

These questions are on the first few pages of Chapter 7 from "The invited firework makers arrived..." to "... We can do better than that, Father!".

1. When did the Firework-Makers arrive?
2. How do you know that the Firework-Makers brought lots of things with them?
3. True or false - Dr Puffenflasch is from Heidelberg?
4. True or false - Signor Scorching is from London?
5. Who was the second visiting Firework-Maker?
6. Who was the third and last Firework-Maker? What was his display called?
7. How do you know that Lila and Lalchand spent lots of time on their fireworks?
8. What did Lila and Lalchand name their firework?
9. What do you think will happen next?

1. If all the Firework-Makers "disembarked from the S.S. Indescribable", what do you think disembarked means?
2. What do you think immense means if "Herr Puffenflasch had gone to immense trouble to prepare something spectacular"?
3. What was Signor Scorcini's speciality?
4. What were Lalchand and Lila doing while the Firework-Makers were assembling their displays?
5. What did Lalchand add to the firework to make it work?
6. How do you know that Lalchand and Lila's firework is something that has never been seen before?
7. How do you know that Lila is not really thinking about Chulak even though she wonders where he is?
8. Why do you think they have a "hurried breakfast"?
9. What do you think the word "laden" means if the cart is "all laden with fireworks"?
10. What do you think will happen next?

1. Why do you think all the Firework-Makers started to rehearse immediately?
2. Name the three visiting Firework-Makers and where they are from.
3. What do you think scrupulous means?
4. Why do you think Lila is snapping her fingers whilst thinking of a name for the firework?
5. What does Lila think of to make the underwater fuses work?
6. How do you know that Lila and Lalchand are only thinking about their fireworks?
7. Why do you think Philip Pullman has used ingredients such as "caustic naphtha" and "spirits of saltpetre"?
8. Why did Lila and Lalchand stop when they reached the lake?
9. Do you think the author has described the setting well? Why do you think this?
10. How do you know that Lila and Lalchand are worried about their preparations?
11. What do you think will happen next?