

The Monkey and the Mango Tree

Before you read

- Do you like mangos?
- Do you have any mango trees near your home?
- Have you ever seen a monkey?
- Do you like them?



Innocent and Taku were good friends. They played together near their village. One day they were looking for fruit in the forest near their village. They looked, but they didn't find any fruit trees. It was a hot day and they were tired. They sat down in the shade to rest.

"Ow!" Innocent said. "Something hit me! What was that?"

He looked by his feet and there was a stone. Taku pointed into the branches.

"Look! It's a monkey. He threw that stone at you. Naughty monkey."

Innocent picked up the stone.

"This isn't an ordinary stone. It's a mango stone," he said.

"Then there's a mango tree near here," said Taku. "Monkey, tell us please. Where did you find this mango?"

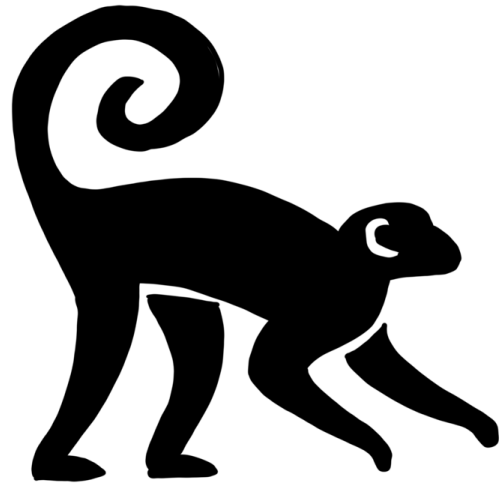
The monkey said nothing, but it threw another stone at Taku. Then it jumped from one tree to another and it was gone.

"Ow! That hurt. Let's follow the monkey to see where it went," Taku said to Innocent.

The two boys followed the monkey. Soon they heard a noise. It was the sound of a lot of monkeys. Soon they came to a beautiful big mango tree. There were a lot of ripe mangos and ten monkeys in the tree. Innocent and Taku took some mangos back for their families to eat. They were delicious.

Answer the questions

1. What is this about?
 - a) facts about monkeys
 - b) a story with a monkey
 - c) how to grow mango trees
2. Why were Taku and Innocent in the forest?
3. Why did they sit down?
4. Who threw the stone at Innocent?
5. Why was it not an ordinary stone?
6. Where did the monkey go?
7. What was in the tree?
8. What did Innocent and Taku take back for their families?
9. Would you like to find a mango tree with monkeys in it?



Looking at words

Match the word with the definition.

- | | |
|--------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. ordinary | a) a time when you relax |
| 2. branches | b) to go after |
| 3. delicious | c) badly behaved |
| 4. naughty | d) parts of a tree |
| 5. rest | e) usual or normal, not special |
| 6. follow | f) very good to eat |



Choose a word from the box to complete the sentences.

stone another ripe sound shade hurt

1. I _____ my knee when I fell over.
2. I heard the _____ of a bird in the tree.
3. You have to take out the _____ before you eat the mango.
4. The bird flew from one tree to _____.
5. This mango is green. It isn't _____ yet.
6. I like sitting in the _____ of the tree in my garden.

Wangari Maathi

Before you read

- Are there a lot of trees near your home?
- Have you ever planted a tree?
- How long do trees take to grow?



Wangari Maathi lived in a place full of trees, near a mountain in Kenya. She used to go into the forest with her mother to collect firewood. She loved the forest. It was beautiful and full of birds. She helped her mother to grow vegetables in the fields near the forest. Wangari did very well in school. and she went away from her village to study.

Six years later she came back but her home was different. The trees were gone. There was no firewood and no birds. Where did the trees go? There were new buildings in their place, but no new trees. Wangari was sad to see her land wasn't green any more. She decided to plant nine new trees on her mother's land. The plants grew strong, and she decided to plant lots more. She spoke to the women in her village and they agreed it was good to plant trees.

Men from the city laughed at the woman planting trees, but they carried on planting. Wangari paid them a little money for every tree that lived, so they planted more. Men from the city came to try to cut down the new trees but she tried to stop them. People spoke about Wangari in Kenya and in thirty other countries in Africa. More women planted trees and the land became green again. The trees grew larger and the air became cleaner. Thanks to Wangari, there are now 30 million trees where before there were none.

Answer the questions

1. What is this?
a) a true story b) facts about trees c) instructions for planting trees
2. Where did Wangari and her mother live?
3. What did Wangari like about the forest?
4. How long was Wangari away from home while she studied?
5. How was her home different when she returned?
6. What did she decide to do to make it better?
7. What did the men from the city want to do?
8. What happened when the women planted more trees?
9. How many new trees grew because of Wangari?

Looking at words

Choose a word to complete the sentences.

grow plant cut collect pay become

1. Let's _____ a tree here.
2. Does your family _____ any vegetables?
3. I help my grandmother to _____ firewood.
4. Don't _____ down the trees! They are beautiful.
5. The trees help the air to _____ cleaner.
6. You don't have to _____ me to help you!



The two water pots

Before you read

- Do you carry water?
- How do you carry it?
- What different ways can you think of to move water?



Once there was a woman called Patience. She carried water from the well to her garden every day. She used a pole over her shoulders and she carried a pot at each end of the pole. The water pot on the right was perfect, but the pot on the left had a small crack in it. A little water came out. It was a long way between the river and her garden. It usually took her an hour to go there and come back. By the time Patience arrived at her hut the second pot was only half full.

Patience's friend, Glory, noticed the cracked pot and asked her about it.

"Why don't you buy a new pot?" said Glory. "You have enough money to buy a new pot. Or I can give you one of mine, if you like. With a new pot you would have two full pots of water, not just one and a half."

Patience shook her head and smiled. "You are very kind, Glory, but no, thank you. Have you seen the path between the river and the village? On the right side, where I hold my perfect pot, the ground is very dry. Nothing grows there at all. On the left side, where I hold my cracked pot, the plants are green. There is even a pumpkin growing there. I like my cracked pot and I am keeping it."

When Glory looked at the path, she understood her friend. Perfect things aren't always the best things in life. Sometimes what seems like a problem is in fact a good thing.

Answer the questions

1. What is this?
 - a) a funny story
 - b) a story with a message
 - c) a true story about a real person
2. How long did it take Patience to fetch water?
3. How many pots did Patience use to carry water?
4. Which pot had a crack in it?
5. How long did it take her to walk to the well?
6. What did Glory offer Patience?
7. What was different about the left side of the path?
8. What is the message of the story?

Looking at words

Choose a word from the story to complete the sentences.

1. There was a c_____ in the bottle and the water came out.
2. I walked along the p_____ to school.
3. There are no mistakes in your homework. It is p_____.
4. It is a long j_____ between my home and Harare.
5. They walked to the w_____ to get some water.

What is the difference?

6. What is the difference between 'a **cracked** pot' and 'a **perfect** pot'?
7. What is the difference between 'on the **right** side' and 'on the **left** side'?
8. What is the difference between '**dry** ground' and '**wet** ground'?



Hiccups

Before you read

- What do hiccups sound like?
- When was the last time you had hiccups?
- Do you know any ways to stop hiccups?



Mandla was excited. Last week the school head sent a letter home. It was an invitation to all parents and guardians to come to the school to talk to the teachers. Some of the children were going to sing a song in front of all the visitors.

Today was the day. Mandla and his friends had practised the song many times that week. But then, there was a disaster! Ten minutes before the song was going to begin, suddenly Mandla said, “Hic!” and again “Hic!” and “Hic!” one more time.

“Oh no,” Mandla said to his friends. “I have hiccups. What should I do?”

“You ate your breakfast too fast,” said Chuma. “I should pour cold water on you to cure you.”

“Hic! No thanks,” said Mandla. “That sounds like a bad idea.”

“You should stand on your head, and the hiccups will fall out,” said his little brother.

“Hic! I don’t think so,” said Mandla.

“You should drink a glass of water and hold your breath,” said his sister.

“Good idea!” Mandla said. He drank a glass of water and waited.

“I think the hiccups have gone now,” he said.

“Where did they go?” asked his little brother.

“Nobody knows,” said his sister.

Then the school head stood up in front of the school and all the visitors and said, “Welcome everybody to the school. The name of the song you are going to hear is ... Hic!”

“That’s where your hiccups went,” said Mandla’s brother.

Answer the questions

1. What is this?
a) a funny story b) a traditional story c) a letter
2. What is it about?
a) how to sing well b) a school visit c) having the hiccups
3. Why were the parents and guardians coming to the school?
4. Why was Mandla excited?
5. When did Manda's hiccups start?
6. What was Chuma's idea to stop the hiccups
7. What was Mandla's brother's idea to stop the hiccups?
8. Whose idea worked? What was the idea?
9. What happened to the teacher?



Looking at words

Choose a word to complete these sentences.

sing send wait stand cure hold pour

1. _____ me a glass of water, please. I'm thirsty.
2. How long can you _____ your breath?
3. I want to _____ a letter to my sister.
4. Can you _____ a song in English?
5. Do you know how to _____ on your head?
6. Please _____ for a few minutes. I won't be long.
7. You've got a cold. There isn't a _____. Just wait for a few days.

Match the words with the definitions.

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| 1. disaster | a) someone who looks after you |
| 2. practise | b) don't breathe |
| 3. hold your breath | c) a very bad thing that happens. |
| 4. guardian | d) a letter or words to ask someone to visit |
| 5. invitation | e) do something again and again so you are good at it |

Dreams in a can

Before you read

- What would you like to become in the future?
- Have you ever written down your dreams for the future?
- Have you ever heard of Doctor Tererai Trent?



There was a girl called Tererai who lived in the village of Zvipani in Mashonaland West Province. Her family were poor and they didn't have enough money to pay to send her to school. Her brother Tinashe walked to school every day and sometimes he showed his sister his books. She learnt to read and write from her brother's school books. She started to do her brother's homework. The teacher noticed that Tinashe's work was better than before and asked, "Who did this work?" Tinashe told him that his sister at home did the homework and the teacher was surprised. He walked to Tinashe's family home and told Tererai's family about their clever daughter.

The daughter went to school and loved it. She had a dream to study in other countries, and to learn how to make the family farm better. She wrote her dreams down on a piece of paper, and put the paper in an old tin can. She buried the can in the family's garden.

Tererai worked very hard and had some very difficult years. She learnt a lot about farming and she became an important expert on her subject. She graduated with three degrees in farming and medicine, and she started schools around Zimbabwe to teach other people what she knew. She became famous in America, and often went on television to explain about her work. One day, she decided to go back to her old family garden and dig up the old tin can. She found it, with the piece of paper with her dreams written inside and she smiled. Her dreams were now real.

Answer the questions

1. What is this?
a) a poem b) a funny story c) a true story
2. Why didn't Tererai go to school?
3. How did she learn to read?
4. Why did the teacher come to her family home?
5. What was Tererai's dream?
6. What did she do with the tin can?
7. What subjects did Tererai study?
8. Which country did she visit?
9. What did she do later in her old family garden?
10. Why did she smile?



Looking at words

Match the words with the definitions.

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| 1. clever | a) how you feel when something you didn't expect happens |
| 2. surprised | b) a metal food container |
| 3. poor | c) intelligent, smart, quick to understand |
| 4. dream | d) not rich, without much money |
| 5. afford | e) to think about something you want to do in the future |
| 6. dig | f) to have enough money to pay for something |
| 7. tin can | g) to make a hole in the ground |

Choose a word to complete the sentences.

degree homework expert explain piece graduate

1. Dr Trent studied many years to become an _____ in farming.
2. I don't understand. Can you _____ it to me?
3. It's my dream to go to university and to become a _____.
4. It takes a lot of work to get a _____ from a university.
5. The teacher gave us a lot of _____ to do.
6. Will you write down your dreams on a _____ of paper?

The soup stone

Before you read

- Do you know how to make soup?
- What do you need to make it?



One day a traveller arrived in a poor village. He was carrying an empty cooking pot and a small grey stone. One of the villagers said to him, "You're very welcome to our village, traveller. We'd like to offer you some food but we are so poor we have nothing to give you!"

"That doesn't matter at all!" said the traveller. "I have a special stone which can make soup from just water. Does anyone have some water and some wood for a fire?"

"I do. I'll get that for you!" said one woman.

The traveller poured the water into the pot, put the stone into it and lit the fire under it.

"Mmm! This is going to taste great," he said. "But it would be even better with some meat bones in it."

"I have some bones I can bring for the soup. I was going to give them to the dog," said another woman. She went to her hut and brought some bones for the pot.

"Mmm! This looks so good. It would taste even better with a few onions," said the man.

"I have a few onions. I'll get them for you," said an old man.

"Mmm!" said the traveller again, after he added the onions. "Delicious. It would be even better if we added some carrots."

Another villager said, "I have some carrots I can bring for the soup. I'll fetch them for you."

The traveller added the carrots, and stirred the pot.

"That smells great. I can't wait to eat this stone soup," the traveller said. "But I think it will taste even better with some salt and herbs in it."

Someone brought the salt and herbs and in they went. After a while, the traveller tried a spoonful.

“Mmmm! This tastes wonderful. It’s ready to eat now.”

Everybody in the village ate the soup. They all agreed that it was the best soup ever.

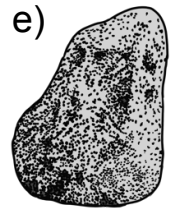
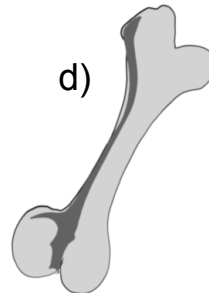
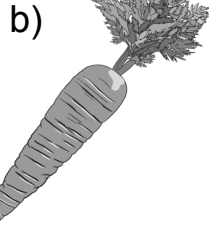
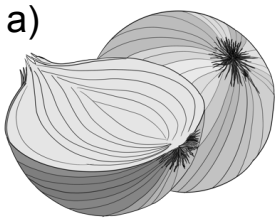
“Imagine that! Delicious soup from a stone!” the villagers said to each other. “I wish we had a stone like that.”

Answer the questions

1. What is this?

- a) a true story b) a recipe c) a traditional story

2. What are the ingredients of the soup? Put the pictures in the order they go into the pot.



3. What do you think is the message of the story? Choose the sentences you agree with.

- a. If you have a magic stone, you will never be hungry.
- b. People can do a lot if they work together.
- c. Sharing helps everybody.
- d. It’s good to make travellers welcome.
- e. Don’t trust strangers.

Looking at words

Choose a word to complete the sentences.

bring wait stir agree light add

- 1. You need to _____ some salt to this soup.
- 2. I _____ that this soup is delicious.
- 3. Can you _____ me some herbs, please?
- 4. I can’t _____ to taste this soup.
- 5. I have to _____ the fire first.
- 6. Please _____ the pot with this spoon.

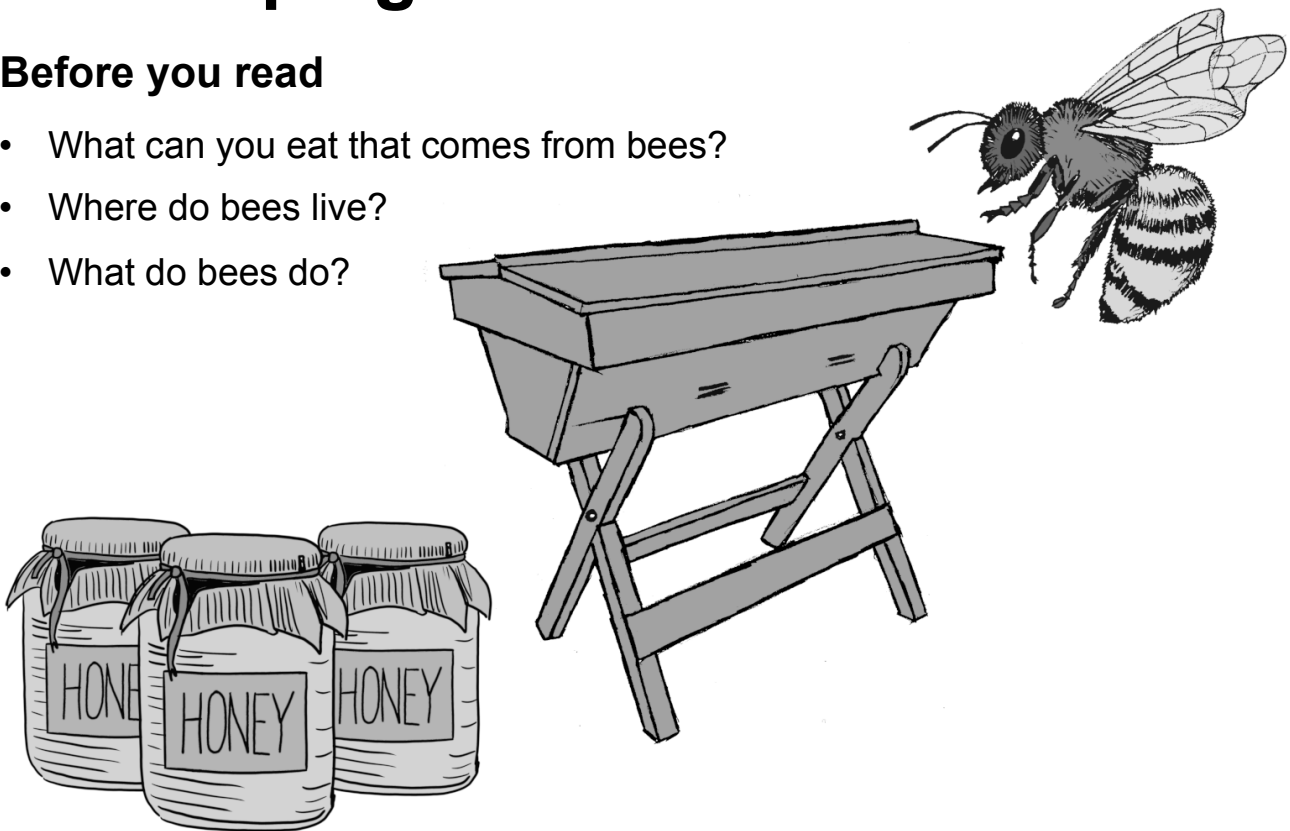


Think of three things that... taste good / smell good / smell bad

Beekeeping

Before you read

- What can you eat that comes from bees?
- Where do bees live?
- What do bees do?



Beekeeping has become very popular in Zimbabwe. It is a good way to earn some extra money. This is because it is not very difficult or expensive to start keeping bees. First, you need to build some hives for the bees to live in. Then you need to get a swarm of bees. Some people find a wild swarm of bees in a tree. If you cannot find a wild swarm, you can buy some bees from another beekeeper. After a few months, you can start selling honey from your hives.

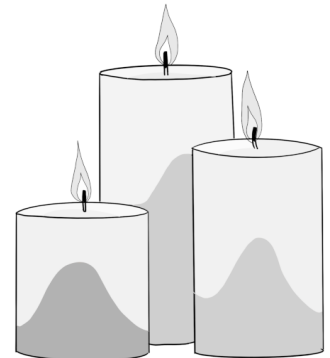
Mufaro lives with his aunt. His aunt started keeping bees three years ago. She started with one hive, but now she has four hives. She built the hives herself, and Mufaro helped her. She sells the honey to people in her village. She also sells candles made from the beeswax. Keeping bees only takes a few hours each week of her time. She still has plenty of time for her main job, which is growing fruit trees.

At first, Mufaro was worried about getting stung by the bees, but this has not been a problem. In three years, he has only been stung once.

Beekeeping is also good for the environment. To make honey, bees need the flowers in trees. This means that beekeepers look after the trees in their area, instead of cutting them down for firewood.

Answer the questions

1. Why is beekeeping a good way to earn extra money?
A. Not many people do it. B. It is quite cheap and easy to do it.
C. Swarms are always free. D. You can't buy good honey in shops.
2. What can you do a few months after you start beekeeping?
A. get more hives B. sell bees to other beekeepers
C. sell honey D. find a wild swarm
3. What did Mufaro's aunt do three years ago?
A. She found a wild swarm. B. She built five bee hives.
C. She moved to her village. D. She started keeping bees.
4. What is Mufaro's aunt's main job?
A. growing fruit trees B. selling honey and candles
C. building beehives D. helping people in her village
5. Why is beekeeping good for the environment?
A. It helps trees to grow. B. Bees look after flowers
C. Bees help other animals. D. It makes people take care of trees.
6. What word means that a bee hurt Mufaro?
A. beeswax B. stung
C. problem D. plenty



Looking at words

Choose the best word to complete the sentences.

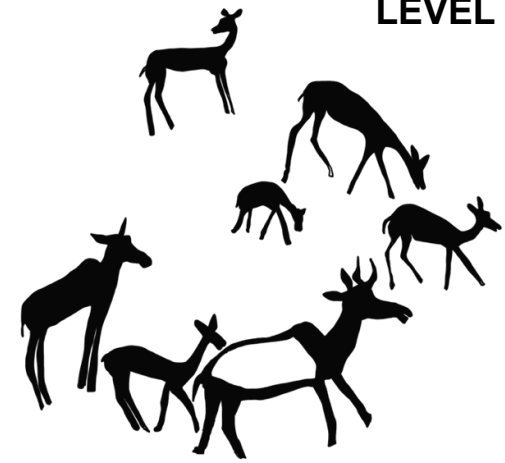
1. Beekeeping can help people to _____ money.
A. need B. become C. find D. earn
2. Beekeepers' bees live in _____.
A. wild B. trees C. hives D. candles
3. A group of bees is called a _____.
A. swarm B. hive C. candle D. earn
4. You can use beeswax to make _____.
A. hives B. candles C. honey D. bees
5. If you touch a bee, it may _____ you
A. sting B. worry C. look after D. cut
6. Bees need _____ to make honey.
A. firewood B. area C. flowers D. years

Zimbabwe's rock art

Before you read

- Do you like drawing pictures?
- Match the words to the rock art pictures on this side and the other side of the card.

- a. some people who are hunting
- c. two porcupines
- e. an elephant or an aardvark?



- b. some deer and an antelope
- d. a warthog
- e. a woman with a child?

What is rock art?

They are very old paintings in caves and under rock shelves.

How old are they?

The paintings are between 2,000 and 10,000 years old.

Who made Zimbabwe's rock art?

The San people painted most of them. They were some of the first people in southern Africa. They hunted and looked for fruit, roots and leaves to eat.

What did they use as paint?

The San people made the paint from rocks. They found different coloured rocks, and they ground them to make powder. Then they added animal fat, to make a paste. They made white, yellow, orange, purple, red, grey, brown and black colours.

Did they have paint brushes?

They mostly used sticks or fingers to paint, but they also sometimes tied animal hair to the sticks to paint small details.

What did they paint?

They painted lots of different animals: antelope, elephants zebras, porcupines, rhinos, warthogs and giraffes. They also painted men, women and children. The people in the pictures often have bows and arrows.

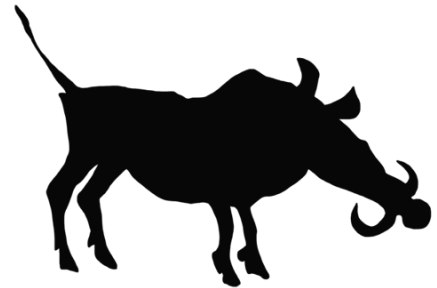
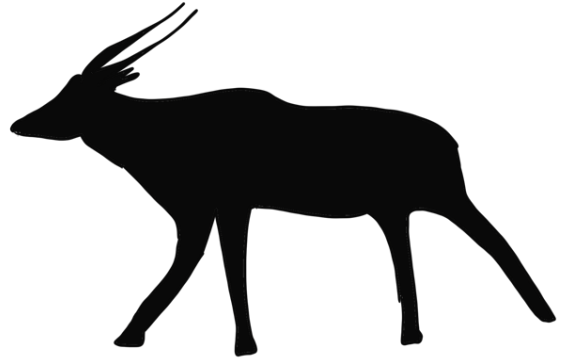
Why did they paint them?

They believed that the paintings helped them to hunt better. It was very important for them to catch food for everyone to eat.



Answer the questions

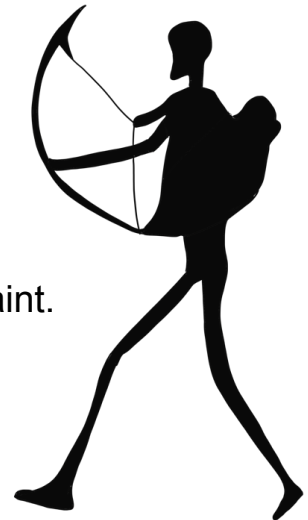
1. What is this?
 - a. a story about hunters
 - b. a story about painting
 - c. an article about ancient rock art
 - d. a story about rocks
2. Who were the San people?
3. How did they make their paint?
4. What colours did they use in the paintings?
5. How many animals does the article mention?
6. Why were the paintings important?



Looking at words

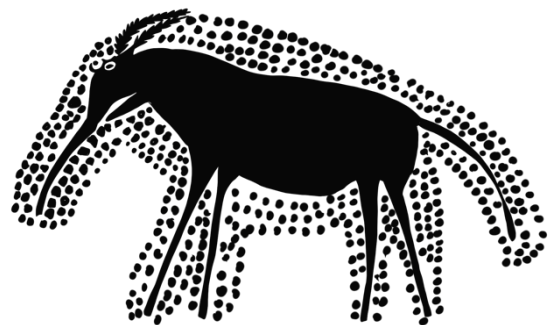
Choose the right word to complete the sentences.

- ground caught looked for used tied hunted
1. The young men _____ for animals to kill and eat.
 2. The woman _____ up corn to make flour.
 3. The San people _____ fruit on the trees.
 4. The artists _____ animal hairs to a stick.
 5. The painters _____ rock powder and fat to make paint.
 6. The hunters sometimes _____ elephants.



Match the words with the definitions.

- | | |
|------------|--|
| 1. paste | a) to think something is true |
| 2. bow | b) a thick mixture of powder and liquid |
| 3. arrow | c) a hole or space under the ground |
| 4. root | d) part of a plant that grows under the ground |
| 5. cave | e) a stick with a sharp metal point |
| 6. believe | f) it is used for shooting arrows |



Note: All the pictures are copied from ancient rock art pictures found in Zimbabwe.

Kimbo the tortoise

Before you read

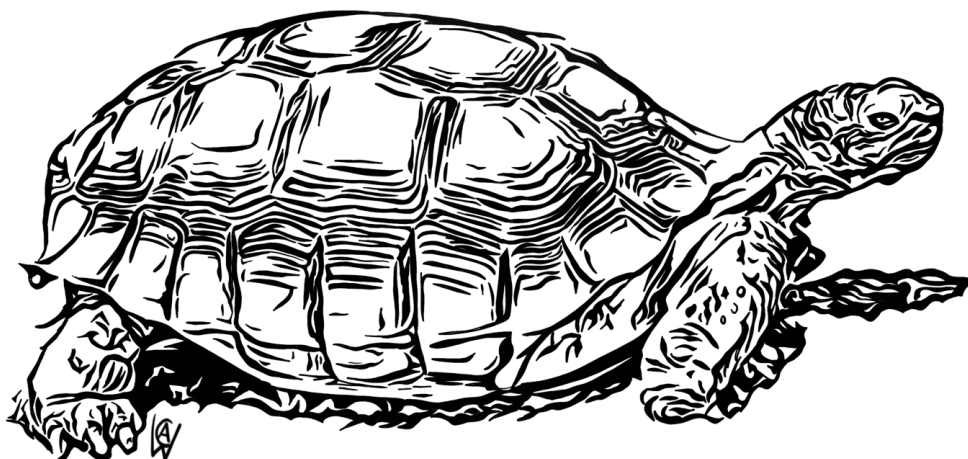
- Where do tortoises live?
- Have you ever seen a bird's nest?



Once there was a tortoise called Kimbo who thought he was better than everyone else. One day, he was walking slowly along a path. At last he came to a shady tree. He stopped there to rest, and noticed that over his head there was a bird in a nest. Kimbo called up to the bird.

“What a terrible mess your house is,” Kimbo said, rudely. “You have sticks everywhere. It doesn’t even keep the rain off your head. My shell is much better than your house. Mine has a beautiful design, tidy and fine. It’s hard and waterproof. I can hide in it if there is danger. I’m sure you wish you had my lovely, safe dry house.”

The bird looked down at the Kimbo and answered him, “Well, I know my house isn’t the most beautiful or the tidiest. It’s not the largest or the most expensive, either, but I like it well enough. I built it myself, unlike your house. But I wouldn’t swap with you. My home has space for all of my family, and friends can come and visit me here. Your shell can only shelter one person. Your house is safe and dry, but it’s not for me. My house is better for the way I live. So yes, sure, you have a better house, but I have a better home. It’s better to have a crowded hut than a lonely palace!”



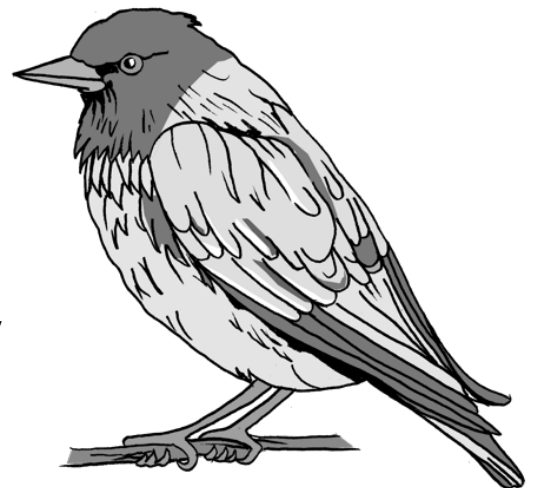
Answer the questions

1. What is this?
a) a traditional story b) an article about tortoises c) a joke
2. Why is the tortoise rude?
3. Who do you think has the better home?
4. Are these sentences about the tortoise's home or the bird's home?
a) It is safe from danger. TORTOISE / BIRD
b) It is untidy. TORTOISE / BIRD
c) It is better for visitors. TORTOISE / BIRD
d) It is waterproof. TORTOISE / BIRD
e) It has a good design. TORTOISE / BIRD
5. What do you think is the message of this story? Which of these sentences do you agree with?
a) A welcoming home is better than an expensive one.
b) Don't say rude things about someone's home.
c) Not everybody wants the same thing.
d) It's better to be safe than to have a big house.
e) Visitors should be polite.

Looking at words

Find the describing words in the story. What does each word describe?

expensive • crowded • dry
safe • beautiful • hard • tidy
fine • waterproof • lonely



Choose a word to complete these sentences.

the better more most than

1. The tortoise's shell is safer _____ the bird's nest.
2. The tortoise thinks his home is the _____ elegant.
3. The bird's nest has much _____ space than the tortoise's shell.
4. Both animals think their home is _____ than the other's.
5. Neither the bird nor the tortoise has _____ biggest house of any animal.

Don't say the word!

Before you read

- Do you like playing word games?
- Which games do you know how to play?

I learnt a new game in school today. Mrs Sithole, our teacher, showed us how to play it. The rules are easy. You can't say the word on the card, but you have to get the class to shout it out. The teacher had a little bag with pieces of paper in it. We couldn't read the words because the paper was folded.

Mrs Sithole asked who wanted to go first. Then she picked my friend, Ariko. She gave Ariko a piece of paper and he opened it up. He thought for a moment and then he started to speak.

"OK, so it's something you use in the classroom..."

"Your brain!" someone shouted and everybody laughed.

"No, silly. It's made of wood and er... I don't know," continued Ariko. He didn't know the word he wanted.

"Is it a desk?" I called.

"No, it's smaller than a desk. It's got something dark grey in the middle of it. You use it to write..."

"A pen!" another person shouted.

"No, I said it's made of wood. It's as long as two of my fingers..."

"A pencil!" said Charity.

"Yes, that right, Charity. It's a pencil," said Mrs Sithole. "Well done, Charity. By the way, the bit in the middle of the pencil is called the lead. That's a new word for us. I'll write it on the board. Now, it's your turn, Charity. Come and take a word from my little bag."

I hope we play this game again, soon, because it was fun to guess and fun to explain. It's sometimes harder than you think to find the words you need.



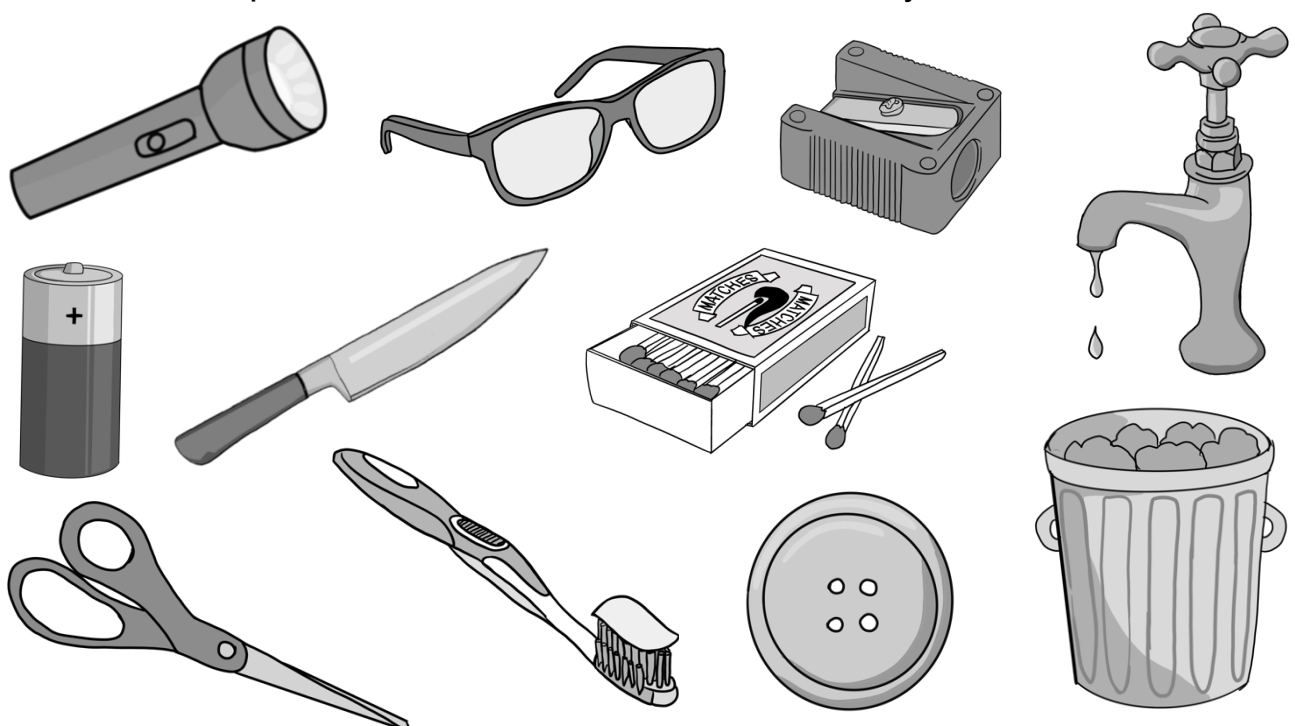
Answer the questions

1. What is this?
a) a traditional story b) a description of a game c) a newspaper article
2. Complete the two rules of the game:
You can't _____. The other people have to _____.
3. What is the word that Ariko didn't know?
4. Why did the class laugh?
5. Who guessed the answer?

Looking at words

What are these things? Guess the objects the people are talking about, and match them with the pictures.

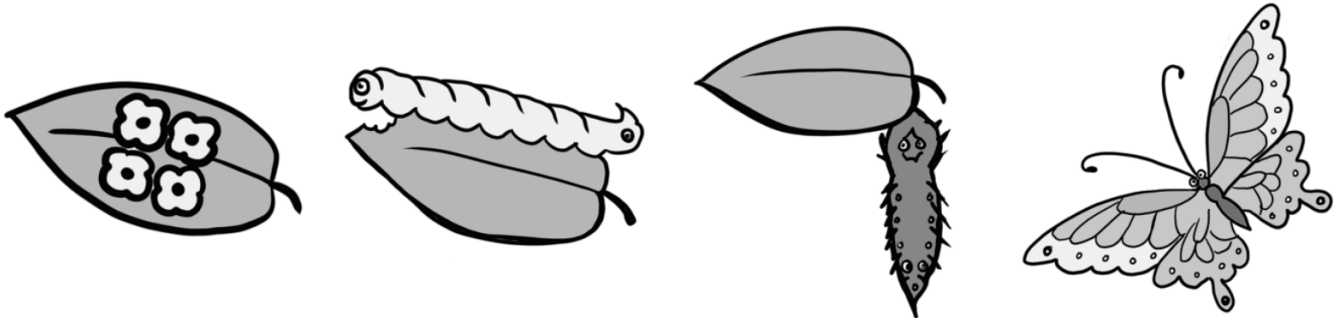
1. It's usually made of plastic. You use it to clean your teeth.
2. It's made of metal and plastic, usually. You use it to make your pencil sharper.
3. They are made of wood. You use them to light a fire.
4. It's usually made of plastic and glass. You use it to see in the dark.
5. It's sharp and it's made of metal. You use it to cut meat.
6. It's used to cut paper. It's usually made of metal and plastic. It's a pair of...
7. It's made of metal. You have to turn it to get water.
8. It's often made of metal or plastic. You use it to put rubbish in.
9. It's made of metal. You use it for power, inside torches or radios.
10. They're made of glass and plastic. You use them to help you see better.
11. It's made of plastic. It's round with holes in it. It's on your clothes.



Changes

Before you read

Match the words with the pictures: **butterfly** **eggs** **pupa** **caterpillar**



When Onai went into the garden one morning, she was surprised to see her grandfather staring at a plant.

“Hello, Grandad! Why are you sitting there doing nothing?” she said.

“I’m not doing nothing,” he replied. “I’m watching what’s happening on this plant.”

Onai looked, but she didn’t see anything special.

“It’s a boring plant,” she said. “Look, it has caterpillars on it! Ugh! Shall I kill them?”

“No, don’t do that, please!” said her grandfather. “Just look. You’ll see something interesting.”

He pointed at a brown case on the stem of a plant.

“It looks like a piece of old brown paper,” said Onai. “I’m not interested in that. Why would anyone want to watch that?”

“Watch closely,” Grandad told her. “Do you see how it’s moving?”

“Why is it doing that? What is it? Is it an animal?” asked Onai.

“It’s called a pupa. You’ll see. Look. The case is breaking now.”

“There are colours inside,” Onai said. “It’s so blue. It’s amazing. Oh look, it has red spots! What is it?”

“It’s a butterfly. This one has a strange name. It’s called a Gaudy Commodore.”

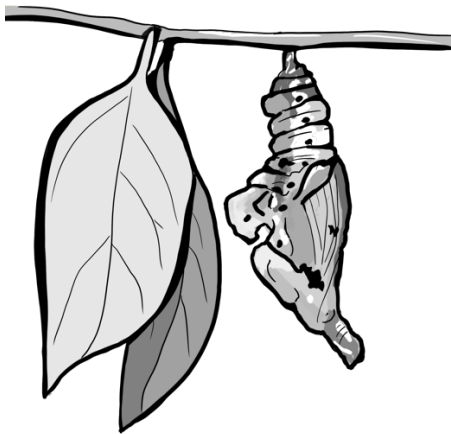
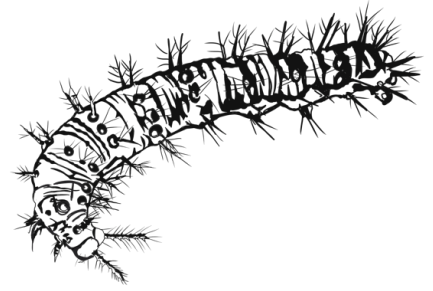
“I love it. I want to find some more,” said Onai.

“Well, if you don’t kill the caterpillars, they will change into butterflies.”

“OK, Grandad. Just think, we’re the first people in the whole world ever to see the colours of that butterfly.”

Answer the questions

1. Where does this story happen?
2. Why is Onai's grandfather watching a plant?
3. What does Onai want to do with the caterpillars?
4. What does Grandad tell Onai to do?
5. What is the 'piece of old brown paper' called?
6. What happens when Onai watches the case?
7. How does Onai change in the story?



2. Put the sentences in the right order.

- a. A butterfly lays eggs on some plant leaves.
- b. The egg hatches into a caterpillar.
- c. The butterfly flies away.
- d. The caterpillar eats and gets fat.
- e. The pupa changes into a butterfly.
- f. The caterpillar becomes a pupa.

Looking at words

Choose the right word to complete the sentences.

1. Are you **interesting** / **interested** in animals?
2. I can't believe you think that sport is **boring** / **bored**.
3. The food tasted **amazing** / **amazed**.
4. I was **surprising** / **surprised** to find a dog in the classroom.
5. I hope you weren't too **boring** / **bored** waiting for me.
6. This book is very **interested** / **interesting**.

Match the words with the definitions.

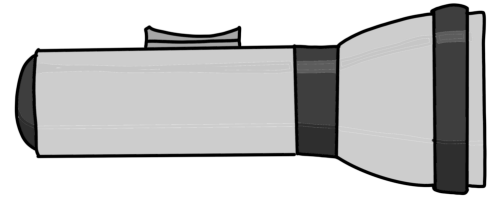
- | | |
|------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. stare | a. not from far away |
| 2. stem | b. different, unusual |
| 3. special | c. bit |
| 4. closely | d. to look for a long time |
| 5. spots | e. the thin part of a plant |
| 6. piece | f. round shapes of a different colour |



Thank you letters

Before you read

- Have you ever written a thank you letter?
- Why did you write it?
- Read the letters and match them with the gifts.



1. Dear Auntie Munyaradzi

Thank you very much for the present. It was really kind of you to send it. It will be very useful for when we have power cuts. I can use it when I lock up the chickens at night. It's great that it has rechargeable batteries too.

Love from Kufara

2. Dear Gogo

Thank you for sending us the lovely present. It was delicious! We all loved it. It's so kind of you to share what all your hard-working little flying friends have made. I hope none of them stung you!

With love from Jabula

3. Dear Uncle Ignatius

Thank you! You're very generous. I can't believe how lucky I am to have an uncle like you. This will make it much easier for me and my brother to get to school. (He can sit on the back.) Dad put air in the tyres, and we'll use it tomorrow!

Lots of love, Bandhile

4. Dear Tatenda

Thank you for the gift. It was nice of you to remember our conversation in your garden last month. I've chosen a good place to plant these next year. I'm looking forward to seeing their bright yellow faces turn towards the sun!

With best wishes from Mandla

Answer the questions

Match the people with the names.

Bandhile Mandla Ignatius Kufara Gogo

1. This person gave the biggest gift. _____
2. This person keeps bees. _____
3. This person has a brother. _____
4. This person likes flowers. _____
5. This person keeps chickens. _____



Complete the table with the names and gifts.

	Letter writer	Gift	Gift Giver
1	Kufara		
2		honey	
3	Bandhile		
4			Tatenda

Looking at words

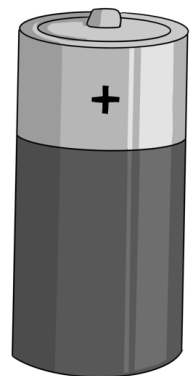
Choose the right word to complete the sentences.

generous easier hard-working bright useful lucky

1. It is very _____ of you to share your food with me.
2. He's wearing a _____ yellow shirt.
3. This bottle is _____ for keeping oil in.
4. She is a very _____ student. She always does her homework.
5. If we're _____, we will see a rainbow.
6. It is _____ for me to read now I have a pair of glasses.

Match the words with the definitions.

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| 1. look forward to | a. to fill with air |
| 2. conversation | b. a rubber tube around a wheel |
| 3. rechargeable | c. two or more people talking |
| 4. blow up | d. they store electricity |
| 5. tyre | e. to think about a good thing in the future |
| 6. batteries | f. you can fill it with electricity again and again |



Guess my job (1)

Before you read

How many different jobs can you think of?

Read what these people say about their jobs. Guess the jobs, and match them with the pictures



Zodwa: I have to work hard for my job. I'm usually outside for most of the day. I use my hands a lot, and I often feel tired by the evening. My favourite thing about my job is when I pick the things I grow. I like knowing that I grew my food from seeds.

Rejoice: I like my job because I meet a lot of people. I have to pay attention all the time I am working. I see a lot of different places. For me, the best thing about my job is when my passengers talk about themselves during the journey. It's interesting to hear about other people's lives.

Primrose: In my job, I spend a lot of time looking up at the bottom of cars! I enjoy my work a lot. It feels good to mend machines. It took me a long time to learn how to do my job, but I am glad I did. I get quite dirty at work, and at the end of the day I always have to change my clothes.

Anald: My job is tiring but I don't think there is a better job in the world. I like knowing that I can help to change the world, one child at a time. It can be a noisy and difficult job, but it's worth it. The best thing about this job is thinking about what my pupils can become in the future.



Answer the questions

Put the letters in the right order.

1. Zodwa works as a _____.
2. Rejoice is a _____.
3. Primrose has a job as a _____.
4. Anald works as a _____.

r e a m f r
x a i t r r i d e v
n h i a e m c c
e c t h r e a

Who is it?

1. Which two people talk about how their job makes them tired?
2. Which two people enjoy working with other people?
3. Which person talks about how long it took to learn their job?
4. Which person talks about having a dirty job?

Which words helped you guess each job?

passengers grow child machines
seed journey pupils cars

Example: 'child' goes with 'teacher, because teachers teach children.

Looking at words

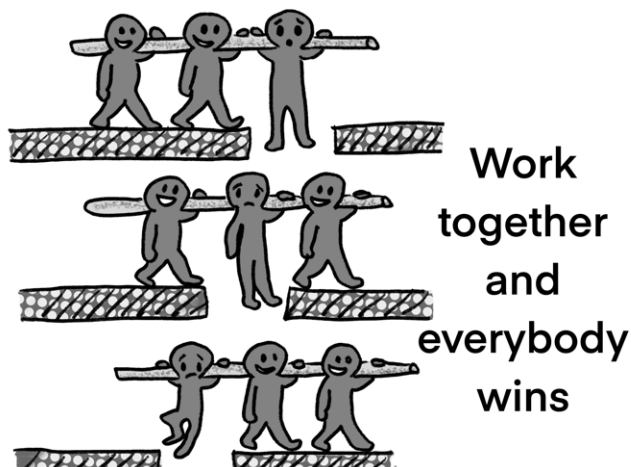
Choose the right word to complete the sentences.

future favourite worth glad takes pay

1. You have to _____ attention when you are driving a car.
2. It _____ a long time to learn to be a doctor.
3. This job is difficult but it is _____ it.
4. I'm planning what job to do in the _____.
5. My _____ thing about this job is the people I work with.
6. I'm _____ I chose this job.

Match the word with the opposite.

- | | |
|----------------|-----------|
| 1. mend | a. quiet |
| 2. better | b. clean |
| 3. interesting | c. easy |
| 4. dirty | d. break |
| 5. noisy | e. worse |
| 6. difficult | f. boring |



Writing

Imagine you have one of the jobs from this card. Write about what is good and bad about your job. Write about what you have to do.

Guess my job (2)

Before you read

What job would you like to do most? Why?

Read what these people say about their jobs. Guess the jobs, and match them with the pictures

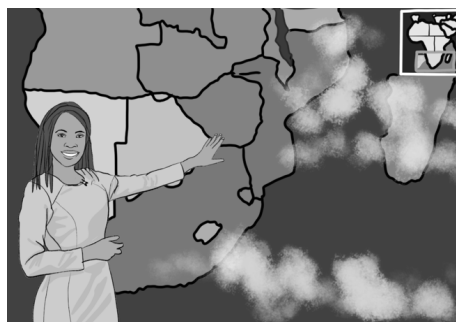


Erina: I have to go to the studio early in the morning. I usually spend an hour writing what I will say to the TV camera. There are a lot of facts and figures. I try to make the ideas easy to understand for the viewers. I'm sometimes nervous before filming starts. I like knowing that my job helps lots of people in their everyday lives.

Rutendo: I work in a group of six other women. In our workshop we only have five sewing machines, but there is often lots of other work to do as well. It's important to cut the cloth carefully, and not to make mistakes with the measurements. We use a lot of cotton cloth from local companies because our customers like traditional patterns. I like working with other people, and I like making things with my hands.

Charity: I'm proud of my job. I like working with patients and it makes me feel good to know that I can save lives. I studied for seven years at different colleges and hospitals, and I have to read books about my subject all the time, to keep up to date with the science.

Msipa: I enjoy my job because it makes a lot of people happy. I'm good with my hands and I have always enjoyed thinking up new recipes and finding the best ingredients to go into a dish. I didn't learn at college. Most of the things I know I learnt from my aunt, who has done this job all her life. My job is creative, but I don't make a lot of money.



Answer the questions

Put the letters in the right order.

1. Erina has a job as a _____. t h a r e w e r e t a e r o f c s
2. Rutendo is a _____. s s r e d k a m e r
3. Charity works as a _____. r o c o d t
4. Msipa has a job as a _____. o k o c

Who is it?

1. Which two people talk about working with numbers for their jobs?
2. Which two people talk about working with their hands?
3. Who talks about how long it took to learn their job?
4. Who learnt their job from a family member?
5. Which of these jobs would you prefer?

Which of these words helped you to guess the jobs?

Erina: hour early studio like camera lives filming

Rutendo: mistakes sewing machines measurements people cloth patterns

Charity: working date know patients hospitals time science

Msipa: learnt recipes thinking ingredients happy dish enjoyed

Looking at words

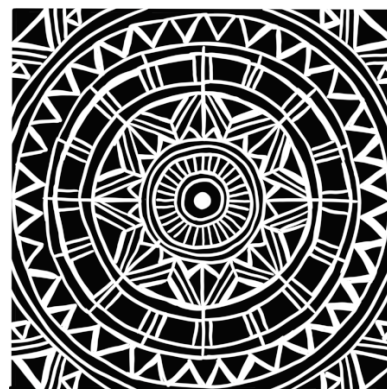
Put the words into the right boxes.

customers happy hospital nervous patients
proud viewers studio workshop

Places	Feelings	People
<i>hospital</i>		

Match the words to the definitions.

1. up to date a. a repeated design
2. ingredients b. a business
3. everyday c. foods that make a dish
4. creative d. happening every day
5. pattern e. modern, new
6. company f. making something new



Dividing the cake

Before you read

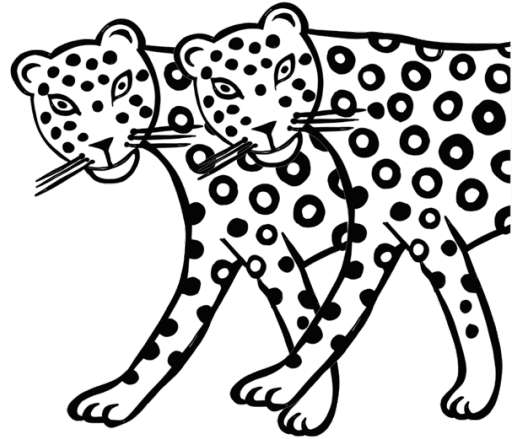
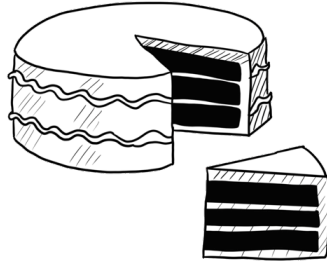
Match the words with the pictures.

a cake

a piece of cake

two cheetahs

a monkey



Two cheetahs found a cake one day. They loved cake. They both wanted to be sure they got exactly half. They were arguing about how to share it equally.

“How should we divide our cake?” asked one cheetah.

“I will cut it into two equal pieces,” said the other cheetah.

“No, I will cut it. Not you.” the first cheetah said. “You won’t divide it fairly.”

A clever monkey heard the cheetahs arguing. He also loved cake. He had a plan to get some of their cake. He walked up to the cheetahs and said, “Hello! I can help you. I can divide your cake. It will be exactly right!”

“Thank you, Monkey,” said the cheetahs. “That is kind of you.”

The monkey cut the cake in two. He looked at the two pieces.

“Ah, no, I made a mistake. This left piece is a little bigger than the right piece.” said the monkey. “I will make it equal for you.”

The monkey took a bite out of the piece of cake in his left hand. The cheetahs got ready to eat their pieces of cake, but the monkey shouted out.

“No, no, stop! I see I have made another mistake. Now the right piece is bigger than the left piece. It’s still not equal. I’ll make it equal again.”

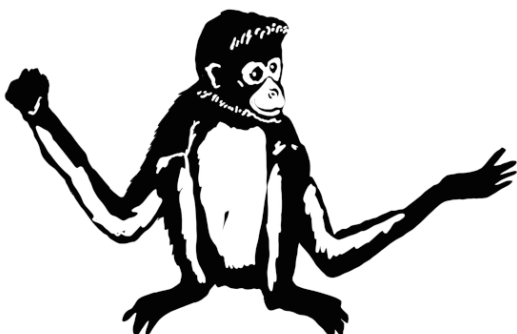
He took a big bite of the piece of cake in his right hand.

This continued until there were only two very small pieces of cake left.

“There you are.” said the monkey, giving the cheetahs their two tiny pieces of cake. “These two pieces are exactly the same size. Enjoy your cake!”

The monkey went away very happy. He brushed the cake crumbs off himself.

What happened to the cheetahs? They are still arguing now about who had the bigger piece of cake.



Answer the questions

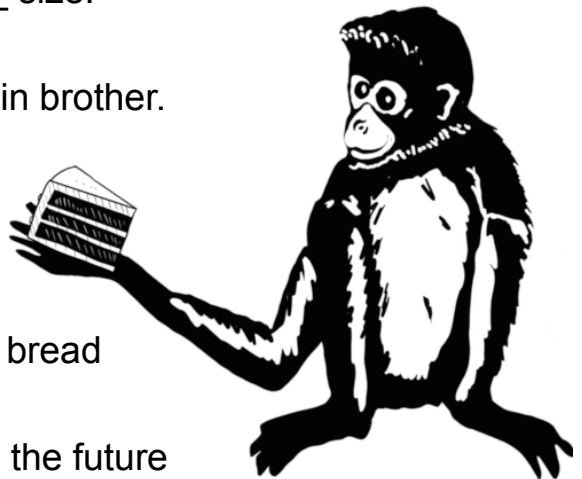
1. What kind of story is this?
a. a true story b. a story with an important message c. a funny story
2. What did the cheetahs find?
3. Why were they arguing?
4. Who offered to help them?
5. Why did the monkey stop the cheetahs from eating?
6. Who ate most of the cake?
7. What are the cheetahs doing now?

Looking at words

Choose the right word to complete the sentences.

exactly left little same half equal equally

1. I want to divide this bread _____.
2. If I cut here, I will have two _____ pieces.
3. These pieces are exactly the _____ size.
4. Please divide this cake in _____.
5. I am _____ the same age as my twin brother.
6. My sister is a _____ taller than me.
7. There isn't much cake _____.

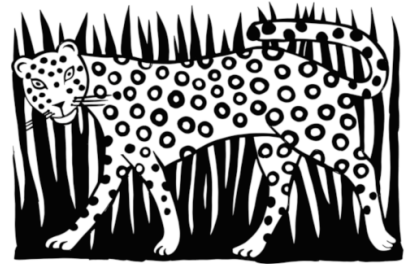
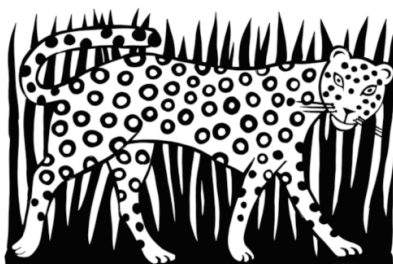


Match the words with the definitions.

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 1. argue | a. a small piece of cake or bread |
| 2. brush | b. to carry on |
| 3. crumb | c. an idea for what to do in the future |
| 4. continue | d. very small |
| 5. sure | e. to fight with words |
| 6. tiny | f. to sweep with your hand or with a brush |
| 7. plan | g. certain |

Writing

Write the story again in your own words. Write about 100 – 150 words.

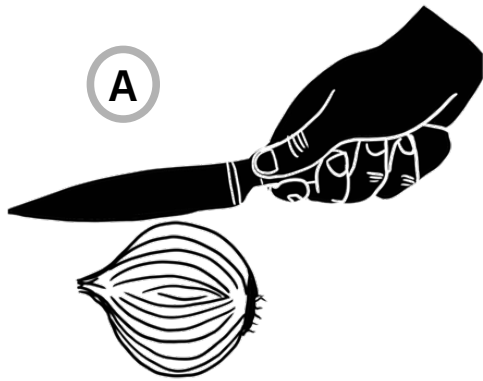


What have you been doing?

Before you read

Match the pictures to the words.

argue chop onions cook soup play football wash your hands



One day a boy called Talent walked back home. When he arrived he looked hot and sweaty. His clothes were dirty and his left knee was bleeding a little.

"What have you been doing?" asked Talent's mother. "How did you hurt your knee? Have you been fighting at school?"

"No, mum. I haven't been fighting. I fell over," replied Talent. "I've been playing football with my friends. We've been having fun. What's that amazing smell?"

"It's onion soup. I've been cooking today, with your sister," her mother said. "Now go and wash the blood off your knee, please, and call Joyce to eat."

Talent went outside to wash and he saw his sister Joyce. She was sitting near the wash bowl. She was crying.

"Why are you crying? What's happened? Have you been arguing with your friends?" asked Talent.

"No, I haven't. I'm fine," Joyce replied with a laugh. "I've been chopping onions. We made onion soup! And we've got bread to go with it. Let's eat it!"

Answer the questions

- Where did this story happen?
 - at Talent's home
 - at Talent's school
 - in a football field
- What game has Talent been playing?
 - netball
 - football
 - cricket
- How did Talent hurt his knee?
 - He had a fight.
 - A dog bit him.
 - He fell over.
- What do Talent's family eat tonight?
 - chopped onions
 - onion soup
 - sadza

Match the questions with the answers.

- Has Talent been fighting at school?
 - What were Talent's clothes like?
 - What has Talent been doing?
 - What have his mum and sister been doing?
 - Has Joyce been arguing with her friends?
 - Why was Joyce crying?
- They were dirty.
 - No, he hasn't.
 - No, she hasn't
 - They've been cooking.
 - She's been chopping onions.
 - He's been playing football.

Looking at words

Choose the right word to complete the sentences.

amazing dirty blood laugh sweaty knee bleeding

- My finger is _____ because I cut it when I was cutting onions.
- Please wash your hands. They are _____.
- Mmm! This soup tastes _____.
- My friend's jokes make me _____.
- I fell over and hit my _____.
- It was hot, and I felt _____ after football.



Match the broken sentences.

- The children had...
 - Grace hurt...
 - Two dogs were...
 - My brother and I sometimes argue...
 - I usually walk...
 - Grandma has been cooking...
- home with friends.
 - with each other.
 - dinner for us today.
 - herself when she fell over.
 - fighting in the street.
 - fun in the lesson.

Write a summary of the story in 50 to 100 words.

Three different homes

Before you read

- What is the building you are in made of?
Wood? Bricks? Something else?
- What do you need to build huts or houses?
- How long does it take to build a hut or house?



Once there was an old man who had three adult children. One day he called his children to him and said to them, “I would like to see all of you in your own homes. Please make a home, and I will come to see you there in one year’s time.”

The next day the older daughter was very busy. She chopped down lots of trees and cleared an area to build on. She built lots of huts and a good strong fence all around the huts.

The son also worked very hard. He spent a lot of money building a big stone house. His house had many rooms and it cost a lot to make. After a year, he looked at his house and he was pleased with himself.

The younger daughter had different ideas. She built a small hut made of wood, mud and straw in a village. She spent a lot of time getting to know the other villagers. She always had time to help other people.

After the year was over, the father visited his older daughter’s home. ‘Who lives in this beautiful place?’ the father asked. “Only me,” replied his older daughter.

At his son’s home he asked again, ‘Who lives in this beautiful stone house?’

“Only me,” replied his son. “It is all mine.”

At the younger daughter’s little hut, the father asked, “Who lives in this little hut?” The daughter welcomed the old man to her home with food and drink. The hut was full of people, and there were people outside it too. The daughter introduced her father to all her friends in the village. Everyone in the village was happy to see the father of the woman who was so helpful.


“I see my younger daughter is my wisest child,” said the father. “A home is not the stones or walls or roof where you live. A home is the people you live with.”

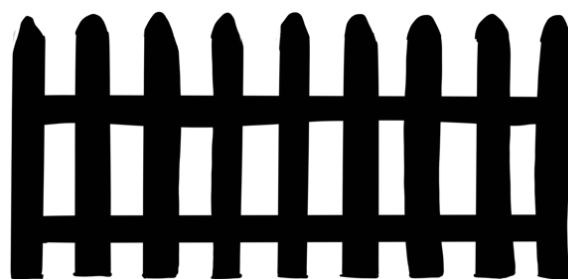
Answer the questions

1. What is this?
a) a true story b) facts about building houses c) a traditional story
2. What does the father tell his children to do?
3. What does the oldest child build?
4. How does the second child build his house?
5. What is different about the youngest child's home?
6. Who has the best home?
7. What is the message of this story? Do you agree with it?

Looking at words

Match the words with the definitions.

- | | |
|------------|--|
| 1. mud | a)  |
| 2. wise | b) water and earth |
| 3. straw | c) clever, intelligent |
| 4. helpful | d) working hard |
| 5. fence | e) happy to help |
| 6. busy | f) dried grass |



Choose a word to complete the sentences.

spend clear chop welcome introduce know

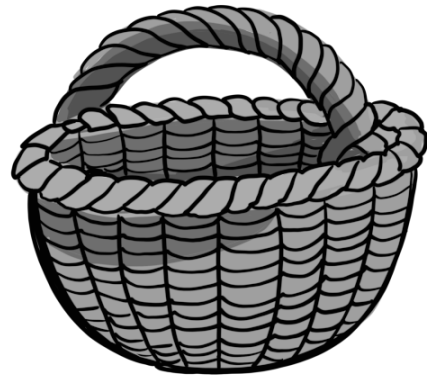
1. I'm happy you are here. _____ to our home.
2. I want to _____ you to my grandmother.
3. How much time do you usually _____ on your homework?
4. This tree is dead. We have to _____ it down.
5. Before we can start, we need to _____ an area to work in.
6. I would like to get to _____ your brother. He seems nice.



A basket of eggs

Before you read

- What do you know about keeping chickens?
- How many words connected with chickens can you think of?



Hlengiwe and her brothers visited her aunt and uncle's house in a nearby village. The aunt and uncle owned a small chicken farm. At the end of the visit, Hlengiwe's aunt gave them some eggs to take home. Hlengiwe's aunt put the eggs in a cardboard box and then placed them carefully in a basket. The children thanked their aunt and they set off back home.

On the way back, they talked about the gift. Dumisani, Hlengiwe's little brother counted the eggs. "Great! I like eggs. We can all have eggs for dinner when we get home.

"No, Dumisani," said Hlengiwe. "We aren't going to eat them. These eggs are going to hatch into chicks. Then they'll grow into pullets. The pullets will become hens and cockerels and they will give our family eggs for the whole year."

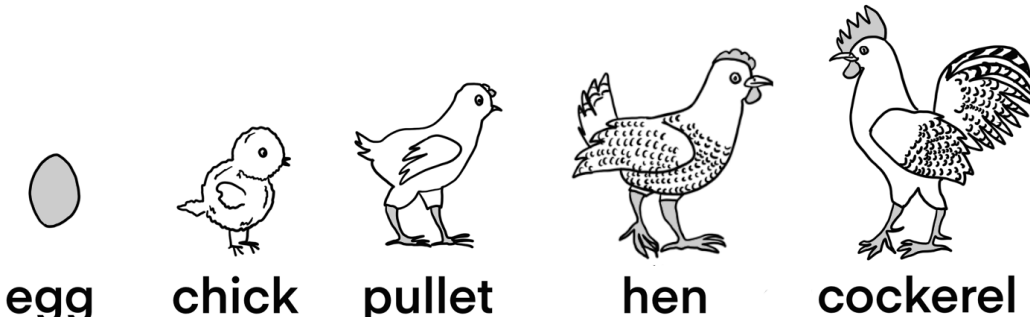
"Yes," said Hlengiwe's big brother, Themba. "And I will sell our eggs in the market and I can buy a new bicycle."

"That's right" said Hlengiwe. "We'll make lots of money and then we can start our own chicken farm."

"We will build a new bigger house for us all to live in, with the money from the chicken farm," said Themba, feeling excited.

Just then, Hlengwe tripped on a stone on the road. She fell over and the basket fell to the ground. She wasn't hurt, but all of the eggs were cracked. Dumisani looked down at the box of eggs with cracked shells.

"Never mind," he said. "I like eggs. We can all have eggs for dinner when we get home. And then perhaps our aunt will give us some more eggs."



egg

chick

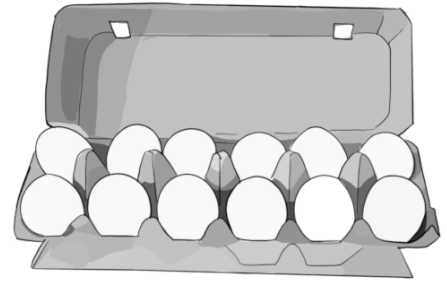
pullet

hen

cockerel

Answer the questions

1. What is in Hlengiwe's basket?
2. These are the children's plans in the story. Put them in the right order.
 - a) They start a chicken farm
 - b) The chicks become chickens.
 - c) Themba sells eggs at the market.
 - d) They build a bigger house.
 - e) The eggs become chicks.
3. What happens to stop their plans?
4. Why is Dumisani still happy at the end of the story?
5. What is the message of this story? Choose the sentences you agree with.
 - a) Be careful where you are walking.
 - b) You can't control the future.
 - c) Be happy with what you have today.
 - d) Children shouldn't carry eggs.



Looking at words

Choose a word to complete the sentences.

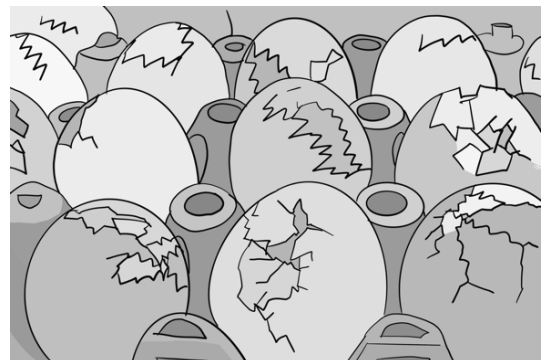
own trip hatch crack count

1. The path has rocks on it, so don't _____ over them.
2. Chicken eggs take 21 days to _____.
3. My family don't _____ any chickens.
4. How many eggs are there? Can you _____ them?
5. If you drop the egg, it will break, or the shell will _____.



Match the words with the definitions.

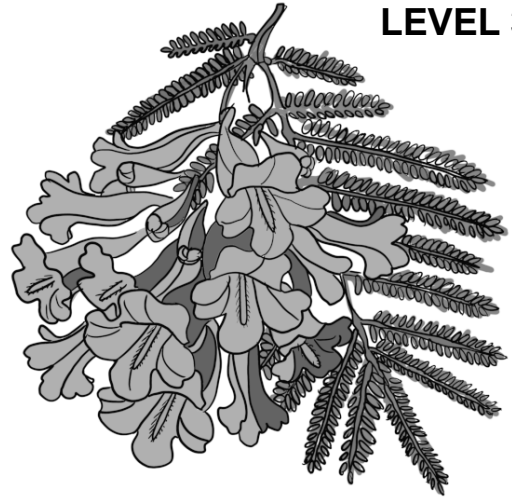
- | | |
|--------------|----------------------------|
| 1. basket | a) thick paper for boxes |
| 2. shell | b) you use it carry things |
| 3. pullet | c) a male chicken |
| 4. cockerel | d) the outside of an egg |
| 5. cardboard | e) a young chicken |



Harare in spring

Before you read

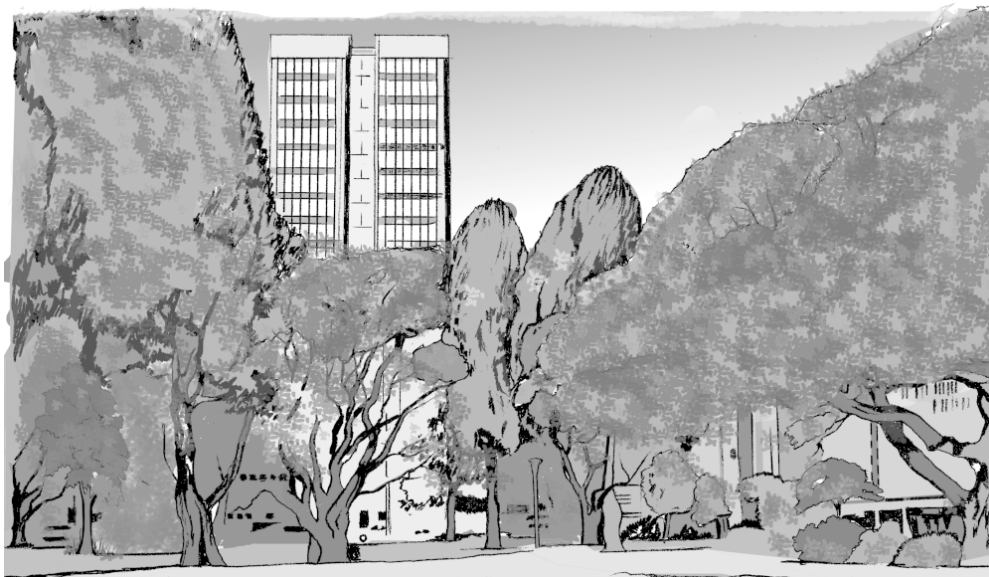
- What is your favourite season, and why?
- Have you ever visited Harare?
- Have you seen the flowers of a jacaranda tree?



My favourite uncle is my Uncle Ariko. He lives in Harare and he works as a gardener. For his job he looks after the garden of a big hotel. He makes the gardens beautiful for the guests of the hotel. When we visit him in Harare, he sometimes shows us the gardens. They are very green.

We often visit my uncle in October and November. This is a good time of year to see the city. For me, this is the best season because it is the start of spring. Everything is starting to grow again after the cooler months. The weather is not too hot or too cold. For my uncle, this is one of his busiest times. He plants seeds and digs holes to put plants into the ground. He has to give the plants and growing seeds water.

In Harare in the spring, the trees change colour quickly. I like the beautiful jacaranda trees in the streets. They are everywhere! They are in parks, hotels and along lots of streets. The flowers fall to the ground. I like walking along, looking at the flowers under my feet. It's like someone painted the city blue and purple. I think the jacaranda tree is my favourite tree. My uncle says the seeds of the tree came from South America, but for me, the jacaranda is a symbol of Harare.



Jacaranda trees in Harare

Answer the questions

1. What is the first paragraph about?
a) facts about Harare b) an uncle's job c) hotels in Harare
2. What is the second paragraph about?
a) all the seasons b) the autumn c) the spring
3. What is the third paragraph about?
a) beautiful trees b) painting flowers c) South American plants
4. What is Uncle Ariko's job?
5. Where does he live?
6. What does he have to do for his job?
7. What is the writer's favourite season?
8. Why is Ariko busy in spring?
9. What can you see under your feet in spring on some Harare streets?
10. Where do jacaranda trees come from?

Looking at words

1. What are the names of the 12 months? Write the missing words.

January	_____	March	_____
May	_____	July	August
_____	_____	November	_____

2. What are the names of the seasons? Put the letters in the right order to make the words.

_____ g r i s p n	_____ m u s r m e
_____ n a y i r	_____ r i w t n e

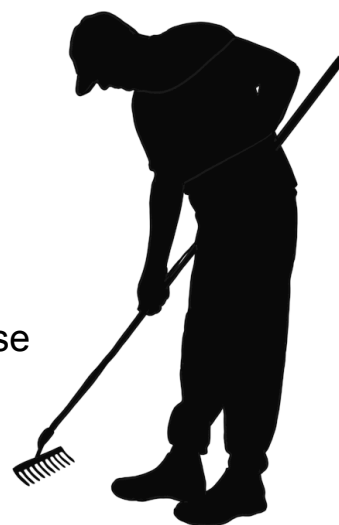
Match the words with the definitions

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| 1. park | a) to care for |
| 2. hotel | b) all plants come from these |
| 3. guest | c) to make a hole in the ground |
| 4. seeds | d) a place where travellers can sleep |
| 5. to dig | e) someone who stays at a hotel or a house |
| 6. to look after | f) a big garden in a city |

Writing

Write your own story. Choose one of these subjects, or write about all three.

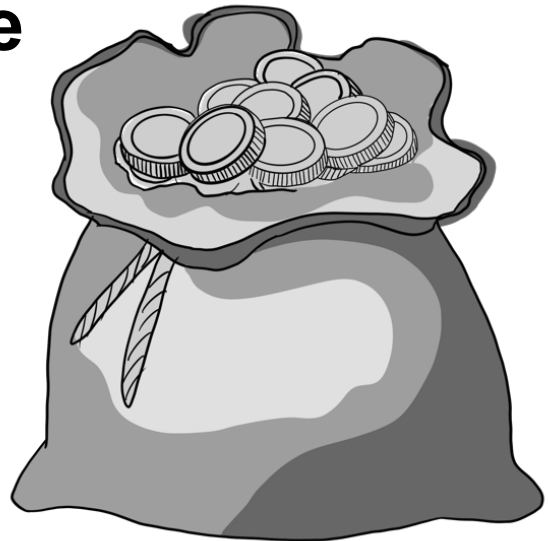
1. A favourite aunt or uncle
2. A favourite month or season
3. A favourite tree or flower



The rich man's purse

Before you read

- What do you keep in a **purse**?
- What is the difference between a **note** and a **coin**?
- Why do people give a **reward**?
- What does a **judge** do?



One day a rich man was walking in the market. He lost his purse with 100 gold coins in it.

He shouted out to the crowd, "I have lost my purse. There will be a reward for anyone who finds it."

Soon an old woman called out, "I've found it! I have your purse here. Can I have the reward please? Then I can buy some maize to eat."

Unfortunately, the rich man was greedy and didn't want to give the old woman a reward. He took the purse and opened it, in front of the crowd. He counted out the money.

"Ah," he said, loudly. "There were 200 gold coins inside this purse and now there are only 100. I won't give you anything at all. You have already taken your reward."

The old woman was angry and confused. She had seen the rich man drop his purse. She knew she had taken nothing from it.

A wise woman was sitting nearby. She had seen what happened and heard the rich man's lying words.

"I shall be the judge," said the wise woman.

The crowd agreed. "Yes, you must be the judge," they shouted.

"You say your purse had 200 gold coins in it. This purse has only 100 coins in it. It is easy. This is not your purse."

The crowd agreed with the wise woman. The rich man couldn't argue with a big crowd. The wise woman took the purse from the greedy man gave it back to the old woman. The rich man had to leave with nothing.

Answer the questions

1. What kind of story is this?
a) a joke b) a traditional story with a message c) a true story
2. Where did the rich man lose his purse?
3. How did he try to get it back?
4. What did the old woman want to buy with the reward?
5. How did she feel when the rich man will not pay her?
6. What did the rich man he tell the crowd?
7. How do you think the rich man felt about the wise woman's decision?

Looking at words

Choose the right word to complete the sentences.

judge crowd purse reward greedy confused

1. If you find my phone, I will pay a \$5 _____.
2. There was a _____ of people waiting outside the shop.
3. Share the food with everyone. Don't be _____ and eat all of it yourself!
4. I still don't understand this question. I feel _____.
5. You can be the _____, and decide what is right and what is wrong.
6. How much money do you have in your _____?

Match the words to the definitions.

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 1. lying | a. money made of metal |
| 2. coin | b. an open space where you can buy things |
| 3. count | c. clever and knowing things |
| 4. wise | d. not telling the truth |
| 5. rich | e. to add up, to find out the total number |
| 6. market | f. not poor |

Write a summary of the story in 100 – 150 words

