

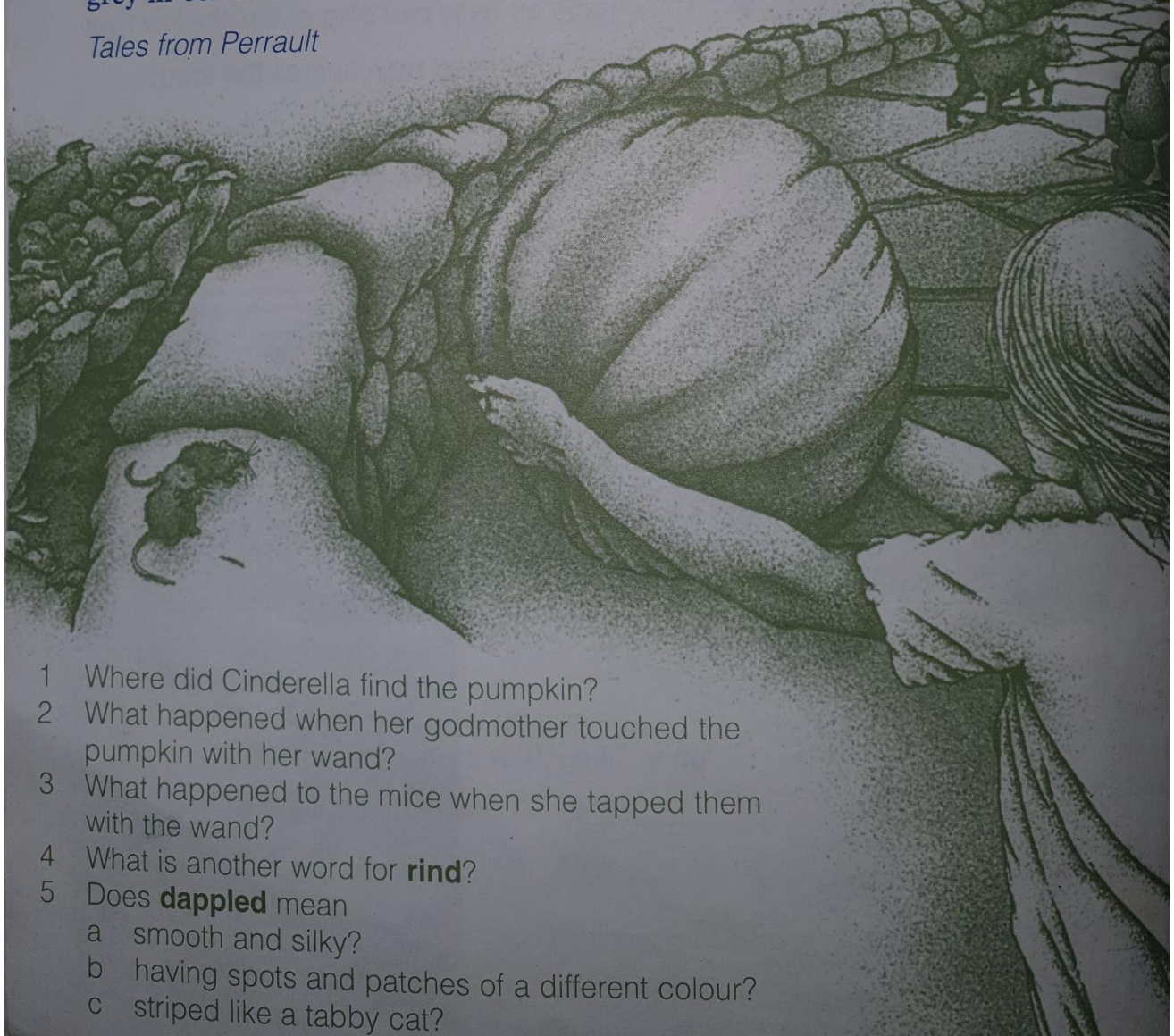
Cinderella

Cinderella ran to the garden and brought her godmother the finest pumpkin she could find, wondering how this would help her to go to the ball.

The godmother scooped out the inside of the pumpkin, leaving nothing but the rind. Then she touched it with her magic wand, and the pumpkin was changed in a moment into a fine coach, all shining with gold.

After that she went to look into the mouse-trap, where she found six mice, all alive. She told Cinderella to lift the trap-door up a little, and as each mouse came out she gave it a tap with her wand. At once it was changed into a beautiful horse. This made a very fine team of six horses, all dappled grey in colour.

Tales from Perrault



- 1 Where did Cinderella find the pumpkin?
- 2 What happened when her godmother touched the pumpkin with her wand?
- 3 What happened to the mice when she tapped them with the wand?
- 4 What is another word for **rind**?
- 5 Does **dappled** mean
 - a smooth and silky?
 - b having spots and patches of a different colour?
 - c striped like a tabby cat?

Raman meets the rocking-horse

Raman asked his mother after school if he could go home and play with Jock. She said, "Yes," and she would come and fetch him at half-past five. She wore a long, flowing sari, and Jock thought she was very beautiful.

"She's an Indian princess," he thought. "I'll ride to her rescue if she's in danger."

When they reached Jock's house, Jock took Raman into the basement room, and went up to the horse and patted his neck.

"What's he called?" asked Raman, gazing at the horse with admiration.

"I don't know yet," answered Jock and added quickly: "At least I do, but his name's a secret. He only allows *me* to call him by it."

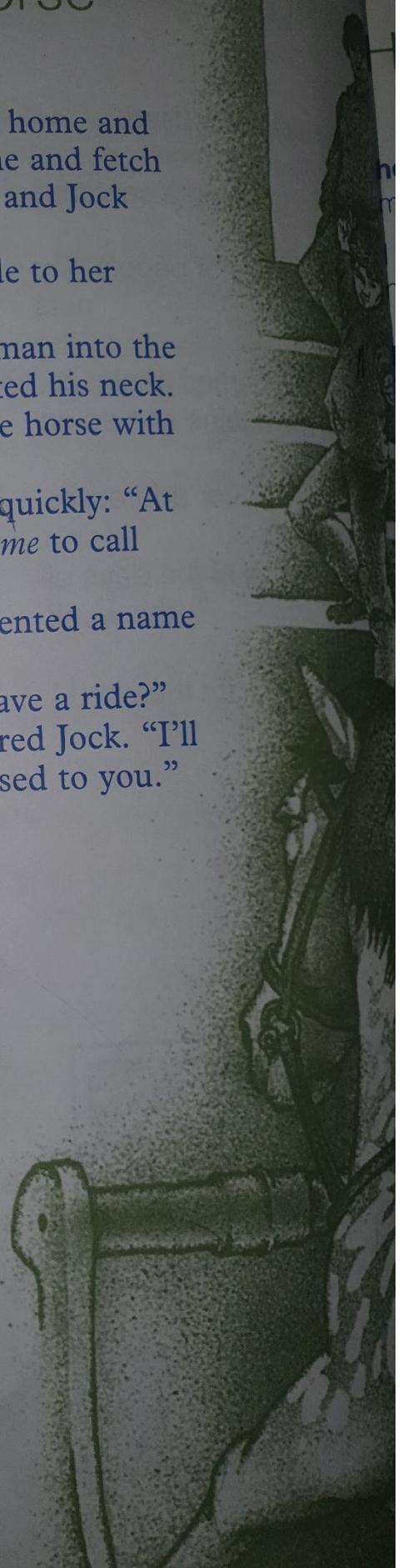
This was not quite true, as Jock hadn't yet invented a name for him, but he knew that he would sometime.

"He's wonderful," breathed Raman. "Can I have a ride?"

"Well, he doesn't like strangers much," answered Jock. "I'll ride him first so that he can look at you and get used to you."

The Rocking-Horse Rosemary Manning

- 1 At what time of day did Raman go to play with Jock?
- 2 What is a **sari**?
- 3 What is the difference between **gazing** and **looking**?
- 4 Why did Jock think of Raman's mother as a princess?
- 5 In what part of the house was the rocking-horse kept?
- 6 What reason did Jock give Raman for not telling him the horse's name?
- 7 What was Jock's real reason for not telling him?
- 8 What reason did Jock give Raman for having the first ride himself?



I. Read very carefully through the following passage, and then answer the questions.

The Battle of Hastings

At the Battle of Hastings the English, who were led by Harold, had taken up the best position at the top of Senlac Hill. The Norman soldiers tried repeatedly to dislodge them, but the English had driven wooden stakes into the ground and, from the shelter of these, they were able to force their enemies back down the hill time and time again.

William the Norman, whom we now call William the Conqueror, decided he would try to win the battle by other means. He ordered his archers to shoot their arrows high into the air so that they would fall on to the heads of the English. In time, many defenders were killed in this way.

The greatest disaster came when an arrow pierced the eye of the English king himself. Harold fell to the ground and his soldiers, seeing their leader slain, fled from the hill in confusion. So died Harold, The Last of the English Kings.

1. Who were the two leaders in this battle?
2. What other names are given to these two leaders?
3. Where did the battle take place: (a) on the banks of a river; (b) on the slopes of a hill; (c) around the walls of a castle?
4. Why was it difficult for the Normans to drive out the English?
5. What plan did the Normans use in an effort to gain the victory?
6. Why had the shooting of arrows in the usual way proved to be a failure?
7. What was **the greatest disaster**?
8. What words or phrases in the story mean (a) drive them out; (b) stuck into; (c) in fear and disorder?

9. Why did the Normans not use their cannon: (a) because they had left them behind in Normandy; (b) because the English had captured them; (c) because gunpowder and cannon had not been invented at that time?
10. Why did the English finally run away?
11. Were the defenders (a) the Normans, led by William; (b) the people who were looking on; (c) the English, led by Harold?

II. When we wish to say that something is **red**, we may say **as red as blood**.

Choose the correct answers from these:

1. As black as (a) a mole; (b) a hole; (c) coal.
2. As brown as (a) a lorry; (b) a berry; (c) a beret.
3. As green as (a) grass; (b) paint; (c) a carpet.
4. As blue as (a) a butterfly; (b) the sky; (c) a gate.

III. Here are two words, **rock** and **garden**. From these we can make the word **rock-garden**.

Make four new compound words from the following:

spinning	tea	lace	alarm
shoe	fire	wheel	spoon

IV. A number of **chicks** together is called a **brood**. What words could be used for:

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. A number of herring | 3. A number of buffaloes |
| 2. A number of bees | 4. A number of birds |

V. Rewrite these sentences so that they mean **more than one**.

Example: The **tree** grew tall. The **trees** grew tall.

1. The day and night seemed long.
2. The berry lay near the leaf.
3. The bird sat on the chimney.
4. The monkey bit the lady.
5. The watch lay in the gutter.

The Village Shop

Our village shop sold an astonishing number of things. You could buy almost anything you wanted there from bootlaces to bull's-eyes, from tea-cosies to corn-cure. If the articles wanted didn't happen to be in stock, without hesitation Miss Murchison would say "I can get it for you". We often wondered if she would say this if we asked for an elephant, or Captain Silver's parrot. We were too scared to put this to the test.

On one occasion Jim Judd, because of the slow way in which the shop was run, fastened a tortoise to the front door as a hint to the proprietor. But Miss Murchison took not the slightest notice of this, and carried on as usual, moving in her careful manner from one customer to another, enquiring about each one's illness, or how the children were getting on at school.

1. Write down the sentences that are **true**: (a) The shop sold articles of one kind only. (b) The shop was situated in a large town. (c) Miss Murchison rushed madly from one part of the shop to another. (d) It was almost certain that the shop had what you wanted. (e) Within the shop it was peaceful.
2. Write down the names of the four things mentioned as being in stock.
3. What were the two unusual things for which we thought of asking?
4. What did Miss Murchison say if an article was out of stock?
5. How did Jim Judd show that he was not satisfied?
6. What effect did this have on Miss Murchison?
7. In what two things was Miss Murchison interested when she spoke to customers?

8. Divide the words below into two lists: (a) those that describe Jim Judd, and (b) those that describe Miss Murchison: calm, playful, impatient, restless, quiet, kindly, comical, tender-hearted, placid, humorous.

II. A **splinter** is a very small piece of wood. Here are some other small amounts:

scrap drop pinch speck

Choose the correct ones to use with these words:

salt dirt rain paper

III. Below are pairs of sentences. Join each pair by using one of the following words: **which, who, when, where**. You may have to rearrange the words in some cases.

1. John will go to Brighton. He will meet his friend.
2. Everyone has heard of Wellington. He was the hero of Waterloo.
3. He had begun shouting. The police came in.
4. St. Paul's Cathedral is in London. It was built by Wren.

IV. Complete the words below by adding **ery** or **ary**, whichever is correct:

1. John went to read the books in the **libr**----
2. The ball was lost in the **shrubb**----
3. The funeral went on its way to the **cemet**----
4. On the edge of the moor stood a **solit**---- cottage.

V. Below is a story. The words in heavy type show that it is taking place **now**. Change these words so that the story happened **in the past**.

The coach **draws** up at the inn, and the only passenger **dis-**
mounts. He **gives** his coat a shake, and then **passes** into the
dining-room, where a fire **burns** in the grate, and hot coffee **awaits**
him. The coach **goes** on its way, and the innkeeper **stares** after it.

I. Read very carefully through the following passage, and then answer the questions.

On Treasure Island

Next morning the work of getting the treasure aboard began. I was kept busy packing the money into canvas bags. It took us three days, but at last the bars and coins were safely stowed away in the cabin.

We had seen nothing of the three pirates all this time, but we heard them singing and shouting as if they were drunk, or mad. A meeting was held, and it was decided that we must leave them on the island. We landed a good stock of powder and shot, tools, clothing, a sail, medicines, some rope, and a case of tobacco. Then we weighed anchor, and stood off the island. The three must have been watching us, for as we rounded the point we saw them kneeling on the sand with their arms raised, as if asking for mercy.

R. L. Stevenson

1. Read through these sentences, and then write down those that are **true**: (a) The treasure was being put into a cave. (b) It was being taken aboard ship. (c) It was being stowed away in a bank. (d) There were many jewelled swords and daggers. (e) There were many pearls and ornaments. (f) There were thousands of coins, and gold and silver bars.
2. How can we tell that there was a great deal of treasure?
3. At the meeting, what did they decide to do with the pirates?
4. What did they leave behind on the island (a) for the pirates' health; (b) for hunting; (c) for smoking?
5. The ship **weighed anchor**. Does this mean: (a) The sailors found the weight of the anchor. (b) They cut the anchor-rope, and let the ship drift. (c) The anchor was hauled up and taken aboard?

6. Why did the sailors think the pirates were asking for mercy?
7. The treasure was (a) stored in bags made of canvas; (b) carried in leather wallets; (c) packed away in wooden cases. Which?

II. Now and **cow** are rhyming words. They have the same sound. Write these twelve words in pairs, so that they rhyme.

tier	sage	thyme	gnu	role	gauge
flung	goal	pier	climb	flew	tongue

III. Look at this word—**near**. Now look at the three words inside the bracket—(close, distant, far). The word nearest in meaning to **near** is **close**, so we choose that.

Now do the same with these, choosing **one word** each time:

1. **purchase** (steal, buy, hide)
2. **valley** (glen, roadway, garden)
3. **ate** (refused, consumed, wasted)
4. **plump** (angry, fat, noisy)

IV. Choose, from the words in brackets, the most suitable word to finish the line of poetry:

Two little blackbirds singing in the (**hedge, morn, sun**)
 One flew away and then there was one;
 One little blackbird, very black and (**shy, tall, brave**)
 He flew away and then there was the wall.
 One little brick wall lonely in the (**field, garden, rain**)
 Waiting for the blackbirds to come and sing again.

V. Look at the word **FIRE**. It need not be a **coal** fire or an **oil** fire, and it need not be **large** or **small**. But there must be **heat**.

Choose one word from those in the brackets that **always** has to do with the word before the bracket:

1. **husband** (house, wife, motor-car)
2. **house** (fire-place, door, cellar)
3. **tree** (nest, roots, conkers)
4. **boot** (laces, sole, buttons)

Nouns & Adjectives

Copy out the following passage. Underline the **11** nouns and then circle the adjectives which are used to describe them.

Heavy seas were breaking over the stone jetty. The battered ship limped through the narrow entrance to the inner harbour. Her captain was exhausted. The brave man had been standing on the open bridge for many hours, steering the stricken ship to a safe mooring.

Write these sentences. Choose adjectives of your own to fill the spaces.

The _____ sunlight filtered through the _____ branches of the _____ trees. Two _____ deer peered from the _____ shade beneath a _____ chestnut tree. The larger, a _____ buck, took a _____ step forward. He paused, listening to the _____ sound of a _____ dog. The second deer gave him a _____ push and they both stepped out into the _____ light of the _____ clearing.

Adjectives Work: How do you feel?

Cartoons By Gareth Pitchford © 1998

Write down words to describe how each of these people feel.



COMMON NOUNS

Common nouns are the names of objects and things that appear every day. They do not have capital letters. Examples include desks, pencils and pens. There are lots of them and they are not special.

Write out these sentences, and underline all the COMMON NOUNS.

1. We started back to school this week after Christmas.
2. Everyone in my family ate too much during the holiday.
3. I got lots of presents from Santa.
4. There was no snow this Christmas.
5. Many of my favourite films were on television.
6. I spent far too much money in the January sales.
7. I bought clothes, CDs and DVDs with my Christmas money.
8. I went to the cinema with my friends on New Year's Eve.
9. I bought popcorn and coke and we saw Narnia.
10. I can't wait until my next holiday at half-term.



Adjectives

See if you can improve these sentences by adding an adjective before the noun in the sentence. The star says where an adjective should be. Two stars means two adjectives.

The Alien from Zarg

The * alien got down from his * spaceship eagerly. The * alien looked around but could not see anything. The ship had created a * dust cloud on the ground as it landed and this was now making visibility difficult. Slowly the * dust settled and he began to see where he was. Hundreds of * * trees appeared slowly and it soon became clear he was near a * forest. As he was green too he felt at home.

He began to walk through the * trees and smell the * * air. He felt glad to be alive. Surely this the most * planet he had ever visited. After a few minutes he came to a * * lake where he looked at his * reflection in the * water. He had never seen himself before. He jumped back, frightened.

"Who was this stranger?" he thought to himself. He felt some of the * water in his hand. It felt strange to the touch. This was nothing like he was used to back home on planet Zarg.

Notice how the use of adjectives in this story changes it.

Possible adjectives you might use: *green, bright, sparkling, ugly, huge, brown, tall, massive, beautiful, clean, fresh, crystal clear, strange, cold.*

Articles - add « a » or « an »



___ worm



___ fly



___ ladybird



___ accountant



___ artist



___ butcher



___ tart



___ yogurt



___ cake



___ lemon



___ astronaut



___ fish



___ omelette



___ turkey



___ avocado



___ cabbage

Articles - add « a » or « an »



___ bed



___ bat



___ bird



___ ambulance



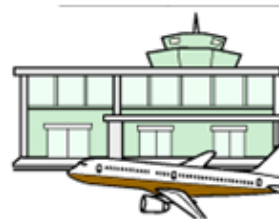
___ aeroplanne



___ alarm clock



___ arm



___ airport



___ umbrella



___ chair



___ eye



___ cushion



___ ant



___ elephant



___ grasshopper



___ armchair