

TEXT B: *The Dragon's Playground* (poem)

Read Text B below, then answer questions 4–5.

The Dragon's Playground

- The dragon's mouth opens wide
to let the children in. They stand,
and grin, gripping broken teeth —
no longer razor sharp —
- 5 their rubber soles indented by
worn off fangs that must have eaten
a gazillion* of them by now,
but spat them out.
None are missing after all.
- 10 Perhaps it is the taste?
It seems a monstrous waste.
- With teeth so white, shiny
golden hair and skin that glows
they'd be a delicacy —
- 15 each fleshy morsel, plump pink limbs,
so young and fresh and ripe.
- You'd think that giant creature —
newly painted scaly aqua bright,
underbelly royal blue, floating
- 20 on a sea of softening bark —
would snap its jaws shut tight
and steal them off
into a shadowy night, delighting in
treasured gulps of sweetness
- 25 and light, with a bundle of
goodness in every bite?

One day it MIGHT.

* gazillion – an informal word for “a large number”