

LET'S REVISE

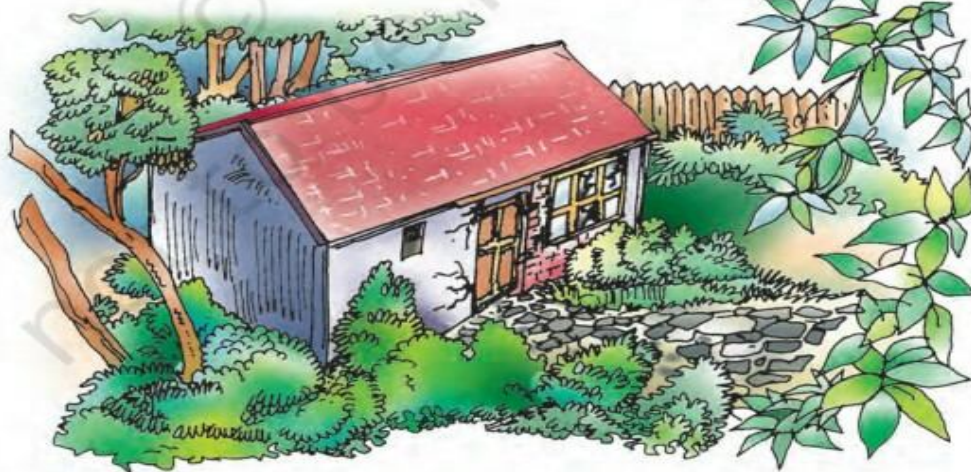
THE SHED

The Shed

Do you know what a shed is? A cow shed, a tool shed, a wood shed, for example. It's a small room, away from the main house, for storing or keeping things, animals, tools, vehicles, etc. Ask your partner if she/he has ever seen a shed. Let her/him describe it to the class.

Now read the poem.

There's a shed at the bottom of our garden
With a spider's web hanging across the door,
The hinges are rusty and creak in the wind.
When I'm in bed I lie and I listen,
I'll open that door one day.





There's a dusty old window around at the side
With three cracked panes of glass,
I often think there's someone staring at me
Each time that I pass,
I'll peep through that window one day.

My brother says there's a ghost in the shed
Who hides under the rotten floorboards,
And if I ever dare to set foot inside
He'll jump out and chop off my head,
But I'll take a peek one day.

I know that there isn't really a ghost,
My brother tells lies to keep the shed for his den;
There isn't anyone staring or making strange noises
And the spider has been gone from his web
since I don't know when,
I'll go into that shed one day soon,
But not just yet...

FRANK FLYNN

Working with the Poem

1. Answer the following questions.
 - (i) Who is the speaker in the poem?
 - (ii) Is she/he afraid or curious, or both?
 - (iii) What is she/he planning to do soon?
 - (iv) "But not just yet..." suggests doubt, fear, hesitation, laziness or something else. Choose the word which seems right to you. Tell others why you chose it.
2. Is there a room in your house or a house in your neighbourhood/locality where you would rather not go alone, and never at night? If there is such a place and a story to go with it, let others hear all about it.

VERY SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS:

1. HOW HAS THE POET DESCRIBED THE DOOR OF THE SHED?
2. WHY DOES THE POET WANT TO GO INSIDE THE SHED?
3. WHERE DOES THE GHOST HIDE IN THE SHED?
4. WHY IS THE WINDOW DUSTY?
5. FIND THE WORD FROM THE FIRST STANZA OF THE POEM WHICH MEANS "COVERED WITH RUST".