

# St. Andrews Scots Sr. Sec. School

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Session: 2024-2025- Notes

Class: X

Subject: English

Topic: The Tale of Custard -The Dragon

## Answer the following questions :

Q1. Why did Custard cry for a nice safe cage? Why is the dragon called 'cowardly dragon'?

Ans. The Custard was coward. That is why, he was called 'cowardly dragon'. All other animals laughed at him. He did not like that. So, he cried for a nice safe cage.

Q2. How did Belinda's pets, other than Custard, face the pirate?

Ans. All the animals, other than the dragon, used to boast about their bravery and made fun of the dragon. But when the pirate entered the house, all got scared and ran away and disappeared except Custard, the dragon.

Q3. How did Custard prove to be brave when the pirate came?

Ans. Custard, the dragon, jumped and snorted like an engine. He struck the pirate with his tail like iron. There were different sounds of clatter, clank and jangle. He attacked the pirate as a robin attacks a worm.

Q4. The poem is a light-hearted ballad with a powerful message. If the poem was written in any other style, do you think it would have created the same effect on readers?

Ans. If the poem was written in any other style, it would not have created the same effect on the readers. The poet has presented the encounter of Custard and the pirate in the typical spirit of ballad. The four-line stanzas have the rhyme scheme: aabb throughout the poem. The poem is full of rhyming words like 'realio', 'trulio', etc.

Q5. Why do you think Custard, the dragon was called a coward? How was Custard able to save all his housemates from the pirate? What values should Belinda have possessed, so that Custard too could have been among her favourites?

Ans. The dragon appeared to be a coward as he always cried for a safe cage, so he was called a cowardly dragon. Later, when the pirate entered the house with pistols in his left and right hands, everyone was scared and ran away and disappeared, except Custard who faced him boldly and attacked him, hit him hard with his forceful tail and gobbled every bit of him. Belinda should have been nice to him. She should have made him feel comfortable and safe in the house, instead of laughing and making fun of him with other pets. Belinda should have been protective towards him.