Grade 6 Reading Comprehension Worksheet

The Gallant Tailor

Read the story. Then answer the questions.
One summer morning a little tailor was sitting near the window, and working, when an old woman crying, “Good jelly to sell!” So he called out, the poor woman came and gave him a jelly. “This jelly gives me strength,” cried the little tailor, and he cut the loaf, and spread the jelly on it, and went on stitching. The scent of the sweet jelly was spreading and the quantities of flies, attracted by it. The tailor, took a ragged cloth, and beat it them and when he counted the slain, so seven lying dead before him. “The whole world shall know it.” So he cut out a bell, stitched it, and put on it in large capitals “Seven at one blow!” The tailor fastened the bell round him, and he found an old cheese, which he put in his pocket. A bird had caught in the bushes outside, so he took that and put it in his pocket. Then he set out gallantly on his way led over a mountain, and when he reached the peak he saw a giant there. The tailor said to him, “Comrade, I am on the way to seek my fortune.” The little tailor showed the giant his bell; “Seven at one blow!” Then the giant took up a stone and squeezed it hard that water came out of it. “You can do that,” said the giant. Then the tailor put his hand in his pocket and took out the cheese and squeezed it, so that it ran out of it. “Well,” said the giant, then he took up a stone and threw it so high that it was out of sight. “Well thrown,” said the tailor; so he took out the bird, and threw it into the air. Then they went on, and came to a cherry-tree, the giant took hold of the topmost branches, where the ripest fruit hung, and pulling them downwards, gave them to the tailor to hold. But the tailor was weak to hold the tree, and as the giant let go, the tree sprang back, and the tailor was caught up into the air. And he dropped down without any damage, so that once more the little tailor got the better of him. Then the giant said, “As you are a gallant fellow, come with me to our den.” The tailor was quite willing, and followed him. When they reached to the den the giant showed him a bed, the bed was big for him so he crept into a corner to sleep. In the midnight the giant took a great staff of iron and beat the bed with one stroke, and supposed he had made an end of a tailor. Early in the morning the giants went into the wood and when they saw the tailor coming after them alive and merry, they were frightened and ran away in all haste.

Answer each question.
1. Why the quantities of flies did come to the tailor and what did he do then?
2. What did the tailor want to tell the world?
3. Where did the tailor go and to whom he did meet?
4. How did the giant and the tailor show their strength to each other?
5. What did happen in the den?