

Summer 2 Week 9 English Lesson 2

Can I understand and identify
nonsense words?

Fast Five

Can you define these features of a poem

Imagery -

Simile -

Rhythm -

Metaphor -

Onomatopoeia -

Fast Five - Answers

Can you define these features of a poem

Imagery - Using words to help the reader form a picture

Simile - comparing two things using the words like or as

Rhythm - Using words in a fun pattern that makes the poem easy to remember

Metaphor - Telling the reader that something 'is' something else

Onomatopoeia - A word that imitates the natural sound of the thing it is describing

What are nonsense words?

We briefly looked at this last lesson. Nonsense words are words that are not real words: they don't have a specific meaning and they wouldn't make sense on their own.

Let's have a look at the poem and see what words are nonsense

Poem on next slide

Jabberwocky

Lewis Carroll

'Twas brillig, and the slithy toves
Did gyre and gimble in the wabe:
All mimsy were the borogroves,
And the mome raths outgrabe.

“Beware the Jabberwock, my son!
The jaws that bite, the claws that catch!
Beware the Jubjub bird, and shun
The frumious Bandersnatch!”

He took his vorpal sword in hand;
Long time the manxome foe he sought -
So rested by the Tumtum tree,
And stood awhile in thought.

And, as in uffish thought he stood,
The Jabberwock, with eyes of flame,
Came wiffing through the tulgey wood,
And burbled as it came!

One, two! One, two! And through and through
The vorpal blade went snicker-snack!
He left it dead, and with its head
He went galumphing back.

“And has thou slain the Jabberwock?
Come to my arms, my beamish boy!
O frabjous day! Callooh! Callay!”
He chortled in his joy.

'Twas brillig, and the slithy toves
Did gyre and gimble in the wabe:
All mimsy were the borogroves,
And the mome raths outgrabe.

Here is where the nonsense words are

Jabberwocky

Lewis Carroll

'Twas **brillig**, and the **slithy toves**
Did **gyre** and **gimble** in the **wabe**:
All **mimsy** were the **borogroves**,
And the **mome raths** outgrabe.

"Beware the **Jabberwock**, my son!
The jaws that bite, the claws that catch!
Beware the **Jubjub** bird, and shun
The **frumious Bandersnatch!**"

He took his **vorpal** sword in hand;
Long time the **manxome** foe he sought -
So rested by the **Tumtum** tree,
And stood awhile in thought.

And, as in **uffish** thought he stood,
The Jabberwock, with eyes of flame,
Came **wiffling** through the **tulgey** wood,
And **burbled** as it came!

One, two! One, two! And through and through
The vorpal blade went **snicker-snack!**
He left it dead, and with its head
He went **galumphing** back.

"And has thou slain the Jabberwock?
Come to my arms, my **beamish** boy!
O **frabjous** day! **Callooh! Callay!**"
He **chortled** in his joy.

'Twas brillig, and the slithy toves
Did gyre and gimble in the wabe:
All mimsy were the borogroves,
And the mome raths outgrabe.

You may be thinking what do they mean? They don't make sense?

Carroll was a very creative and imaginative writer and make his own words up for this poem. They all do have a meaning but most of them are only related to this poem.

Let's have a look at the meanings Carroll had for these strange words.

'Twas **brillig**, and the **slithy** toves

Did gyre and gimble in the wabe:

All **mimsy** were the borogroves;

And the mome raths **outgrabe**.

“Beware the **Jabberwock**, my son!

The jaws that bite, the claws that catch!

Beware the **Jubjub bird**, and shun

The **frumious Bandersnatch**!

brillig - 'broiling time', dinner or evening.

slithy - mix of slimy and lithe: smooth and active.

mimsy - miserable and unhappy.

outgrabe - squeaked.

Jabberwock - a dangerous animal threatening the forest

Jubjub bird - a dangerous animal

frumious - mix of fuming and furious: violently angry.

Bandersnatch - another dangerous animal.

He took his vorpal sword in hand;

Long time the **manxome** foe he sought -

So rested he by the **Tumtum** tree

And stood awhile in thought.

And, as in **uffish** thought he stood,

The Jabberwock, with eyes of flame,

Came **whiffling** through the tulgey
Wood,

And **burbled** as it came!

manxome - something from the Isle of Man.

Tumtum - the sound that a stringed instrument makes.

uffish - gruff and rough.

whiffling - evasive, variable.

burbled - bubbled; also to perplex, confuse or muddle.

One, two! One, two! And through and through

The vorpal blade went **snicker-snack!**

He left it dead, and with its head

He went **galumphing** back.

“And hast thou slain the Jabberwock?

Come to my arms, my **beamish** boy!

O **frabjous** day! Callooh! Callay!

He chortled with joy.

snicker-snack - to fight with a knife.

galumphing - mix of gallop and triumphant: marching proudly with irregular bouncing movements.

beamish - bright.

frabjous - mix of fabulous and joyous: wonderful.

Some of these words are called portmanteau words

This means that two words with a similar meaning are joined together to make a new word.

For example:

Smoke and fog = smog

Lion and tiger = liger

Breakfast and lunch = brunch

Can you think if any of the words
in the Jabberwocky that are
portmanteau words?

Can you think if any of the words in the Jabberwocky are portmanteau?

Frumious - fuming and furious

Frabjous - fabulous and joyous

Galumph - gallop and triumph

Slithy - slimy and lithe

Chortled - chuckled and snorted

Your task today

Red - Can you think of 5 different nonsense words: see if you can make one a portmanteau word.

Yellow - Can you think of 3 different nonsense words and 2 portmanteau words: see if you can use them in a sentence.

Green - Can you use 3 different nonsense words and 2 portmanteau words in a sentence?