Riddles

A riddle is a genre of oral literature that represents social and psychological phenomena of the human imagination and that is solved through puzzling questions.

_Brass that does not exist here,_
_Brass that has no owner,_
_Brass that is a span in size,_
_Brass that is round. What is this? (the sun)_

This riddle describes solar illumination and demands knowledge of measurements, like the span. A riddle is a test of intelligence and thinking capacity.

Let’s take some examples:

- It is possible to unfurl and furl this like cervical vertebrae. What is this? (_Lattice wall of ger_)

- The upper part is exactly yellow,
The middle part is swan white,
The lower part is rather grey. What is this? (_Clotted cream, milk and sediment of boiled milk_)

- If you clench it,
  It cannot fill your palm;
  If you unclench it,
  It can fill out a vast plain. What is this? (_Eyes_)

- They have the characteristics of yearling colts. What is this? (_Ankle or knuckle bones_)

- It is smaller than you, but it can lift you. What is this? (_Surup_)

- It is near if you see, it is far if you bite. What is this? (_The palm of hand_)

- The trunk is full of curly-budges. What is this? (_Teeth_)

- Sandal cups vie with each other on the road. What is this? (_Hoofs_)

- This is a silver cup on the ice. What is that? (_The moon_)

- A statuette on a running table. What is this? (_A man on horseback_)

- An animal that has a pig tail on its back and has a big voice. What is this? (_Dog_)

MOTHER TONGUE, ORAL TRADITIONS

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