These Trees!
by Liana Mahoney

If walnuts come from walnut trees,
And almonds come from almond trees,
Then how come acorns come from oaks?
Can anyone explain this, please?

Now, ash trees don’t grow ashes. Right?
And beech trees aren’t on beaches. Right?
And fir trees don’t have furry trunks;
Although, that WOULD be quite a sight!

These trees! These trees! I wish it would
Be less confusing in the wood!
If trees had better-chosen names,
They might be better understood.
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1. What is the main idea of the poem?
   a. Trees have appropriate names.
   b. Trees have names that are often difficult to pronounce.
   c. The names of trees aren’t always obvious.
   d. Most people don’t know the names of trees.

2. Write a heading for each of the two categories on the t-chart.

   walnut tree | walnuts
   oak tree   | acorns
   almond tree| almonds

3. According to the poem, which tree is red?
   a. redwood tree  b. red oak tree
   c. neither of these d. both of these

4. Line 7 reads:
   So, why’s the white birch aptly named?
   Define the word aptly. Use a dictionary if you need help.
   ____________________________________________________________
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   b. Trees have names that are often difficult to pronounce.  
   c. The names of trees aren't always obvious.  
   d. Most people don't know the names of trees.

2. Write a heading for each of the two categories on the t-chart.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Types of Trees</th>
<th>Names of Seeds or Nuts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>walnut tree</td>
<td>walnuts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>oak tree</td>
<td>acorns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>almond tree</td>
<td>almonds</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Answers may vary slightly. For the first column, accept: types of trees, names of trees, species of trees, etc. For the second column, accept: names of seeds, types of nuts, things that grow on trees, etc.

3. According to the poem, which tree is red?  
   a. redwood tree  
   b. red oak tree  
   c. neither of these  
   d. both of these

4. Line 7 reads:  
   So, why's the white birch aptly named?  
   Define the word aptly. Use a dictionary if you need help.

   Aptly comes from the word apt, which means suitable or appropriate.