

CBSE Class –VIII English
NCERT Solutions
Chapter - 6
Poem - The Duck and The Kangaroo

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Working with Poem

1: Taking words that come at the end of lines, write five pairs of rhyming words. Read each pair aloud. For example, pond – beyond

Ans: Five pairs of rhyming words are as follows:

(i) Hop – stop

(ii) Back – Quack

(iii) Duck – luck

(iv) Reflection – objection

(v) Bold – cold

2: Complete the dialogue.

Duck: Dear Kangaroo! Why don't you _____

Kangaroo: With pleasure, my dear Duck, though _____

Duck: That won't be a problem. I will _____

Ans: Duck: Dear Kangaroo! Why don't you give me a ride on your back ,so that I can also hop around with you and see the beautiful world , away from this nasty pond?

Kangaroo: With pleasure, my dear Duck, though your feet are unpleasantly wet and cold and I might catch rheumatism.

Duck: That won't be a problem. I will wear worsted socks and cloak and smoke a cigar every day to keep out the cold.

3: The Kangaroo does not want to catch 'rheumatism'. Spot this word in stanza 3 and say why it is spelt differently. Why is it in two parts? Why does the second part begin with a capital letter?

Ans: The word 'rheumatism' is spelt differently and is in two parts so that it can rhyme with 'kangaroo' in the following line. As a result of splitting the word into two and changing its spelling, 'Roo' rhymes with 'kangaroo'. The second part 'Matiz' begins with a capital letter because it is the first word of the line. In a poem, every line begins with a capital letter even if it is in continuation with the previous line. Hence, this has been done in order to enhance the poetic effect of the lines.