**Summary**

The poem is a light-hearted complaint by a young child who is disappointed by the constant failure of the local football team to score a goal. He wants the rival team to score fewer goals and his own team to score at least an occasional goal. The child complains about his lack of height which prevents from being able to see even the occasional goal that his team is able to score. He is also ashamed of the fact that his father is the mascot of the game as a mascot is supposed to bring good luck to the team, but in this case this does not happen and the mascot goes home with his head hanging in shame. The child-poet does not like the fact that everyone can see that the mascot is his father and wishes that his father would keep his disguise on until he reaches home.

**Understanding the Text:**

1. **Complete the paragraph to bring out the central idea of the poem using your own words:**

The poet believes he would enjoy watching his local football team playing if they were able to score more goals than the other team. He also wishes he was taller so that he could see the game better. He also does not like the idea that his father is the mascot of the team and he wishes he keeps the disguise on until he reaches home.

1. **Answer these questions:**
2. **How often did the local team win?**

**Ans**: The local team hardly ever won the game.

1. **How tall is the poet?**

**Ans**: The poet is four feet three inches tall.

1. **What does he wish to see?**

**Ans**: He wishes he could manage to see his team score a goal.

1. **Who is the mascot of the team and what is he disguised as?**

**Ans**: The poet’s father is the mascot of the team and he is disguised as a penguin.

1. **What is the tone of the poem? Is it complaining, happy, angry or irritated?**

**Ans**: The tone of the poem is complaining.

1. **Answer these questions with reference to the context.**
2. ***And I’d certainly enjoy it better***
3. **Who is the speaker?**
4. **What would he enjoy?**
5. **What does he want to be?**

**Ans**:

1. The poet is the speaker. He is a young boy.
2. He would enjoy watching the football game.
3. He wants to be taller.
4. ***Wouldn’t act so stupid and sad***
5. **Who acts stupid and sad?**
6. **Why is he stupid and sad?**
7. **What does the speaker want him to do?**

**Ans**:

1. The mascot of the team acts stupid and sad.
2. He is stupid and sad because the local team never wins.
3. He wants him to keep his disguise on till he reaches home.