

From a Railway Carriage

by Robert Louis Stevenson

Faster than fairies, faster than witches,

Bridges and houses, hedges and ditches;

And charging along like troops in a battle

All through the meadows the horses and cattle:

All of the sights of the hill and the plain

Fly as thick as driving rain;

And ever again, in the wink of an eye,

Painted stations whistle by.

Here is a child who clammers and scrambles,

All by himself and gathering brambles;

Here is a tramp who stands and gazes;

And here is the green for stringing the daisies!

Here is a cart runaway in the road

Lumping along with man and load;

And here is a mill, and there is a river:

Each a glimpse and gone forever!

Read the poem carefully then answer the following questions. Write the answers in full sentences in your books – do not squash the answers onto this paper.

1. Explain in a single sentence what this poem is about (remember to read the title for a clue)
2. Find and write the word that means a group of cows.
3. The writer sees a child – what is the child doing?
4. Find and copy the words that tell you that the child is alone.
5. Explain the rhyming pattern of this poem. How does this support the subject matter of the poem?