

Read the story and answer the questions that follow.

**From “Gulliver’s Travels”  
By Jonathan Swift  
“A Voyage to Lilliput”**

My father had a small estate in Nottinghamshire. I, Gulliver, was the third of five sons. As a youth, I became an apprentice to Mr. James Bates, a surgeon in London. I continued with him for four years. With a small sum of money my father sent me, I learned navigation and other skills useful to those who intend to travel, as I always believed it was my fortune to do.

With the help of good Mr. Bates, I became ship’s surgeon on the Swallow. After a voyage of three years, I returned to London. Mr. Bates encouraged me to settle down and take a wife, which I did. Several patients came to see me, at the recommendation of Mr. Bates.

But two years later, after the death of Mr. Bates, my business began to fail. I talked with my wife and determined again to go to sea. I became the surgeon on two ships, and made several voyages to the East and West Indies.

The last of these voyages was not very fortunate. I grew weary of the sea and intended to stay home with my wife. But when again my business did not succeed, I accepted an offer to go to sea once more.

In May of the year 1699, I set sail for the South Seas on the good ship Antelope. It was on this voyage that I found myself in the land of Lilliput, and encountered the people that live there, the Lilliputians.

It all began when, along the way, the winds of a violent storm drove us onto a rock and split our ship wide open. Six of our crew, of whom I was one, escaped in a lifeboat, but it was overturned by the crashing waves. I never saw the other sailors again.

I swam and swam, the wind and tide pushing me forward. Finally I could swim no more. Just then, my feet touched bottom. I must have struggled on a mile more before I reached the shore. I walked on, but found no sign of houses or inhabitants. Exhausted, I lay down on my back in the short, soft grass and fell asleep.

For more than nine hours, I slept more deeply than I ever have in my life. When I woke it was just daylight. I tried to stand, but found I could not. My arms and legs were tied to the ground. Even my hair, which was long and thick, was tied down in the same way. I could only look up. The sun began to grow hot, and the light hurt my eyes. I heard a confused noise around me, but I could see nothing except the sky.



Soon I felt something alive moving on my left leg. It advanced across my chest and came almost up to my chin, where I could see it. It was a man, not even six inches high. He held a bow and arrow in his hands and wore a quiver at his back. At least forty more tiny men followed the first.

Astonished, I roared so loud that they all ran back in a fright. Some of them leaped from my sides to the ground, and were hurt by the fall. The others soon returned, and one of them boldly came within full view of my face. He cried out, in a shrill voice, "Hekinah degul!" The others repeated the words several times, but I did not know what these words meant.

I lay all this while in great uneasiness, struggling to get loose. At last I broke the strings that held my left arm to the ground. At the same time, with a violent pull that caused me great pain, I loosened the strings that held my hair, just enough to turn my head.

There was a great shout, and I heard a cry of "Tolgo phonac!" In an instant a shower of arrows landed on my hand, pricking like needles. More arrows flew at my face. Some of the little people tried to stab me with their spears. Luckily, I wore a leather jacket, which they could not pierce.

I decided it was wiser to lie still for now. When they saw that I was quiet, they shot no more arrows.

For about an hour I could hear a knocking, like people at work. When I turned my head, I saw a stage, about a foot and a half from the ground, with ladders to climb up it. An important-looking man got on the stage and made me a long speech. I could not understand a word. Sometimes he seemed to threaten me. Sometimes he spoke with pity and kindness.

I put my finger to my mouth to show I was hungry. Quickly, they set ladders up against my side, and more than a hundred of them climbed up toward my mouth with baskets of food. There were delicious legs and shoulders like roasted mutton, but smaller than the wings of a lark. I ate them two or three at a mouthful, and took three loaves of bread at a time. As fast as they could, they brought me more, with many looks of wonder at my appetite.

I made a sign that I was thirsty. They rolled one of their largest wine barrels toward my hand, and knocked out the top. I drank it in one swallow. Then they brought me a second barrel. I asked for more, but that was all they had.

As I discovered later, they had mixed a sleeping potion in the barrels of wine. I soon felt very drowsy and fell asleep. When I awoke, I found myself tied to a wooden platform on wheels, being pulled by fifteen hundred horses toward the capital city.

The emperor and all his court came out to meet us. His guards chained me by my leg to the great city gate, then cut the strings that bound me. I stood up, and the watching crowd went wild.



1. If Gulliver had not accepted the offer to go to sea on the Antelope in May of 1699,
- A. he might never have been tied up by the Lilliputians.
  - B. his business as a surgeon would have been successful.
  - C. he might not have become an apprentice to Mr. James Bates.
  - D. some of the other sailors might have survived the storm.

2. Why can't Gulliver explain to the Lilliputians that he does not want to hurt them?
- A. Gulliver is so frightened by the Lilliputians that he cannot speak.
  - B. The Lilliputians decide not to speak to Gulliver until he is before the emperor.
  - C. Gulliver and the Lilliputians do not speak the same language.
  - D. The sleeping potion Gulliver drinks makes him too tired to speak.

3. Gulliver decides to lie still when the Lilliputians shoot arrows at him and stab him with their spears. What does this tell you about Gulliver?
- A. He is weak and fearful.
  - B. He is wise and patient.
  - C. He is lazy and slow.
  - D. He is angry and impatient.

4. How is Gulliver different from the Lilliputians?
- A. Gulliver is much smarter than the Lilliputians.
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5. Gulliver is the narrator of the story, and readers see events from Gulliver's point of view. How might the story be different if the story were told from the Lilliputians' point of view?
- A. If a Lilliputian told the story, Gulliver might seem like a tiny stranger.
  - B. If a Lilliputian told the story, Gulliver might seem like a friendly tourist.
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Thomas Jefferson, the author of the Declaration of Independence, became the third President of the United States of America in 1801. It is said that on the day he was sworn into office, instead of riding in a fine carriage and being waited on by servants, he rode on horseback to the capital, hitched his horse to a post, and walked alone into the Senate chamber. Jefferson saw himself as a citizen of the United States, called to serve the public and help manage the people’s affairs, so he refused all marks of attention that would not have been given to him as a private person. He believed in America’s new form of government, the republic, where the people elected representatives to make decisions instead of being ruled by a king.

“Some honest men fear that [our] government is not strong enough,” he said. “[But] I believe it is the strongest on earth.”

President Jefferson did all he could to expand and improve the young and growing nation he led. In the early 1800s, the United States, as at the close of the Revolution, was still bounded on the west by the Mississippi River. The country beyond that river belonged to France, having been given up to the French by Spain only a short time before. The land was called Louisiana. No one knew exactly how large it was, what its resources were, or what its future value might be, because only a few parts of it had been explored. But France needed money, and Napoleon Bonaparte, who was at the head of French affairs, offered to sell the entire region to the United States.

So President Jefferson sent a man named James Monroe to the French capital, Paris, with full power to do what he believed best. A bargain was soon made. For the sum of fifteen million dollars, the vast territory of Louisiana was given up to the United States. America’s boundaries were extended to the Rocky Mountains, and its area was more than doubled.

In time, it was discovered that the Louisiana Purchase measured more than 800,000 square miles, and the territory came to be broken up into the present-day states of Arkansas, Missouri, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Oklahoma, nearly all of Kansas, the sections of Montana, Wyoming, and Colorado east of the Rocky Mountains, and the sections of Minnesota and Louisiana west of the Mississippi River.

The Louisiana Purchase gave explorers and pioneers the chance to go west and make their fortune in a rich new land, while those who stayed in the east enjoyed the discoveries and goods sent back to them from the frontier. As for Thomas Jefferson, when his first term as President ended in 1805, the Americans re-elected him by an even larger vote than he had received before!



6. Which of the following is a fact?

- A. The land of the Louisiana Purchase is the most beautiful land in the United States.
- B. The United States purchased the land of Louisiana for fifteen million dollars.
- C. Napoleon Bonaparte should not have sold Louisiana to the United States.
- D. Thomas Jefferson was the best American President.

7. What was the consequence of the Americans' decision to buy the land of Louisiana from the French?

- A. James Monroe went to Paris.
- B. Napoleon Bonaparte offered to sell the entire region to the United States.
- C. The land of Louisiana belonged to the Spanish before it belonged to the French.
- D. America doubled in size.

8. Which is a main idea of the passage?

- A. Before the Louisiana Purchase, America's western border was the Mississippi River.
- B. Thomas Jefferson wrote the Declaration of Independence and was the third President of the United States.
- C. The Louisiana Purchase helped Thomas Jefferson make America a land of opportunity.
- D. The lands of the Louisiana Purchase used to belong to the French.

9. Which detail supports the main idea?

- A. The Louisiana Purchase turned out to be a very valuable area.
- B. The French were glad to give up Louisiana to the Americans.
- C. Meriwether Lewis and William Clark explored the land of the Louisiana Purchase.
- D. Thomas Jefferson was a wise president.

10. Which is the most likely reason why President Jefferson was re-elected in 1805?

- A. The American people were pleased with the decisions he made during his first term as President.
- B. Americans feared that the Louisiana Purchase would be returned to the French if President Jefferson were not elected.
- C. James Monroe supported President Jefferson's re-election.
- D. The Louisiana Purchase measured over 800,000 square miles.



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from **“Sing Song”**  
by Christina Rossetti

Hope is like a harebell trembling from its birth,  
Love is like a rose the joy of all the earth;  
Faith is like a lily lifted high and white,  
Love is like a lovely rose the world’s delight;  
Harebells and sweet lilies show a thornless growth,  
But the rose with all its thorns excels them both.

harebell: a slender blue flower

11. Which of the following best describes the theme of this poem?
- A. Hope and faith are stronger feelings than love.
  - B. Love is the most joyous emotion, even though it can sometimes hurt.
  - C. Roses are prettier than other kinds of flowers.
  - D. Flowers make the world a happier place to live in.

12. Poets use imagery to describe feelings and ideas. What idea is called forth by the imagery used in this line:

“Faith is like a lily lifted high and white”?

- A. strength
- B. anger
- C. fear
- D. weakness

13. In the first three lines of the poem, the poet compares hope, love, and faith to three different flowers. All three comparisons are examples of:
- A. similes
  - B. metaphors
  - C. alliteration
  - D. personification



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by Barry Cornwall

I never was on the dull, tame shore,  
But I loved the great sea more and more,  
And backward flew to her billowy breast  
Like a bird that seeketh its mother’s nest:  
And a mother she was and is to me;  
For I was born on the open sea.

14. Which phrase is an example of alliteration?

- A. I was never on the dull, tame shore
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15. What does the speaker mean when he says, “And backward flew to her billowy breast/ Like a bird that seeketh its mother’s nest”?

- A. He feels at home on the sea and wants to go back.
- B. He feels confused, like a bird flying backward.
- C. He thinks that birds are lonely animals that need their mothers.
- D. He wishes he were on land where he could watch the birds in their nests.



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I must go down to the seas again, to the lonely sea and the sky,  
And all I ask is a tall ship and a star to steer her by,  
And the wheel’s kick and the wind’s song, and the white sail’s shaking,  
And a grey mist on the sea’s face and a grey dawn breaking.

16. Which phrase is an example of personification?
- A. And all I ask is a tall ship
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17. What does the line, “And a grey mist on the sea’s face and a grey dawn breaking” tell you about how the speaker feels about the sea?
- A. He loves being on the sea, but not on cloudy days.
  - B. He is scared to be on the grey sea at night and prefers the daytime.
  - C. He no longer loves being on the sea because the weather is always bad in the morning.
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18. In the poems “The Sea” and “Sea Fever,” both authors do all of the following **except**:
- A. use detailed descriptions to create a mental picture of the sea for the reader.
  - B. compare the sea to an animal.
  - C. use language that shows how they miss the seas when they are not on it.
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