1. Magnus Bede, the famous alchemist, and his happy-go-lucky wife, Eutilda, thought they had a harmonious family. But their older son, Yorick, considered little Charles a first-rate pain in the pants, always occupied with something silly.

2. She could have picked a chiming clock or a porcelain figurine, but Miss Bridie chose a shovel back in 1856.

3. Winter is coming.

4. Ruthie Simms didn’t have a dog. She didn’t have a cat, or a brother, or a sister. But Jessica was the next best thing.

5. Miss Elizabeth felt troubled.

6. This is the pot that Juan built.

7. One wintry day I made a snowman, very round and tall.

8. Two men walked into the rain forest.

9. When the eggs hatched, the little crocodiles crawled out onto the riverbeach. But Cornelius walked out upright.
10. This is the great Kapiti Plain,
    All fresh and green from the African rains,
    A sea of grass for the ground birds to nest in,
    And patches of shade for wild creatures to rest in...

11. It was in the summer of the year when the relatives came.
    They came up from Virginia.

12. On the day Shirley had invited all of her relatives to
    dinner and Moe, her husband, was pleasantly tinkering in
    the yard, a flying saucer quietly landed next to their
    toolshed.

13. The sun never rose today. When I came home from school it
    was dark. When I left for school, it was dark.