Giants

How would you like it –
Supposing that you were a snail,
And your eyes grew out on threads,
Gentle, and small, and frail –
If an enormous creature,
Reaching almost up to the distant skies,
Leaned down, and with his great finger touched
Your eyes
Just for the fun
Of seeing you snatch them suddenly in
And cower, quivering back
Into your pitiful shell, so brittle and thin?
Would you think it was fun then?
Would you think it was fun?

And how would you like it,
Supposing you were a frog,
An emerald scrap with a pale, trembling throat
In a cool and shadowed bog,
If a tremendous monster,
Tall, tall, so that his head seemed lost in the mist,
Leaned over, and clutched you up in his great fist
Just for the joy
Of watching you jump, scramble, tumble, fall,
In graceless, shivering dread,
Back into the trampled reeds that were grown so tall?
Would you think it a joy then?
Would you think it a joy?

Lydia Pender

1. (a) What does the ‘giant’ do to frighten the snail?

_____

1 mark

(b) What does the ‘giant’ do to frighten the frog?

_____

1 mark

2. *Gentle, and small, and frail*

Which part of the snail do these words describe?

Circle the part of the snail in the picture below.



1 mark

3. *Gentle, and small, and frail.*

How do these words make the reader feel about the snail?

_____

_____

1 mark

4. How does the snail behave when it is afraid?

Give **two** ways.

1. _____

2. _____

1 mark

5. *Into your pitiful shell, so brittle and thin*

In this line, the word brittle is closest in meaning to…

Tick **one.**

shiny. ☐

soft. ☐

delicate. ☐

rough. ☐

1 mark

6. Explain **two** things that the words *emerald scrap* suggest about the frog.

_____

_____

_____

2 marks

7. What is the *tremendous monster*?

_____

1 mark

8. *Just for the joy*
Of watching you jump, scramble, tumble, fall

Find and **copy** two more words from the poem that show that the frog was frightened.

1. _____

2. _____

1 mark

9. What is the main message of the poem?

Tick **one.**

People can learn a lot from holding small creatures. ☐

People should think about how their actions affect others. ☐

People are much bigger than frogs and snails. ☐

People should overcome their fear of nature. ☐

1 mark