

AINM:

CLAS:

Ìre 6-7 Luchd-ionnsachaidh

# An Coigreach

le Iain Mac a' Ghobhainn



## Cànan

Language

**Leugh an sgeulachd. Lorg ciall nan abairtean air an taobh chli san liosta air an taobh dheas.**

*Read the story. Find the meaning of the words/phrases on the left in the list on the right.*

<b>B' fhada bha e uaithe.</b>	successful
<b>Bha an talamh a' deoghal an t-solais mu dheireadh às an adhar.</b>	I nearly went mad.
<b>Theab e tilleadh is an saoghal farsaing a thoirt air.</b>	keeping her back
<b>a' cur maille oirre</b>	unsettled
<b>glè ainneamh</b>	It was far from it
<b>Theab mi dhol às mo thoinisg.</b>	He wanted to return to the big wide world.
<b>luaisgeanach</b>	cartwheel
<b>Dh'fhairich e fallas air a làmhan</b>	He felt the sweat on his hands
<b>Cha leaghadh an t-ìm na bheul.</b>	The earth was sucking the last light from the sky.
<b>soirbheachadh</b>	very rarely
<b>car a' mhuiltein</b>	Butter wouldn't melt in his mouth.

## Ceistean

## Questions

**Freagair na ceistean a leanas.**

Answer the questions which follow:

1. What picture do we get of the house in the first paragraph?  
How do we know it didn't always look like this?
2. Choose a quotation from the paragraph to show that the house had deteriorated since Alasdair last saw it. What is the writer trying to do here?
3. Why does he go into the house's situation in such detail?
4. Why is the story's title appropriate and inappropriate at the same time?
5. Why did Alasdair not use his own name when his mother came to the door?
6. When the old lady lit the lamp, what was the room like?
7. Why should Alasdair not have been too surprised when the old lady told him she was blind?
8. Why is the breaking of the sticks for the fire important in the story? Do the sticks get broken at particular times in the story?
9. We are told: "**Bha an teine a-nis a' gabhail.**" What does this tell us of the relationship between the two characters?
10. Why did Alasdair leave his home at the age of 17? Give more than one reason in your answer.
11. We know for sure at the end that the old lady knows who has come to visit her. What evidence do we have? When do you think the old lady knows for certain that her son is the mysterious caller?
12. Why does Smith play down the ending? How does this enhance the story?
13. Smith's stories are renowned for dealing with such themes as loneliness, old age, relationships and with the function of the mind under pressure. Show how some of these themes are dealt with in this story.



## A' sgrìobhadh mu litreachas

Writing about literature

**Sgrìobh lèirmheas air an stòiridh ag ainmeachadh na leanas.**

Write a review of the story including the following:

1. Title of the story and the name of the author.
2. Setting – why is this important to the story?
3. Themes and how the author deals with them.
4. The message behind the story - is the author saying something about relationships which can't be broken?
5. How successful is the author in exploring this in the story? Explain your answer.
6. Have you read any other stories by the same author or on the same themes? Can you compare them?

## Sgrìobhadh/Labhairt

Writing /Talking

**Sgrìobh fo aon de na cinn a leanas. Cuidichidh na faclan sa bhogsa thu.**

Choose one of the four titles below and write about it. The words in the boxes might help.

1. **An obair a bhios agam ann nuair a dh'fhàgas mi an taigh.**

What job would you like? Why? Where would it be based? What would you be doing in your job? What will the pay be like?

<b>tuarastal</b>	salary	<b>Tha ... a' còrdadh rium.</b>	I enjoy
<b>thall thairis</b>	abroad	<b>Is fìor thoigh leam...</b>	I really like
<b>Thèid mi</b>	I will go...	<b>Tha an oifis agam gu math spaideil.</b>	I have a lovely office.

2. **A' tilleadh dhachaigh.** Sgrìobh sgeulachd fon tìotal seo.

Where have you been? What have you been doing? Where is home? Why are you going home? Are you happy to be going home? Who will you see there? Have you been homesick?

<b>Tha mi air a bhith ann a...</b>	I have been in...
<b>Bha mi/cha robh mi</b>	I was/was not
<b>Thèid mi dhachaigh a/dhan</b>	I will go home to...
<b>Tha mi cho toilichte.</b>	I am so happy.
<b>Carson a tha mi a' dol dhachaigh?</b>	Why am I going home?
<b>Chan eil mi airson a dhol dhachaigh ach...</b>	I don't want to go home but...
<b>Chì mi...</b>	I will see...
<b>Tha an cianalas orm a h-uile latha.</b>	I am homesick every day.
<b>Bidh an teaghlach toilichte m' fhaicinn.</b>	The family will be pleased to see me.

**Nuair a bhios tu deiseil, faodaidh sibh innse mu na sgrìobh thu dhan chlas air fad. Feumaidh tu a bhith deònach ceistean a fhreagairt air a' chuspair.**

*When you finish, you can discuss what you wrote with the rest of the class. You must be willing to answer questions on the topic.*



Bha an lios bheag air a leigeil bàs, 's dh'aithnicheadh duine nach deach an doras a pheantadh o chionn iomadh bliadhna.