

Understanding the text

- 1 Who 'met in the park'?
- 2 What did they do?
- 3 From what part of the tree did they steal the fruit? Why?
- 4 How did they carry it?
- 5 How do you know that what the poet is describing happened a long time ago?

Looking at language

- 6 Explain the meaning of these words as they are used in the poem. Use a dictionary to help you.

a spiced **b** district **c** clustered **d** plunder **e** loot

Exploring the poem

- 7 In what season of the year do you think the apple-raid took place? Give your reasons.
- 8 Why do you think the boys went 'out of town' to steal apples?
- 9 What are each of these phrases describing?
a liquid gold **b** green domes **c** the secret dark
- 10 Do you think they are good descriptions? Why? Why not?
- 11 Why does the poet say they were 'safe' on the other side of the wall?
- 12 Why do you think John Peters 'lies cold' in France?
- 13 How do you think the poet feels when he remembers 'that little adventure'?