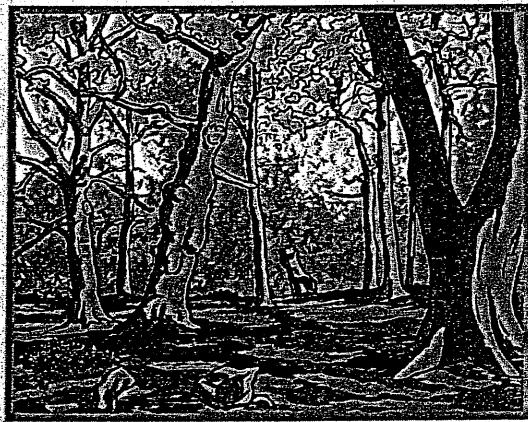


# Reading Booklet

## Year 6 Reading Assessment - Poetry



**Throwing a Tree**

## -Thomas Hardy-

And two hundred years' steady growth has been ended in less than two hours.

The tree crashes downward; it shakes all its neighbours throughout,

Job and Ile rush aside. Rediled the end of its long stayling powers

Then, lastly, the living mast sways, further sways: with a shout

And kneeling and sawing again, they step back to try pulling once more.

They edge out the saw, tug the rope; but the tree only quivers,

The shivers are seen to grow greater with each cut than before:

The saw then begins, till the top of the tall giant shivers:

And one of them tries to hook upward a rope, which at last he achieves.

Till a broad deep gash in the bark is hewn all the way round,

And the chips fly about and lie white on the moss and fallen leaves;

Jackets doffed they swing axes and chop away just above ground.

And so they approach the proud tree that bears the death-mark on its side.

And a long limp two-handled saw toothed for cutting great boles,

Bearing two axes with heavy heads splitting and wide,

The two executioners stalk over the knolls,

# THE WOODS

**English**

**KS2**

**2016**

# **Year 6 Reading Assessment**

## **Throwing a Tree Answer Booklet**

<b>First Name</b>						
<b>Middle Name</b>						
<b>Last Name</b>						
<b>Date of Birth</b>	<b>Day</b>		<b>Month</b>		<b>Year</b>	
<b>School Name</b>						
<b>DfE Number</b>						

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A rope is hooked upward.

 1

The tree is marked in advance ready for cutting.

The saw is used along with the rope until the tree comes down.

An axe is used to chop a broad gash all around the trunk.

16. Order these events from the poem. The first one has been done for you.

1 mark

2 marks

1 mark

1 mark

15. What evidence is there in the poem that chopping the tree is a difficult task?

chopped      tided      removed      swinging

14. Circle the word that is closest in meaning to 'doffed'.

13. What does the word 'stalck' mean and what does it suggest about the tree fellers?

Questions 13 to 25 are about 'Throwing a Tree'

17. Write the correct tools to match the descriptions in this table.

Tool	Description
	<b>Heavy head shining and wide</b>
	<b>Long limp two-handled</b>

18. How long had the tree been growing for?

1 mark

19. How does the poet try to make the reader feel sorry for the tree? Refer to the text to support your answer.

3 marks

20. What are the names given to the tree fellers?

1 mark

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1 mark

1 mark

1 mark

1 mark

24. How long did the whole process take to chop down the tree?

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23. What is meant by the phrase 'it shakes all its neighbours'?

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- |                          |            |                          |                |
|--------------------------|------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Tall giant | <input type="checkbox"/> | Broad and deep |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Proud      | <input type="checkbox"/> | Long and limp  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Heavy head | <input type="checkbox"/> | Living mast    |

22. Which of these words or phrases are used to describe the tree? Tick three.

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The poet doesn't really mind whether the tree is cut down or not.





The poet seems sorrowful and disappointed that it has happened.

The poet is glad the tree was chopped down because it was too old.

The poet is celebrating and happy about the event.

21. Which of these sentences best summarises the poet's feelings about the tree being chopped down? Tick one.

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Look at the line: 'And so they approach the proud tree that bears the death-mark.'

25. Explain the meaning of the words 'bears' and 'death-mark' in this sentence.

Word	Meaning
bears	
death-mark	

End of questions about '*Throwing a Tree*'

\*\*END OF TEST\*\*

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