

Answers

The poet uses rhyme and repetition throughout. Why do you think he does this?

Accept: it mimics the speed of the train, it makes it flow well, they are typical features of poetry.

Why might the author have chosen fairies and witches to compare the train's speed to?

They are mythical creatures, so it makes it seem like the train is going super-fast/ leaves the speed to the imagination of the reader

Find and copy a simile.

Charging along like troops in a battle

Define 'clambers'. You may want to use a dictionary to help you.

climbs

What are brambles?

A shrub/bush that grows berries.

Name two things that can be seen from the train.

Bridges

Houses

Hedges

Ditches

Meadows

Horse

Cattle

Hills

Plains

Painted stations

A child

A tramp

The green for stringing the daisies

(note: do not accept 'the daisies')

A cart

A man

His load

A mill

A river

What is the tramp doing?

Standing and gazing

Why do the stations 'whistle by'?

Because the train is going so fast

A lot of people say Robert Louis Stevenson wrote this poem to rhythmically mimic the sound and speed of a train. Do you think this was successful and if so how did he achieve it?

Accept answers that say yes with reasons.

'Each a glimpse and gone forever!' Are these things gone forever? What does the poet mean?

Accept answers which point out that it will be hard to see

Higher level answers may mention – industry taking over the countryside.

Write down what this poem is about using only one sentence