

Christmas Gifts

Ten Christmas presents standing in a line;
Robert took the bicycle, then there were nine.
Nine Christmas presents arranged in order straight;
Bob took the steam engine, then there were eight.
Eight Christmas presents and one came from
Devon;
Robbie took the jack-knife, then there were seven.
Seven Christmas presents direct from St. Nick's;
Bobby took the candy box, then there were six.
Six Christmas presents, one of them alive;
Rob took the puppy dog, then there were five.
Five Christmas presents, still on the floor;

Bobbin took the soldier cap, then there were four.
Four Christmas presents underneath the tree;
Bobbet took the writing desk, then there were three.
Three Christmas presents still in full view;
Robin took the chess board, then there were two.
Two Christmas presents, promising fun,
Bobbles took the picture book, then there was one.
One Christmas present and now the list is done;
Bobbinet took the sled, and then there were none.
And the same happy child received every toy,
So many nicknames had one little boy.



1. How many children receive presents in this poem? Find evidence from the text to support your answer.



2. Discuss the main point of this poem in 10 words or less.



3. 'Seven Christmas presents direct from St. Nick's...'
What does this line of the poem mean?



4. What do you notice about the different names of children in the poem?

Christmas Gifts Answers

1. How many children receive presents in this poem? Find evidence from the text to support your answer.

Only accept: One child (Robert) receives the presents.

Supporting evidence: 'and the same happy child received every toy' or 'so many nicknames had one little boy'.

2. Discuss the main point of this poem in 10 words or less.

Accept any reasonable attempt, of ten words or less, at summarising the poem, e.g.

One little boy received lots of different Christmas presents.

A boy with different nicknames got many presents for Christmas.

3. 'Seven Christmas presents direct from St. Nick's...'

What does this line of the poem mean?

Accept any reasonable answer relating to Father Christmas / Santa Claus, e.g.

The boy got seven presents from Father Christmas because St Nick is another name for Father Christmas.

The boy's Christmas presents came from St Nicholas, who is often known as Santa Claus.

4. What do you notice about the different names of children in the poem?

Accept any reasonable answer relating to the similarity of the names and their use as nicknames for Robert, e.g.

They are all made up of similar letters.

Many of them sound like they contain 'Bob'.

They are all nicknames for the name Robert.