

Read the extract given below and answer the following questions:

‘Now tell us what ‘twas all about,’

‘Young Peterkin, he cries;

And little Wilhelmine looks up

With wonder-waiting eyes;

‘Now tell us all about the war,

And what they fought each other for.’

- i) What does Peterkin want to know? To whom is he speaking?
- ii) Why does Wilhelmine look up with wonder waiting eyes?  
What is the relevance of adjective *little* in the above extract?
- iii) What makes Peterkin and Wilhelmine inquire about the war?
- iv) What is the answer given to the children about the motives of the war? What does it tell you about the common man’s attitude towards war?
- v) How does this poem reflect upon the theme of man’s cruelty to man?