

Year 5 Reading Comprehension ANSWERS - Persephone and Demeter

MILD

1. How many heads did Hades' dog have? **Three**
2. Find one word in the text which means 'occupation'. **Jobs**
3. Find a word in the text which means that you do something quickly. **Promptly**
4. Locate a word which is the synonym of 'scrumptious'. **Delicious**
5. Who did their best to keep Demeter happy? Why? **The gods and mortals because if Demeter did not do her job, the crops would die and everyone would starve.**

HOT - Complete the questions above in addition to the 'Hot' questions below

1. Find one word in the text which is an antonym of 'release'. **Grabbed**
2. Which phrase in the text tells us that Demeter is feeling joyful? **Heart swelled with happiness**
3. Describe what happens during the 'fall'. **Demeter ignores the crops and lets them die.**

SPICY - Complete the questions above in addition to the 'Spicy' questions below

1. Explain why Persephone refused to eat anything. **Because she didn't want to stay indefinitely and wanted to return home.**
2. What impression do you get of Persephone in paragraphs seven and eight?

Answers can vary, depending upon your opinion but an example might be the following:

At first Persephone is determined and resilient because she manages to resist the food, even though she is hungry, as she knows she wants to leave as soon as she can. She also shows how clever she is, as she is trying to devise a plan to escape. However, her determination turns to desperation when she finally shows her weakness and gives into temptation by eating the seeds.

3. How do you feel about Hades' behaviour? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

Again answers may vary, depending on your opinion but an example might be the following:

Hades is shocked at Persephone's reaction to his three headed dog, so he immediately starts to fall in love with her. He becomes obsessed with her, so much so, he decides to kidnap her. Although I understand why he fell in love with her and wanted to be with her, I felt he was wrong to take her against her wishes. He was very spoilt, wanting his own way.