

The Iron Man by Ted Hughes Comprehension Answers

1. **Where was the scrap metal yard?** In the town.

2. **How can you describe the iron in the scrap metal yard?** All the scrap iron of the region was piled up there rusting away. (List examples)

3. **What did the Iron Man actually eat?** A greasy black stove, a double decker bedstead with brass knobs. A pile of rusty chains.

4. **What colour are the Iron Man's eyes? When do they change colour and why?** His eyes turn blue when he is happy. When he is angry or upset they burn a red colour, they change with his mood.

5. **What happened to the Iron Man when he was left in the scrap metal yard? Why do you think this happened?** He ate and ate and ate and his body became less rusty and his eyes turned blue, showing that he is happy and healthy.

6. **Find an example of a simile and a metaphor in the passage. Are they effective? How do these descriptions aid the reader's imagination? Create a simile and a metaphor of your own based on the passage.** His body gleamed blue like a new gun barrel (simile) His eyes crackled with joy (metaphor) These are effective as they allow us to picture what the Iron Man looks like and how he feels.

7. **Was moving the Iron Man to the scrap yard a good idea? How does it help the farmers and the Iron Man?** This was a great idea as it means the Iron man can enjoy eating the region's old scrap, he is clearing up old rubbish rather than taking the metal the farmers currently need and use.

8. **Find words and phrases in the passage that describe scrap metal as if it is delicious food. What writing technique has been used?** 'Greasy black stove...chewed it like a toffee. Delicious crumbs of chrome on it. Never before had he eaten such delicacies.' Similes, alliteration and exaggeration, they enable us to understand how the Iron man views these items which we wouldn't identify as food.

9. **Which verb is repeated at the end of the passage? Why does Ted Hughes repeat the same word?** 'Ate,' is repeated at the end of the passage to emphasise how the Iron man is continually eating the metal.