? Tick all that apply.

He dreamed of elephants.  The elephants were in a large group.

There were baby elephants in the group.  They walked slowly.

2. Write **two** things that verse 2 tells us about the weather in the poem.

(a) \_\_\_\_\_

(b) \_\_\_\_\_

3. Find and copy **one** word from verse 2 that tells us the elephants were serious.

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4. Find and copy **one** other word from verse 3 that is also used to describe the elephants' character?

\_\_\_\_\_

5. How do you think the writer felt watching the elephants? Explain how you know, using evidence from the text.

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6. What do you think the writer means by the line "*They merged into the heat and dust*"?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

7. Using information from the poem, tick one box in each row to show whether each statement is **true** or **false**.

	True	False
The author dreamed of elephants because he likes them.		
The elephants' feet were quiet.		
The herd kept walking without stopping.		
The author was scared by the elephants.		

8. What did the elephants think of the writer in the poem? Explain how you know.

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## A Dream of Elephants by Tony Mitton

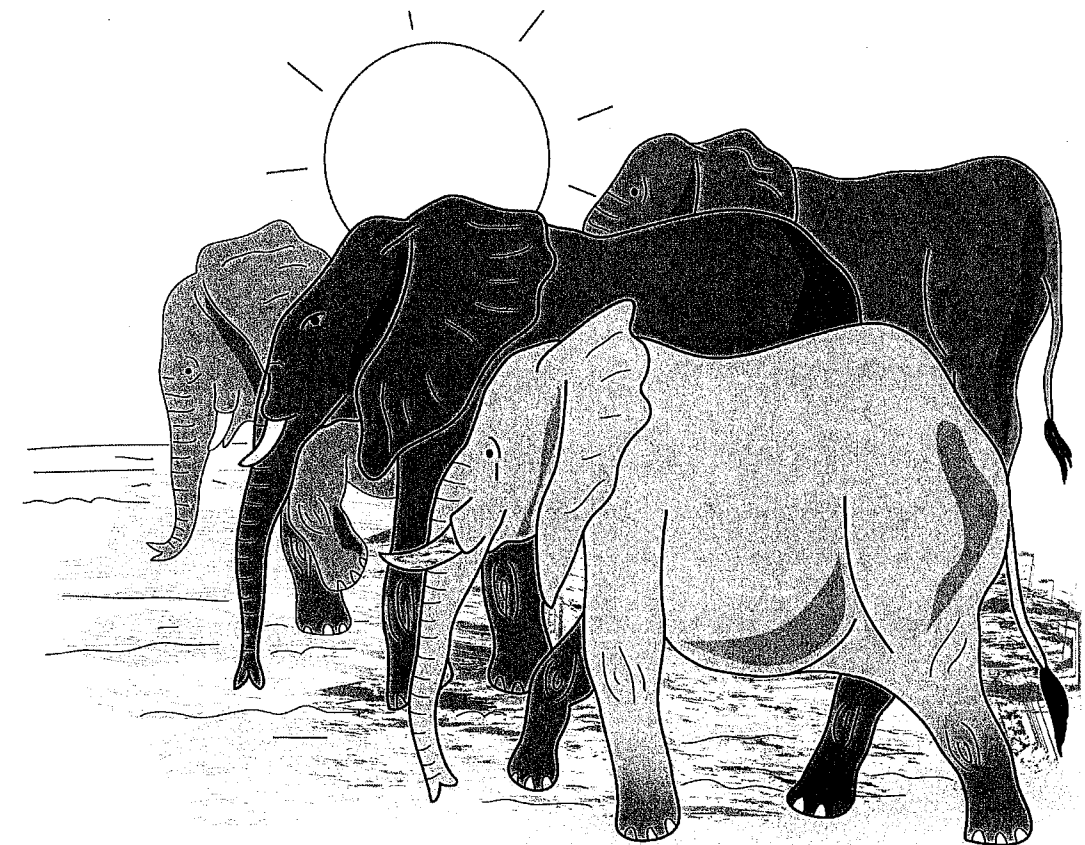
I dreamed a dream of elephants.  
I cannot tell you why.  
But in my dream I saw the herd  
go slowly walking by.

I watched them as they moved  
away.  
I watched as they walked on.  
They merged into the heat and dust  
till all of them were gone.

They moved beneath a blazing sun,  
through rising dust and heat.  
They made their solemn journey  
on strong and silent feet.

I dreamed a dream of elephants.  
I cannot tell you why.  
But in my dream I saw the herd  
go slowly walking by.

And as I watched, the steady herd  
walked slowly, sadly by,  
until I stood, amazed, alone,  
beneath a silent sky.



## From *The Green Ship* by Quentin Blake

And then suddenly we were taken by surprise by a voice which said: "Well, what have we here, Bosun? Stowaways?"

There was a thin lady in a dark dress looking up at us.

"What do you think, Bosun? Shall we clap them in irons?"

"Only youngsters," said the Bosun, who actually looked more like a gardener. "Swabbin' the decks is the thing, if you ask me."

"And after that perhaps we shall have tea on deck."

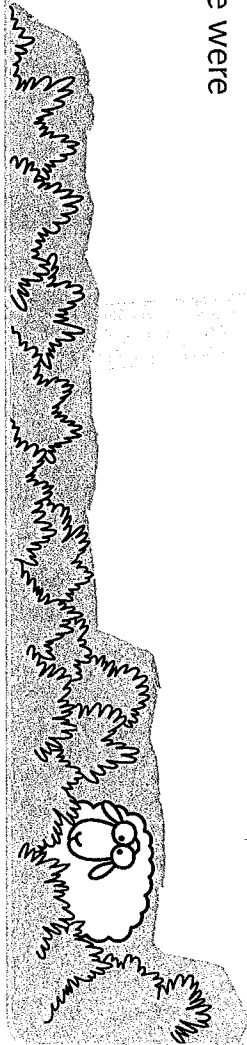
Swabbing the deck turned out to be sweeping away the leaves; but tea really was tea, with madeira cake and cucumber sandwiches. At the end of it Mrs Tredegar (that was her name) said: "The Bosun will see you ashore. Any why not come aboard again tomorrow? I'm sure that's what the Captain would have wished."

Next morning, with permission from our aunt, we were back at the green ship.

We climbed the masts. We took turns to stand at the wheel and steer the ship. Mrs Tredegar showed us how to use the telescope. By the end of the day we were a fully-trained crew.

On our next visit Mrs Tredegar produced an old atlas, and every day after that we imagined that we were voyaging to some new place. A flower urn became an Italian ruin; a palm tree (there really was a palm tree) became the far-off shore of Egypt. One chilly day we pretended we were in the Arctic. Bushes became icebergs and some sheep that had got into the garden by mistake became polar bears.

The last few days of our holiday were hot and sunny. They got hotter and hotter. We wore sunhats and played deck-quoits and drank lots of limejuice. It seemed as though we were heading southward through tropical seas. Eventually it became so hot that Mrs Tredegar decided that we must have reached the Equator, and that we must have the ceremony of Crossing the Line.



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1. What is the imaginary world in the story?

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2. Draw lines to match the places the children imagined they sailed to with the real-world object.

Italy	sheep
Egypt	flower urn
Arctic	palm tree

3. How does the author remind you that the ship is made of trees and bushes?

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4. Were the children invited into the garden at the start of the story? Explain your answer.

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5. How do you think Mrs Tredegar feels about having the children in her garden? What happens in the story to make you think this?

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6. Number the following sentences 1 to 5 in the order that they happen in the story.

The children pretended the sheep were polar bears.

They had tea and cake.

They got permission from their aunt.

They swept the decks.

They climbed the masts.

7. At the end of the extract, Mrs Tredegar decides that they must have crossed the Equator. What do you think might happen next?

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8. On a separate piece of paper, write what happens in no more than five lines, summarising the main ideas from the paragraphs.