

Find out about the voyage taken by "The Jumblies." Read the selection below. Then read each question and choose the best answer. Use the provided answer sheet at the end of the workbook to record your answers.

The Jumblies

by Edward Lear

I

They went to sea in a Sieve¹, they did,
In a Sieve they went to sea:
In spite of all their friends could say,
On a winter's morn, on a stormy day,
In a Sieve they went to sea!
And when the Sieve turned round and round,
And every one cried, 'You'll all be drowned!'
They called aloud, 'Our Sieve ain't big,
But we don't care a button! we don't care a fig!
In a Sieve we'll go to sea!'
Far and few, far and few,
Are the lands where the Jumblies live;
Their heads are green, and their hands are blue,
And they went to sea in a Sieve.

V

They sailed to the Western Sea, they did,
To a land all covered with trees,
And they bought an Owl, and a useful Cart,
And a pound of Rice, and a Cranberry Tart,
And a hive of silvery Bees.
And they bought a Pig, and some green Jack-daws,²
And a lovely Monkey with lollipop paws,
And forty bottles of Ring-Bo-Ree,
And no end of Stilton Cheese.
Far and few, far and few,
Are the lands where the Jumblies live;
Their heads are green, and their hands are blue,
And they went to sea in a Sieve.

1. sieve: a strainer or sifter, a kitchen utensil with tiny holes for separating solids from liquids

2. jack-daws: crows that are found in Europe

VI

And in twenty years they all came back,
 In twenty years or more,
And every one said, 'How tall they've grown!
For they've been to the Lakes, and the Terrible Zone,
 And the hills of the Chankly Bore!'
And they drank their health, and gave them a feast
Of dumplings made of beautiful yeast;
And every one said, 'If we only live,
We too will go to sea in a Sieve,—
 To the hills of the Chankly Bore!'
 Far and few, far and few,
 Are the lands where the Jumblies live;
 Their heads are green, and their hands are blue,
 And they went to sea in a Sieve.

The Jumblies

- Which word *best* describes the attitude of the Jumblies after they are told that they will all be drowned?
 - somber
 - defiant
 - guilty
 - indifferent
- What is the *main* way that the author creates humor in this selection?
 - through rhyme scheme
 - through theme
 - through suspense
 - through nonsense words
- To which sense do the last two lines of each stanza appeal?
 - touch
 - smell
 - sight
 - hearing
- What conclusion is *best* supported by the last stanza of the selection?
 - The friends the Jumblies left behind were angry.
 - The Jumblies made a terrible mistake by going to sea.
 - The friends the Jumblies left behind will never go to sea.
 - The Jumblies will return to the sea very soon.
- Which line shows that the poem is written in the third-person?
 - On a winter's morn, on a stormy day
 - And when the Sieve turned round and round
 - In a Sieve they went to sea
 - And a pound of Rice, and a Cranberry Tart
- People like the Jumblies who go on long adventures are *most likely* to have which of the following characteristics?
 - fear
 - determination
 - wealth
 - self-love