

Chapter Eight

The Queen's Croquet-Ground

Lewis Carroll · Alice's Adventures in Wonderland

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

Read and listen to this chapter, then use details from it to explain the characters' choices.

How to complete the assignment

Answer questions 1–15 as you read and listen. Finish the whole chapter and check your answers before submitting. Circle one answer for each multiple-choice question.

After the chapter, answer questions 16–18 and choose two written prompts on page 5. Write about 80–120 words for each response on page 6. Support your ideas with a short quotation or a precise example.

Entering the garden



John Tenniel · The gardeners at the rose-tree

01 What stood near the entrance to the garden?

- A. A large dodo.
- B. A large duck.
- C. A large rose-tree.
- D. A large sunflower.

02 Why were the gardeners painting the roses red?

- A. The roses were yellow but should have been red.
- B. The roses were red but should have been white.
- C. They had planted white roses where red roses were required.
- D. They had planted red roses where yellow roses were required.

03 Complete Seven's remark: "That's right, Five! ..."

- A. "Don't go splashing paint over me like that!"
- B. "Always lay the blame on others!"
- C. "You'd better not talk!"
- D. "That's none of your business, Two!"

Meeting the Queen



John Tenniel · Alice faces the Queen

04 What does Alice say when the Queen first orders her to be beheaded?

- A. "It's no business of mine."
- B. "Nonsense!"
- C. "I am only a child!"
- D. "How should I know?"

05 Who says to the Queen, "Consider, my dear: she is only a child!"?

- A. The King of Spades.
- B. The King of Hearts.
- C. The Queen of Spades.
- D. The Queen of Hearts.

06 How does Alice respond when the Queen asks whether she can play croquet?

- A. She refuses to answer.
- B. She asks the White Rabbit to answer for her.
- C. She says that she has never heard of the game.
- D. She shouts that she can.

07 Who has been sentenced to death for boxing the Queen's ears?

- A. The White Rabbit.
- B. Alice.
- C. The Duchess.
- D. The Dodo.

Playing croquet



John Tenniel · Alice and the flamingo

08 What are used as balls in the Queen's croquet game?

- A. Flamingoes.
- B. Clubs.
- C. Diamonds.
- D. Hedgehogs.

09 Whose appearance makes Alice glad to have someone who will listen to her?

- A. The Queen.
- B. The Cheshire Cat.
- C. The King.
- D. The White Rabbit.

10 When the Cat asks how she likes the Queen, what does Alice say first?

- A. "Not at all."
- B. "Extremely."
- C. "She's too likely to win."
- D. "It's hardly worth while completing the game."

11 The King says the Cat may kiss his hand. What is the Cat's reply?

- A. "A cat may look at a king."
- B. "Don't look at me like that!"
- C. "I don't like the look of it at all."
- D. "I'd rather not."

The dispute about the Cat



John Tenniel · A head without a visible body

12 What is the executioner's objection to beheading the Cat?

- A. Anything with a head can be beheaded.
- B. A head cannot be cut off unless there is a body to cut it off from.
- C. Everyone will be executed unless something is done immediately.
- D. The Cat belongs to the Duchess, so she should be asked.

13 What does the King argue about the Cat?

- A. Anything with a head can be beheaded.
- B. A head cannot be cut off unless there is a body to cut it off from.
- C. Everyone will be executed unless something is done immediately.
- D. The Cat belongs to the Duchess, so she should be asked.

14 How does the Queen respond to the dispute?

- A. She says anything with a head can be beheaded.
- B. She says a body is needed before a head can be cut off.
- C. She threatens to execute everyone unless something is done at once.
- D. She suggests asking the Duchess because the Cat belongs to her.

15 What does Alice suggest when the others ask her to settle the dispute?

- A. Anything with a head can be beheaded.
- B. A head cannot be cut off unless there is a body to cut it off from.
- C. Everyone will be executed unless something is done immediately.
- D. The Cat belongs to the Duchess, so they should ask her.

Thinking about the chapter

Choose the best answer

16 Why does Alice change the ending of her sentence while discussing the Queen?

- A. The Cat persuades her that she has judged the Queen unfairly.
- B. She notices the Queen listening and makes her words sound complimentary.
- C. She remembers that the Queen has already won the game.
- D. She decides to challenge the Queen openly in front of the other players.

17 Which detail gives the strongest evidence that the Queen treats players unfairly?

- A. The croquet-ground has ridges and furrows.
- B. The players use living animals as equipment.
- C. Players face execution for missing turns although the order of play is unclear.
- D. The players quarrel while they are playing.

18 Why does the Queen's response fail to settle the dispute about beheading the Cat?

- A. She confuses the Cat with one of the gardeners.
- B. She accepts the executioner's explanation without hearing the King.
- C. She decides that the Duchess must be executed instead.
- D. She threatens people without explaining whether the action is possible.

Choose two written prompts

Base your answers on Chapter 8. A different interpretation can be convincing when the evidence and explanation support it.

A Courage and fear. Alice reminds herself that the royal party are playing cards, but later fears the Queen. Is this inconsistent, or can courage and fear exist together? Discuss two moments from this chapter.

B Rules and fairness. What would make this croquet game fair? Propose two changes and connect each to a problem in the chapter. Would the Queen also have to accept limits on her own behaviour?

C Reasoning and nonsense. Compare what the King and the executioner assume beheading requires. When the Cat disappears, is their disagreement settled, or has the immediate problem simply gone away? Explain.

D Obedience and judgement. Is Alice justified in hiding the gardeners after the Queen orders their execution? Consider the mistake, the punishment, and Alice's alternatives. Support your judgement with details from the chapter.

E Reading an illustration. Study the picture of Alice facing the Queen on page 2. How does Tenniel present their relationship? Discuss two visible details and compare them with one specific moment in the text.

Written responses

Write the letter of each chosen prompt. Give a clear answer, include evidence, and explain how the evidence supports your view.

Response 1 **Prompt** _____

Response 2 **Prompt** _____

Before you submit

Check that you have finished the chapter, answered all 18 multiple-choice questions, and supported both written responses with evidence.

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