

## Before-reading questions

- Example answer:** The story is about some children who live near a train track. They watch the trains.
- Example answer:** Mother is a woman. She is 35 years old, I think. She is a nice person.
- Example answers:**

In a big city	In the countryside
offices	farms
many big, tall houses and buildings	smaller houses and buildings
lots of people	lots of animals
cars	trees
museums	plants
busy, large roads	quieter, smaller roads

## During-reading questions

### CHAPTER ONE

- They live in a beautiful house in London.
- Two men come to see Father.
- Mother is crying because Father had to go with the two men. He is not with his family. Mother knows more about it but she cannot tell the children.

### CHAPTER TWO

- The green train is going to London.
- The family can't start a fire because they are poor. They can't buy coal.
- Peter steals coal.

### CHAPTER THREE

- The Old Gentleman is always on the green train.
- Mother needs medicines and good food. She is ill.
- The Old Gentleman pays for the medicines.

### CHAPTER FOUR

- The children see rocks and trees on the railway. A train is coming and the driver can't see the rocks and trees.
- Bobbie and Phyllis wave their red petticoats at the train. They must stop/save the train and its passengers.
- They saved the train. They stopped a very bad accident.

### CHAPTER FIVE

- Bobbie sees Father in the newspaper. She reads that he is in prison for five years because he is a spy.
- The policemen took Father to prison.
- Bobbie talks to the Old Gentleman the next day at the station. She gives him the newspaper.

### CHAPTER SIX

- The school children are playing a game. They are running into the tunnel.
- Bobbie, Peter and Phyllis go into the tunnel because the boy in the red jumper did not come out of it with the other children.
- It is dangerous in the tunnel because it is long and dark. Trains go into it.
- His leg is broken.
- His name is Jim.
- The Old Gentleman is his grandfather.

### CHAPTER SEVEN

- All the passengers are waving at the children from the green train.
- Bobbie goes to the station.
- The Old Gentleman talked to some people and they found the spy. Father is not the spy and now the police know that.
- Bobbie and Father go home to Three Chimneys at the end of the story.

## After-reading questions

- 1 Yes, the children like the countryside.
- 2 *Reader's own answer.*
- 3 The name of the story is *The Railway Children* because the children love the railway and go there very often.
- 4 *Reader's own answer.*
- 5 No, Father isn't a spy.
- 6 *Reader's own answer.*

## Exercises

### CHAPTER ONE

- 1 **Phyllis** is eight years old.
- 2 **Mother** takes the children to a new house.
- 3 **Father** stays in London.
- 4 **Peter** is ten years old.
- 5 **Three Chimneys** is the family's new house.
- 6 **Bobbie** is twelve years old.

### CHAPTER TWO

- 2 1 c 2 d 3 a 4 b

### CHAPTER THREE

- 3 1 The children go to the railway **every** morning.
- 2 Maybe the train can take their **love** to Father.
- 3 They **wave** to the Old Gentleman.
- 4 Mother is very **ill** and she needs **medicines**.
- 5 The Old Gentleman gives the family **some** money.
- 6 Mother gets **better**.

### CHAPTER FOUR

- 4 1 The trees **are moving**.
- 2 The red train **is coming**.
- 3 The children **are waving** the petticoats at the train.
- 4 Why **are** you **asking** me that?

### CHAPTER FIVE

- 5 1 Bobbie talks to Perks at the station.
- 2 She reads some newspapers.
- 3 Father is in prison for five years.
- 4 Father is not/isn't a spy.
- 5 Bobbie must not/mustn't tell Peter and Phyllis about Father.

### CHAPTER SIX

- 6 1 The school children run **into** the tunnel.
- 2 Bobbie, Peter and Phyllis go to the end **of** the tunnel.
- 3 The boy in the red jumper is not coming **out**.
- 4 It's dangerous in the tunnel. The trains go **into** it.
- 5 The children take the boy **to** their home.

### CHAPTER SEVEN

- 7 1 **What** do the children miss?  
**They miss the railway.**
- 2 **Where** do the children go?  
**They go to the railway.**
- 3 **Who** is waving at the children?  
**All the passengers are waving at the children.**
- 4 **Why** are they waving?  
**They are waving because Father is coming home but the children do not know this.**
- 5 **Who** comes off the train?  
**Father comes off the train.**

### ALL CHAPTERS

- 8 1 Peter **steals** coal from the station.
- 2 Jim goes to **boarding school**.
- 3 The railway is **exciting**.
- 4 The tunnel is **dangerous**.
- 5 Father is a **passenger**.

- 9 1 At the beginning, they **were** not Railway Children.
- 2 One day, two men **came** to the house.
- 3 Father **did** not come back.
- 4 He never **wrote** them letters.
- 5 The children **went** to the railway very often.
- 6 They **stopped** a very bad accident.
- 7 Bobbie **read** some newspapers and **saw** Father in a newspaper.
- 8 Father **came** home.

## Project work

*Reader's own answers.*