



# INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

<b>Class: VII</b>	<b>Department: ENGLISH</b>	<b>Date of Submission: April 2026</b>
<b>WORKSHEET NO: 6</b>	<b>Topic: A FUNNY MAN</b>	<b>ANSWER KEY</b>

## A FUNNY MAN

By Natalie Joan

### A. SUMMARY OF THE POEM:



The poem “*A Funny Man*” by Natalie Joan describes a playful and imaginative encounter between the speaker and a peculiar man on the street. The man’s appearance is comical and unusual—he wears a shoe on his head and hats on his feet, immediately creating a sense of absurdity. He politely offers the speaker what he calls a rose, but it turns out to be a currant bun, adding to the confusion and humour. He also sings a silly song, which further amuses the speaker. When questioned about his strange



clothing, the man does not explain but instead turns away and hops home on his head.

The poem is full of vivid, nonsensical imagery that creates a light-hearted and entertaining mood. Ultimately, the poem playfully challenges the idea of what is “normal” and encourages readers to appreciate imagination, silliness, and the joy of the unexpected.



### TO BE WRITTEN IN THE NOTEBOOK:

### B. WORD BANK:

Word/Phrase	Meaning
Currant bun	A small cake or bread roll with dried fruits
Staggered	Moved unsteadily or in surprise
Polite	Having good manners
Hopped	Jumped on one foot or in a bouncing motion
Present (as a verb)	To offer formally
Raised	Lifted or moved upward
Sounding sight	A poetic mix-up—something that looks funny and sounds odd
Highness	A respectful title (often used for royalty)



**ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS IN BRIEF:**

**Q1. The funny man does unusual things in the poem. How does it affect the overall mood of the poem?**

**Ans:** The man's odd actions, like wearing hats on his feet and hopping on his head, create a light-hearted, humorous mood. His behaviour makes the poem entertaining and whimsical, allowing readers to laugh and enjoy his strange way of living.

**Q2. Why do you think the poet has included dialogues in the poem?**

**Ans:** The poet uses dialogue to make the interaction, much lively, and personal. It helps readers connect with both characters, adds humour, and brings out the funny man's eccentric personality more vividly through his spoken words.

**Q3. What does the poet wish to convey by highlighting the unusual behaviour of the funny man?**

**Ans:** The poet wants to convey that being different is not wrong. The funny man's behaviour teaches us to accept uniqueness, find joy in the unexpected, and see humour in ordinary situations without judging people for being unconventional.

**Q4. Which character trait of the funny man was most appealing to you? Why?**

**Ans:** The most appealing trait is his creativity. He dares to be different and expresses himself freely. His silly yet polite behaviour adds charm, making him enjoyable and showing that it's okay to be unique and imaginative.

**Q5. Complete the analogy:**

Rose: Fragrance: Currant bun: \_\_\_\_\_

**Ans:** Taste.



**C. ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTION IN DETAIL:**

**Q1. How does the funny man's appearance and behaviour create humour in the poem?**

**Ans:** The funny man creates humour through surprising and absurd details. He reverses normal dress by putting a shoe on his head and hats on his feet, which makes readers smile because it is so unexpected. His polite words and manners, such as raising his shoe to greet the poet and calling her "Your Highness," contrast with his odd actions, making the scene comical. Small moments offering a currant bun as a rose, singing a strange song while sitting on the ground, and finally hopping home on his head - add layers of silliness that keep the tone light and amusing.

**E. READ THE FOLLOWING LINES FROM THE POEM AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS GIVEN BELOW.**

**Q1.** *He said, "Allow me to present  
Your Highness with a rose."  
And taking out a currant bun  
He held it to my nose.  
I staggered back against the wall  
And then I answered, "Well!"*

**a) Why does the funny man address the poet as 'Your Highness'?**

**Ans:** He addresses the poet as 'Your Highness' to act in a humorous and exaggeratedly formal manner, possibly pretending that the poet is royalty. This adds to the funny and imaginative tone of the poem and reflects his quirky behavior.

**b) Choose a phrase from the extract which indicates a polite request.**

**Ans:** The phrase is: "Allow me to present". It shows that the funny man is making a respectful and polite offer in a formal tone.

**c) Complete the sentence with an appropriate reason.**

When the poet says, 'Well!', it expresses surprise. This was so because \_\_\_\_\_.

**Ans:** When the poet says, 'Well!', it expresses surprise. This was so because the man offered a currant bun instead of a rose.

**F. ASSERTION-REASONING QUESTION**

**Assertion (A):** The funny man appears normal to the speaker.

**Reason (R):** The speaker is confused by the man's strange actions.

- (a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
- (b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- (c) A is true, but R is false.
- (d) A is false, but R is true.

**Ans:** (d) A is false, but R is true.



## ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR REFERENCE:

### A. SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS:

1. **What value does the poem teach us by showing the funny man's polite manners despite his odd behavior?**

**Ans:** It teaches us to be kind and respectful, even if we are different or unusual.

2. **How does the funny man address the poet?**

**Ans:** He addresses her politely as "Your Highness."

3. **How does the poet react to the currant bun?**

**Ans:** She staggers back against the wall in surprise.

4. **What does the poet say about the bun's smell?**

**Ans:** She says it has a funny-looking smell.

5. **What does the funny man do after offering the bun?**

**Ans:** He begins to sing a song.

6. **Where does the funny man sit while singing?**

**Ans:** He sits on the ground while he sings.

7. **How does the poet describe the man's song?**

**Ans:** She describes it as a funny feeling sound.

8. **Why has the poet used phrases like 'funny sounding sight' and 'funny feeling sound' with reference to the funny man?**

**Ans:** The poet uses these phrases to highlight the strange, silly behaviour of the man in a playful way.

### B. LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS:

1. **Describe the interaction between the poet and the funny man when he offers a bun.**

**Ans:** When the funny man offers a bun, he does so very politely, saying he will "present" a rose and addressing the speaker as "Your Highness." He holds the currant bun to the speaker's nose as if it were a flower. The speaker is surprised and staggers back, but responds cleverly, saying they have never smelled such a rose before. The interaction is playful and humorous, as the man treats a bun like a flower and the speaker replies with amused confusion.

2. **How does the speaker react to the funny man? What does this tell you about the speaker's personality?**

**Ans:** The speaker reacts with surprise and confusion when he meets the funny man. However, he remains polite and responds respectfully despite being shocked. He does not behave rudely or angrily. This shows that the speaker is well-mannered, calm, and able to handle unusual situations with patience.

**READ THE FOLLOWING LINES FROM THE POEM AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS GIVEN BELOW.**

**Q1. *You never heard in all your life***

*Such a funny feeling sound.*

*“My friend, why do you wear two hats*

*Upon your feet?” I said.*

*He turned the other way about,*

*And hopped home on his head.*

**a) Choose the line from the extract which tells us that the sound was unique:**

**Ans:** “You never heard in all your life / Such a funny feeling sound.”

**b) Complete the sentence with an appropriate reason:**

**Ans:** The poet calls the funny man ‘my friend’ because despite his strange actions, the man was polite and friendly.

**c) What does the reaction of the funny man to the poet’s question tell us about him?**

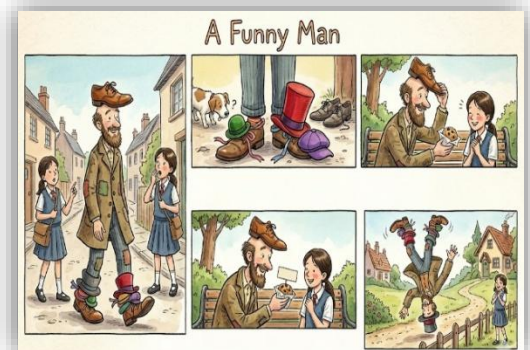
**Ans:** His reaction—hopping away on his head instead of answering—shows that he is playful, unpredictable, and enjoys being funny rather than logical.

**d) Choose the correct option to complete the sentence:**

**The last line of the extract makes the readers feel**

A. dreamy B. impatient C. worried D. cheerful

**Ans:** D. cheerful.



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