

WALT: retrieve information from a text

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland is a novel by Lewis Carroll. Alice is lost when she meets some gardeners who are acting strangely...

A large rose-tree stood near the entrance of the garden: the roses growing on it were white, but there were three gardeners busily painting them red. Alice thought this a very curious thing, and as she went nearer to watch them, she heard one of them say, "Look out now, Five! Don't go splashing paint over me like that!"

"I couldn't help it," said Five, in a sulky tone. "Seven jogged my elbow." At which Seven looked up and said, "That's right, Five! Always lay the blame on others!"

"You'd better not talk!" said Five. "I heard the Queen say only yesterday you deserved to be beheaded!"

"What for?" said the one who had first spoken.

"That's none of your business, Two!" said Seven.

"Yes, it is his business!" said Five. "And I'll tell him — it was for bringing the cook tulip-roots instead of onions."

Seven flung down his brush, and had just begun "Well, of all the unjust things —" when his eye chanced to fall upon Alice, as she stood watching them, and he checked himself suddenly. The others looked round also, and all of them bowed low.

"Would you tell me," said Alice, a little timidly, "why you are painting those roses?"

Two began in a low voice, "Why the fact is, you see, Miss, this here ought to have been a red rose-tree, and we put a white one in by mistake; and if the Queen was to find it out, we should all have our heads cut off." At this moment, Five, who had been anxiously looking across the garden, called out "The Queen! The Queen!" and the three gardeners instantly threw themselves flat upon their faces.



An abridged extract from *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll.

1 Who brought the cook tulip-roots instead of onions?

1 mark

2 Seven "flung" down his paintbrush. Why do you think the author chose this word rather than "put down"?

2 marks

3 Which word suggests that Alice is speaking shyly?

1 mark

4 Why are the gardeners painting the roses?

2 marks

5 What does "instantly" mean? Circle one.

carefully after a while slowly right away

1 mark

6 Why do you think the gardeners throw themselves flat on their faces?

1 mark

7 Do you think this story is set in the real world? Explain your answer.

2 marks

Total
out of 10