

Flames in the Forest

Answer the questions briefly

1. How did the weather worsen the fire?

It was a hot and dusty afternoon in the middle of May. It had not rained for several weeks. The grass had turned completely brown and the leaves of the trees were covered with dust. The wind was strong and it worsened the fire; forest fires spread fast if there is a strong wind blowing.

2. Why was Romi in a hurry to get home?

Romi was in a hurry to get home because his father was not well. The doctor had given him some medicines which he had to take to his father. Despite knowing that there was forest fire spreading, he decided to go home, paddling through the forest.

3. What was the effect of the forest fire on the different animals?

The forest fire had scared the animals living in the forest. They were trying to escape the fire just like Romi and Teju. Wild animals were fleeing from the forest fire, hares were leaping across the road, a band of monkeys ran across the path chattering excitedly. Romi had to paddle slower because birds and animals kept coming out of the bushes. Smaller birds were also rushing across following the road-parrots, jungle crows, magpies, owls and the air filled with their cries.

4. What do you think started the forest fire? Why do you think so?

It was the middle of May and it had not rained for several weeks. Dry leaves and twigs covered the forest floor. Even the grass had turned brown. The fire must have started because of the dry leaves and branches covering the forest floor. There was a village nearby, the leaves or twigs must have caught fire somehow. Moreover, the strong blowing wind would have spread the fire faster.

