

ANSWERS

1. What do you notice about how the two young girls speak to each other?

Children make one of the following, or similar, points:

They speak like they know each other, but they are not good or close friends.

Mary speaks in standard English, whereas Martha speaks with a Yorkshire dialect.

Martha appears to be teaching Mary things she does not know about England/Yorkshire.

Mary doesn't always understand everything that Martha says.

2. In the third paragraph, find three examples where Martha speaks with a Yorkshire dialect.

Children pick any 3 words/phrases from the following:

“Aye,”

“Th’ storm’s over for a bit.”

“It does like this at this time o’ th’ year.”

“It goes off in a night like it was pretendin’ it had never been here an’ never meant to come again.”

“That’s because th’ springtime’s on its way.”

“It’s a long way off yet, but it’s comin’.”

“Eh! no!”

“Nowt o’ th’ soart!”

3. What job do you think Martha has? How do you know?

Children infer that Martha is a servant/helper to Mary.

They may use evidence from the text such as:

Mary “called to Martha” from her bed

Martha “sits up on her heels among her black lead brushes” – She is kneeling and working/cleaning whilst having this conversation with Mary.

“She took up her polishing brush and began to rub the grate again” – Martha is polishing whilst talking to Mary, who is lying in bed.

4. Where did Mary used to live? How do you know this? Give evidence from the text to support your answer.

Mary used to live in India as she references Indian skies and how in India she didn't always understand what people were saying as they spoke with different dialects.

5. Which words and phrases in the following quote give us an insight into how Mary is feeling?

When Mary opened her eyes she sat upright in bed immediately, and called to Martha.
“Look at the moor! Look at the moor!”

Children write something similar to the following:

The words “she sat upright in bed immediately” tell us when she wakes up, she is surprised and shocked by what she can see out of her window.

She calls out to Martha and exclaims “Look at the moor!” – This is repeated twice, which tells the reader it is being uttered in shock and is repeated for effect. Mary is excited by what she can see as it has changed from what she has seen before.

6. Complete the table by adding detail about Indian and English skies. Give two examples from the text for each country.

India	England (any two from the following)
1. hot	1. deep blue sky
	2. sparkle like the waters of some lovely bottomless lake
1. blazing	3. high in the arched blueness floated small clouds of snow-white fleece

7. Why do you think Mrs Medlock not want Martha talking in ‘broad Yorkshire’?

Mrs Medlock does not like Martha’s accent/dialect as it is hard to understand and common. Mrs Medlock is upper class, rich and speaks Standard English, and she wishes Martha would do the same. She does not like how Martha sounds.

8. According to the text, circle which of the following you would expect to see on a sunny Yorkshire day?

gold-coloured gorse

boats on the lake

heather flowering

the moor singing

butterflies fluttering

9. ““Could I ever get there?” asked Mary wistfully, looking through her window at the far-off blue.”

Which word do you think has the closest meaning to wistfully. Tick the correct answer.

wisely

carefully

longing

10. What do you think tha' means?

you (also accept yours)

11. Find and copy the phrase in the final paragraph that tells us Mary really wants to go out onto the moors.

It looked just a trifle like little Susan Ann's when she wanted something very much.

12. This book was published in 1911. Explain how this text reads differently to a modern text. (3 marks)

Children expand on some of the following points. They may include some of their own, plausible inferences also:

- The main character has a servant, who has to carry on working whilst they have a conversation*
- The main character grew up in India and now lives in England*
- Martha speaks with a broad Yorkshire dialect/accents and uses words and phrases that are not used anymore e.g. tha*
- Mary and Martha are old-fashioned names*
- Martha refers to another character in the story as Mrs. Medlock, which is very formal as mostly these days we call people by their first name (unless we are in a formal setting like a school or a court)*