

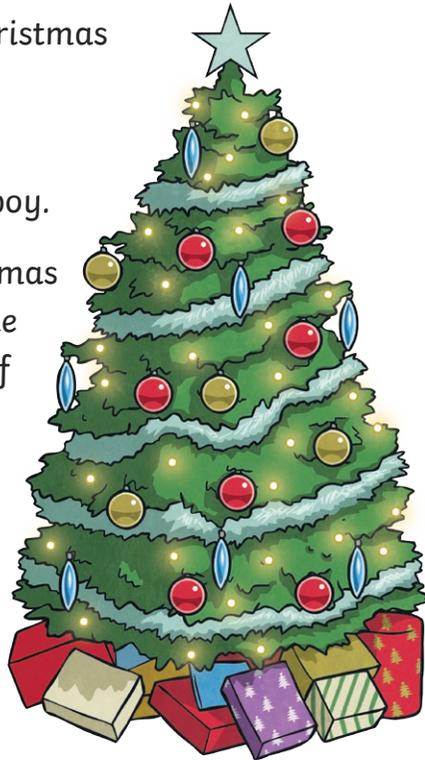
An Extract from Fiodor Dostoievski's  
**The Heavenly Christmas Tree**

9 "Come to my Christmas tree," a soft voice quietly  
13 whispered over his head.

24 He thought that the voice belonged to his mother, but  
36 no. He could not see who it was who was calling him.  
48 He stretched out his hands into the chilly night air  
59 and, all at once - oh, what a bright light! Oh, what a  
63 Christmas tree! Everything was bright, glittering  
70 and shining. All round him were giddy  
76 little boys and girls, happy and  
83 joyful in the glow of the Christmas  
86 tree's glimmering lights.

90 "This is Christ's Christmas  
96 tree," the children told the boy.

101 "Christ always has a Christmas  
108 tree on this day, for the little  
114 children who have no tree of  
116 their own..."



# Quick Questions



1. Who did the Christmas tree belong to?

\_\_\_\_\_



2. Find and copy three adjectives from the text that describe the children?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



3. Why might the children have no Christmas tree of their own?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



4. Find and copy a phrase which the author uses to show that the Christmas tree appeared suddenly.

\_\_\_\_\_

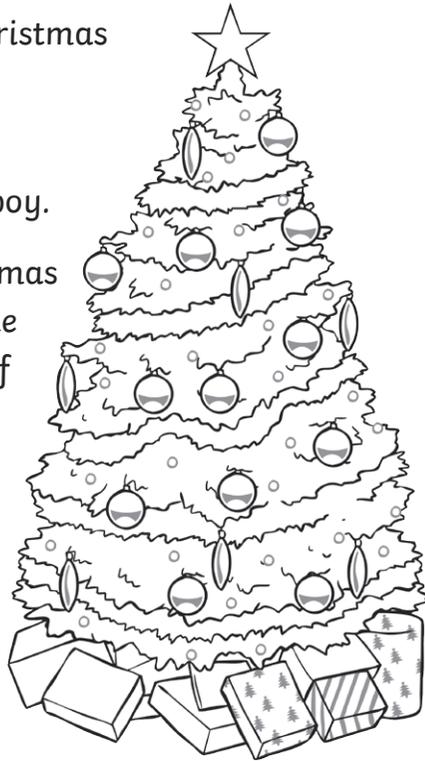
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116 their own..."



# Answers



1. Who did the Christmas tree belong to?

**Accept: Christ, Jesus or Jesus Christ.**



2. Find and copy three adjectives from the text that describe the children?

**Accept: little, giddy, happy and joyful.**



3. Why might the children have no Christmas tree of their own?

**Accept answers which infer that the children may not be able to afford a tree, may not have a home or may be in unfortunate circumstances.**



4. Find and copy a phrase which the author uses to show that the Christmas tree appeared suddenly.

**Accept 'all at once'.**