

As soon as the snow has melted off the ground, the farmer plows and manures his fields and sows and plants the different things that he wishes to grow.

Soon the soft spring rain and the warm sunshine make the seeds grow, the grass turn green once more, and the trees bear leaves and flowers.

The second season is summer. Summer begins on the twenty-first of June and finishes on the twentieth of September. During this season the weather is generally hot. Wheat, barley, buckwheat, indian corn, oats and other grain as well as hay, vegetables and fruits ripen during this season. The days are longer during spring and summer than during autumn and winter.

Dictée les questions suivantes ; que les élèves trouvent eux-mêmes les réponses.

1. What is the first season ? **R.** *The first season is Spring.*
2. When does it begin ? **R.** *It begins on the twentieth of March.*
3. When does it end ? **R.** *It ends on the twentieth of June.*
4. Why are the days warmer in spring ? **R.** *They are warmer because brighter sunshine has come again.*
5. What does the farmer do as soon as the snow has melted off the ground ? **R.** *As soon as the snow has melted off the ground, he plows and manures his fields and sows and plants the different things that he wishes to grow.*
6. What do the soft spring rain and the warm sunshine soon do ? **R.** *The soft spring rain and the warm sunshine soon make the seeds grow, the grass turn green once more, and the trees bear leaves and flowers.*
7. What is the second season ? **R.** *The second season is Summer.*
8. When does summer begin ? **R.** *It begins on the twenty-first of June.*
9. When does it finish ? **R.** *It finishes on the twentieth of September.*
10. During this season what is the state of the weather generally ? **R.** *During this season, the weather is generally hot.*
11. What does the hot weather do to wheat, barley, buckwheat, indian corn, oats and other grain as well as to hay, vegetables and fruits. **R.** *The hot weather ripens wheat, barley, buckwheat, indian corn, oats and other grain as well as hay, vegetables and fruits.*
12. What have you to say of the length of the days during spring and summer ? **R.** *The days are longer in spring and summer than in autumn and winter.*

DICTÉE MODÈLE

Tirée du Royal Reader

THE WONDERFUL PUDDING

At last we sat down to table. The first dishes were removed, our eyes were eagerly fixed on the door, in came the pudding ! It was a plum-pudding of the usual kind, not a bit larger !

"This is not the pudding that you promised us," said my brother.

"It is indeed," said Uncle Robert.

"O, Uncle ! you do not mean to say that more than a thousand men have helped to make that little pudding !"

"Eat some of it first, my boy ; and then take your slate and pencil, and help me to count the workmen," said Uncle Robert.

"Now," said Uncle Robert, "to make this pudding we must first have flour, and how many people must have labored to procure it ? The ground must have been plowed, (1) and sowed, and harrowed and reaped. To make the plow, miners, smelters, and smiths, wood-cutters, sawyers, and carpenters, must have labored."

Que les élèves trouvent des expressions équivalentes pour les mots en italiques. Par expressions équivalentes, nous entendons des expressions qui pourraient être mises à la place des mots en italiques sans que le sens des phrases en fut altéré.

Sat down to, took our places at.—Removed, taken away.—Eagerly, anxiously.—Fixed on, turned towards.—Usual, ordinary.—Larger, bigger.—Said, exclaimed.—Mean, intend.—Little, small.—Boy, lad.—Said, replied.—People, persons.—Labored, worked.—Ground, land.

(1) L'ancienne épellation de ce mot est *ploughed*.