

James and the Giant Peach  
Roald Dahl

One

1. Until what age did James have a peaceful life? 1 mark
2. What happened to James' parents? 1 mark
3. What did James have in his suitcase? 2 marks
4. What words are used to describe the aunts? Why do you think these words are used? To show... 3 marks
5. 'As bare as a prison cell'. Why do you think the author used this simile to describe James' room? What impression does it give you? 2 marks
6. James was not 'permitted to go alone'. Find this phrase in the chapter. What does 'permitted' mean? 1 mark
7. What punishment was James threatened with? 1 mark
8. Why did James get more and more lonely? 2 marks
9. Imagine you are James. What would you be thinking about your aunts? Write three different things. 3 marks

Two

1. What was James chopping wood for? 1 mark
2. What is Aunt Sponge compared to? 1 mark
3. Why was James sweating all over as he chopped the wood? 1 mark
4. Why did James start to cry? 2 marks
5. At the end of the chapter, copy a phrase that shows just how sad James is feeling. 1 mark
6. Why did Aunt Spiker not want to beat him at that moment? 1 mark
7. What would say if you saw James crying to comfort him? Think of 3 different lines. 3 marks

Three

1. Page 10. Why was James 'too frightened to move'? 2 marks
2. What did the old man get out of his pocket? 1 mark

3. Why could James feel the man's breath on his cheeks? 1 mark
4. Copy the phrases used to describe the things in the bag. 3 marks
5. How does Dahl get the reader interested in what is in the bag? 1 mark

#### Four

1. What does James have to do with the green things? 1 mark
2. Why do you think the man tells James not to tear the paper? 1 mark

#### Five

1. Page 14. James felt 'terribly excited'. Think of two different reasons why James must have felt this way. Use what you have already read in the book so far...
2. Page 14. Find the word 'swerved'. What do you think it means? 1 mark
3. What adjectives are used to describe how the creatures get into the soil? 2 marks
4. Page 16. Find the word 'frantically'. Read the part it is in. What could this word mean? 1 mark
5. Page 16. Why did James feel like crying? 2 marks
6. Aunt Sponge is 'waddling' as she moves to where James is. What must 'waddling' mean? 1 mark
7. What made James stop his chopping at the end of the chapter? 1 mark

#### Six

1. 'He could feel it in the air around him...' what feeling is the author trying to create in the reader by writing this? 2 marks
2. Who is planning to eat the peach? 1 mark
3. Who has to get the peach for them? 1 mark
4. What does Aunt Sponge think Aunt Spiker is joking about? 1 mark
5. Why is Aunt Spiker yelling at the end of the chapter? 1 mark

#### Seven

1. At the start of the chapter, James and the aunts stand 'absolutely still'. Why are they standing in this way? 2 marks
2. Why does aunt ask James to move away from the tree? 1 mark
3. Page 22. The peach is described as 'mammoth'. Find where this word is in the text. What do you think 'mammoth' means? 1 mark
4. Page 22. Why is James so spellbound? 2 marks
5. Why are the aunts so happy? 2 marks
6. Copy the phrases that describe the skin of the peach. 2 marks
7. At the end of the chapter, aunt Sponge's mouth is watering. Why? 1 mark

#### Eight

1. The news of the peach 'spread like wildfire'. What does 'spread like wildfire' mean? 2 marks
2. Why was a fence built? 1 mark
3. How much did people have to pay if they wanted to use their camera to take a photograph of the peach? 1 mark
4. What did the aunts send James outside to do? Who had left these things? 2 marks
5. Why was James so hungry? 1 mark
6. What would you say if you saw the giant peach? 3 marks

#### Nine

1. Why was James scared? 2 marks
2. What was making the peach look like a silver ball? 1 mark
3. Why did James have 'shivers of excitement'? 1 mark
4. What does James notice at the end of the chapter? 1 mark
5. What is James going to do?

#### Ten

1. Which adjectives are used to describe the tunnel? 2 marks

2. What tasted delicious? 1 mark
3. Why do you think the peach tasted 'refreshing'? 1 mark
4. Do you think James was right to crawl through the peach? Why? Explain fully 2 marks

#### Eleven

1. Why does James think the insects are not insects? 1 mark
2. Why do we realize how large the grasshopper is? 1 mark
3. Find the word 'squatting'. Read the sentence it is in. What must this word mean? 1 mark
4. Page 36 'too terrified to answer'. What does this show about James? 2 marks
5. Why was there a roar of laughter from the insects? 1 mark
6. Why do you think the author uses the word 'roar' to describe the way they have laughed? (Think of when we usually use this word). 2 marks
7. What does the centipede need help with? 1 mark
8. Why do you think the centipede needs help with this? (Think of what you know about a centipede).
9. Out of the insects you have met so far, which is your favourite. Why? 2 marks
10. What will the aunts say when they discover James is missing? Write a speech bubble for each aunt. 3 marks

#### Twelve

1. Why does the earthworm say the centipede is telling a lie? 1 mark
2. What word does the Earthworm use to describe how he moves? 1 mark
3. What does the Grasshopper call himself? 1 mark
4. How did the insects become so big? 1 mark

5. Why is the joke funny: ' stop puling his leg' which is said to the worm? 1 mark
6. Who is asked to make the beds? 1 mark

#### Thirteen

1. How did Miss Spider make the beds? Give two things she does. 2 marks
2. How did Miss Spider try to ensure the beds were comfortable? 1 mark
3. Why was it so hard to get the boots off the centipede? Give two reasons. 2 marks
4. Who had gone to sleep with her light on? 1 mark
5. Why did James think the centipede was talking to him when he was saying 'lights out'? 1 mark
6. Is a glow worm a worm? 1 mark
7. Why do you think James liked his new friends – the insects? Give three reasons supporting yourself with evidence from the text. 3 marks
8. Why did James not manage to say good night to each insect? 1 mark

#### Fourteen

1. Who breaks off the stem? 1 mark
2. How many verses are in the poem? 1 mark
3. What will blow off your head? 1 mark
4. What is the poem about? 1 mark

#### Fifteen

1. Why does Aunt Spiker think they will make a fortune in money? 1 mark
2. What was the noise that they heard? 1 mark

3. Why did they get in each others' way when they ran? 1 mark
4. Why did they run? 1 mark
5. The author uses the simile they looked like 'paper dolls'. Why do you think he chose this simile? What does it make you realize? 2 marks
6. Do you think the aunts got what they deserved? Explain fully giving three different reasons 3 marks

### Sixteen

1. At the start of the chapter, the peach is called a 'terrible monster'. Why? 1 mark
2. Name three different animals it passed. 1 mark
3. What kind of place did James live in if there were all these farm animals around? 1 mark
4. Page 52: 'great greedy gulps'. What writing technique has been used here? 1 mark
5. Where did the peach end up at the end of the chapter? 1 mark
6. What would you say if you had seen the chocolate pouring out of the factory? Write 3 lines. 3 marks
7. How must James have felt in the peach as it rolled and rolled? Think of three adjectives (describing words).

### Seventeen

1. Why was there a 'burst of cheering'? 1 mark
2. Why was the inside of the peach in darkness? 1 mark
3. Page 58. Why do you think the centipede was 'limping'? 1 mark
4. Page 58. Why do you think the ladybird's face went pale (white)? 1 mark
5. How did they get to see out of the peach? 2 marks

## Eighteen

1. What two things had meant the peach had been carried away quickly over the water? 2 marks
2. Why does James say they do not need to swim? 1 mark
3. The earthworm still feels they will die. Why? 1 mark
4. What does James say they can eat? 1 mark
5. Why do the others first not want to eat the peach? 1 mark
6. How did Miss Spider used to catch her bluebottles? 2 marks
7. What is the poem about in this chapter? Summarise in three lines. 3 marks

## Nineteen

1. Why did they not want to admit that the black items were sharks? 1 mark
2. Find the part where centipedes' voice is shaky. Why is it shaky? 2 marks
3. How many sharks were there? 1 mark
4. Find the word 'pandemonium'. What do you think this word may mean? 1 mark
5. Who do they think can help with the sharks? 1 mark
6. How do they look at James? Copy the words that describe how they looked at James. 2 marks
7. Why do you think they look at James? 1 mark

## Twenty

1. Where do they get the string from? 1 mark
2. What is James' idea? 1 mark
3. Why does the earth worm say to James : "stop right there"? 1 mark
4. How does James know the seagulls have already seen the earthworm? 1 mark

5. Find the word 'martyr' in the text. Read the part it is in. Work out what it means. 1 mark
6. Imagine you are one of the sharks. Write three things you would be thinking as you attack the peach. 3 marks

#### Twenty One

1. Describe how James acts like he is in charge. What does he do? What does he say? 3 marks

#### Twenty Two

1. How did James use the string? 1 mark
2. Why were the sea gulls coming closer to the peach? 1 mark
3. How many seagulls did it take to lift the peach out of the water? 1 mark

#### Twenty Three

1. Did the insects like being in the air? Copy out what they say. 2 marks
2. Write down two things the insects did to celebrate being out of the water and away from the sharks. 2 marks
3. "Ill be back in a jiffy". Page 85. What do you think this phrase means? 1 mark
4. Why did the insects not believe Miss Spider? 2 marks
5. Why couldn't the sharks eat much of the peach? 1 mark
6. Why did the captain and officers on the ship not like the peach? Copy carefully the parts that prove this. 2 marks
7. Why does the officer think the captain has been drinking too much whiskey? 1 mark
8. Why was a doctor called? 1 mark
9. Imagine you are the captain. Write three things you would say when you saw the birds and the peach. Draw a speech bubble around it. 3 marks

#### Twenty Four

1. How did they get the music? 1 mark
2. Why did James like the music? 1 mark
3. Why is the grass-hopper called a 'short horn'? 1 mark
4. What does James think is ridiculous? 1 mark
5. Why does the earthworm ask for James to be apologized to? 1 mark

#### Twenty Five

1. Why does the earthworm swallow soil? 1 mark
2. Why do farmers like ladybirds? 1 mark
3. Why do ladybirds have different number of spots? 1 mark
4. Which type of ladybird is 'ill-mannered'? 1 mark
5. Why does the spider say she is a decent person? 1 mark
6. What did Miss Spiker do to the spider's father? 1 mark
7. What does the centipede sing about? 2 marks

#### Twenty Six

1. Why did the centipede fall out of the peach? 2 marks
2. Why were the insects crying? 2 marks
3. What was the signal to let them know to pull the string? 1 mark
4. Why does the grasshopper say they should stay on top of the peach? 2 marks

#### Twenty Seven

1. Why are the clouds described to be like mountains? What impression does this give you of the mountains? 1 mark

2. Find and copy the phrases that describe the Cloud Men. 2 marks
3. What were the cloud men doing and making? 2 marks
4. How do we learn the cloud men are not deaf? 2 marks
5. Page 107. The cloud men are 'infuriated'. Find this word to read this part again carefully. What could the word 'infuriated' mean? 1 mark
6. What did the cloud men do with the hail stones ? 2 marks
7. Why did James and the insects run back into the peach? 1 mark
8. Why can the glow worm not show its light? 1 mark
9. Why does the Earthworm say 'serve you right'? 2 marks

#### Twenty Eight

1. What were the cloud men doing to the arch? 1 mark
2. Why do you think the peach was leaking? 1 mark
3. How did the peach become trapped? Explain clearly. 3 marks
4. Page 116. Find the word 'flabbergasted'. What could this word mean? 1 mark
5. Why are the legs of the centipede sticking together? 1 mark

#### Twenty Nine

1. What colour was the centipede because of the paint? 1 mark
2. Why had the paint dried so quickly? 1 mark
3. What ideas do they have to get the paint off the centipede? 2 marks
4. Why is James interrupted at the end of the chapter? 1 mark

#### Thirty

1. How did the paint come off the centipede? 1 mark
2. Why does the centipede start dancing around?
3. Why was there lots of water? 1 mark

### Thirty One

1. Why were the seagulls moving fast? 1 mark
2. Name three things they saw that belonged to the cloud-men? 3 marks
3. How does James know morning is soon going to be here? 1 mark

### Thirty Two

1. What did they see down below? 2 marks
2. Why did they think they were in America? 1 mark
3. How will they get back down to the ground? 2 marks

### Thirty Three

1. Why did sirens sound in the city? 1 mark
2. What did they think the peach was? 1 mark
3. Imagine you are a news reporter. Write five-six lines to let the people of New York know what you see. Write in your best reporter style! 3 marks
4. Write three places that are mentioned . 3 marks

### Thirty Four

1. Why do they not sink so easily? 1 mark
2. What cuts through a lot of the strings? 1 mark
3. What advice does James give at the end as they fall down? 2 marks
4. Write three lines of advice you would give if you were in the peach and about to fall down.

### Thirty Five

1. Find the word 'plummeted'. Work out what this means. 1 mark
2. People stared in some sort of 'stupor'. Find this word. What could this mean? 1 mark

3. Why do you think some people were praying? 2 marks

Thirty Six

What saved the peach?

Thirty Seven

1. Where did the people think the peach was from? 2 marks

2. Page 138. Why did the panic stop? 2 marks

3. What is James' poem about? 2 marks

4. Name three places that are mentioned in his poem. 3 marks

Thirty Eight

1. Where did they meet the Mayor of New York? 1 mark

2. Who was at the front of the procession? 1 mark

3. Why do you think James was so happy seeing all of the children? 2 marks

4. What did the children do to the peach? 1 mark

5. What was left of the peach? 1 mark

Thirty Nine

1. Write the jobs the insects managed to get for themselves. Do not miss out any of the insects! 3 marks

2. Where did James end up living? 1 mark

3. How did James manage to make friends? 2 marks

What do you think of James? Write three different words to describe him and back yourself up with evidence from the book.

What was your favourite part of the story? Why? Explain fully.

Which was the most worrying part in the story? Why?

Write down one fact you learnt about:

The lady bird

Grasshopper

Glow Worm

