01 Jolly Covid Postman - comprehension

The jolly postman came one day, From over the hills and far away. All was quiet, not much sound, It seemed people could not be found.

Through the windows peeped the folks
Who usually shared tales and jokes,
But not much laughter filled the air,
As lockdown meant that smiles were rare.

The postman came to cheer them all, With deliveries both large and small, The first to the old woman in the shoe, Who was ill and didn't know what to do!

She opened the letter to find inside An advert, but I must confide, The cures the wicked witch was selling Were awful, call the police, I'm telling!

After the postman reported the witch, His bike and direction needed to switch, Away from the police and off to the woods, To find a sweet girl who was partial to hoods.

He found her shut up and safe in her home,
He pushed in a card which had travelled from Rome.
It was here the bad wolf was hiding away.
And getting quite hungry his letter did say.

The next house he came to was cosy and bright, It held the three bears all day and all night. They were fed up and bored now of being shut in, So a friend had sent them a game to begin.

The bears were delighted and started the game, The postman looked in and wondered the name Of the sender, he asked and was then full of shocks As the bears shouted back, it's from Goldilocks!

Shaking his head the posty rode on, With a letter for children who'd upped and gone, Hansel and Gretel, they couldn't be found, The posty looked carefully all around.

He found the lost children hiding like mice, They cried out "A letter from Dad, why how nice!" The map in the letter made H and G glad, A map to find home, from their woodcutter dad.

The jolly postman waved them off, But worried himself as he started to cough. He pulled on a mask and rode to his gate, He felt that he better self isolate.

He felt bad as inside his bag lay one letter, But delivery must wait until he felt better. He sneaked a peek at the name and went "Phew!" The final last letter is puzzles for you!

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1)	Did you find any parts of the poem funny? If you did, write it down.		
2)	Were there any lines of the poem that were hard to understand? If so write them down.		
3)	What kind of story does the phrase "over the hills and far away" make you think of?		
4)	What does "rare" mean in the phrase "smiles were rare"?		
5)	Find out the meaning of "confide" and write a definition for this word.		
6)	Who do you think is "the sweet girl who was partial to hoods"?		
7)	Why was the postman shocked that Goldilocks would send the 3 bears a nice game?		
8)	Give a synonym (another word that means the same thing) for "peek".		