

Friday 12th February

Prediction

What do you think a poem titled "The Hare and The Tortoise" will be about?

You don't need to write this answer down.

Read the whole text.

If you are unsure of the meaning of any words, you can clarify them on the internet.

The Hare and The Tortoise

Said a hare to a tortoise, "Good sir, what a while
You have been only crossing the way;
Why I really believe that to go half a mile,
You must travel all day."

"I am very contented," the creature replied;
"Though I walk but a tortoise's pace,
But if you think proper the point to decide,
We will run half a mile in a race"

"Very good," said the hare; said the tortoise, "Proceed,
And the fox shall decide who has won."
Then the hare started off with incredible speed;
But the tortoise walked leisurely on.

“Come tortoise, friend tortoise, walk on,” said the hare,
“Well, I shall stay here for my dinner;
Why, ‘twill take you a month, at that rate, to get there,
Then how can you hope to be a winner?”

But the tortoise could not hear a word that she said
For he was far distant behind;
So the hare felt secured while at leisure she fed,
And took a sound nap when she’d dined.

So at last this slow walker came up with the hare,
And there fast asleep did he spy her;
And he cunningly crept with such caution and care,
That she woke not, although he passed by her.

“Well now,” thought hare, when she opened her eyes,
“For the race, and I soon shall have done it.”
But who can describe her chagrin and surprise,
When she found that the tortoise had won it.

By Marmaduke Park



Questions

- ① How long does the hare think it will take the tortoise to travel half a mile?
- ② Why do you think the tortoise doesn't mind that he's slow?
- ③ Who will judge the race?
- ④ How fast is the hare going at the beginning of the race?
How do you know?
- ⑤ What does "leisurely" tell you about the tortoise's pace in the third verse?
- ⑥ What is the hare exaggerating about in the fourth verse?
How do you know she's exaggerating?
- ⑦ What does the word chagrin tell us about how the hare is feeling?

Summary

Summarise what you have just read. *You don't need to write this answer down.*

WRITTEN TASK: COMPREHENSION

Answer the questions (① to ⑦) in full sentences.

CHALLENGE: This poem is also a moral tale, which is a story that tries to teach us something about life. What is the moral of this poem?