

# Learning and Teaching Materials on Promoting Positive Values and Attitudes through English Sayings of Wisdom (SOW) at Primary Level











# Learning and Teaching Resources on Promoting Positive Values and Attitudes through English Sayings of Wisdom (SOW) at Primary Level

"Promoting Positive Values and Attitudes through English Sayings of Wisdom" is a cross-curricular campaign that connects English Language education with values education. Sayings of wisdom (SOW), which include proverbs, quotes, maxims and adages, usually provoke thinking, share insights and experience, and explore meaning in life. In this connection, four sets of learning and teaching materials, each of which centring around an inspirational English saying of wisdom, are developed to support the campaign.

#### **Aims**

Exposing students to narrative texts enhances their literacy skills and helps promote positive values and attitudes. The captioned learning and teaching materials aim to support English Language teachers in

- promoting positive values and attitudes through English sayings of wisdom (SOW) in line with the themes of My Pledge to Act (MPA), i.e. cherish what we have, be grateful, be proactive and be optimistic;
- promoting reading of inspirational texts and developing students' writing skills; and
- developing students' multimodal literacy, which is one of the key emphases of the English Language Education Key Learning Area Curriculum Guide (Primary 1 – Secondary 6) (CDC, 2017).

#### Content

Among the four sets of learning and teaching materials, which are based on a selected SOW respectively, two of them are designed for use at Key Stages 1 and 2 and the other two at Key Stage 2. Each set of materials comprises an inspirational text adapted from a fable and suggested reading and writing activities with teaching steps to illustrate the meaning and use of the SOW, cultivate positive values and attitudes, introduce different elements of a story and analyse the personality of the characters. The writing task (i.e. creating a 4-panel comic strip or writing a story with a moral) provides opportunities for students to further explore and reflect on the SOW introduced in the learning and teaching materials / the appendix.

To enrich students' knowledge of SOW, promote self-directed learning and multimodal literacy, a list of 20 selected SOW under the moral themes "SOW a grateful heart", "Cherish what we have", "SOW a proactive attitude" and "SOW an optimistic mind" is provided in the Appendix of each set of the materials.

# <u>Learning Task 1 – The Crow and the Pitcher (KS1/KS2)</u>

Students learn the SOW "Where there's a will, there's a way." and understand the positive values and attitudes behind (e.g. be optimistic) through reading an adapted fable "The Crow and the Pitcher". In the writing task, students are asked to write a 4-panel comic strip to convey one of the moral themes and one of the related SOW in the appendix.

# <u>Learning Task 2 – The Dog and the Reflection (KS1/KS2)</u>

Students learn the SOW "A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush." and understand the positive values and attitudes behind (e.g. cherish what we have) through reading an adapted fable "The Dog and the Reflection". In the writing task, students are asked to write a 4-panel comic strip to convey one of the moral themes and one of the related SOW in the appendix.

# **Learning Task 3 – The Farmer, His Son, and the Pigeons (KS2)**

Students learn the SOW "A stitch in time saves nine." and understand the positive values and attitudes behind (e.g. be proactive) through reading an adapted fable "The Farmer, His Son, and the Pigeons". In the writing task, students are asked to write a story to convey one of the moral themes and one of the related SOW in the appendix.

# <u>Learning Task 4 – The Lion and the Mouse (KS2)</u>

Students learn the SOW "One good turn deserves another." and understand the positive values and attitudes behind (e.g. be grateful) through reading an adapted fable "The Lion and the Mouse". In the writing task, students are asked to write a story to convey one of the moral themes and one of the related SOW in the appendix.

#### How can the resources be used?

The resources consist of learning tasks and teaching ideas for teachers' reference on how to promote positive values and attitudes among students with SOW in the primary English classroom. Teachers might like to select and use the learning materials and teaching ideas in the resources or adapt them to suit their students' needs, interests and abilities. Posters and videos on selected SOW are available on the website of the Education Bureau (http://www.edb.gov.hk/sow) for teachers' further development of other learning tasks.

# Learning Task 1 Where There's a Will, There's a Way

**Theme** 

Be optimistic

Saying of Wisdom

Where there's a will, there's a way.

Suggested Key Stage

KS1 and KS2

# **Task Description**

Students read the adapted version of the fable "The Crow and the Pitcher" to learn to be optimistic and the English saying of wisdom "Where there's a will, there's a way." Teachers first guide students to identify different elements of a fable. Students then learn to analyse the personality of the crow based on its actions and thoughts. In the main writing task, students brainstorm new ideas using a story map and add dialogue to write a new version of a 4-panel comic strip. The new version has to convey one of the moral themes (i.e. cherish what we have, be grateful, be proactive and be optimistic) and one of the related English sayings of wisdom introduced in the appendix.

# **Learning Objectives**

#### Content

- To understand the content and features of a fable
- To analyse the personality of the characters
- To write a new 4-panel comic strip
- To develop positive values and attitudes (e.g. be optimistic)

#### Language

- To practise reading skills, e.g. skimming and scanning, identifying specific information, understanding the connection between ideas
- To construct a story using story elements
- To use dialogue to show words spoken by the characters and words in their minds

# **Suggested Learning Activities**

# **Pre-reading**

- 1. Introduce students to the theme of the fable by asking questions such as,
  - When facing a problem, will you give up easily or will you try your best to solve the problem? Why?
  - Have you ever heard of a story about a crow and a pitcher? What is it about?
- 2. Have students predict the possible content of the adapted version of the fable.
- 3. Pre-teach some vocabulary items in order that the students could complete Worksheet 1.

### While-reading

- 1. Refer students to different elements of a fable using headings in Worksheet 2.
- 2. Guide students to skim and scan the fable to complete Worksheet 2 by asking questions such as,
  - Why did the crow feel very thirsty?
  - What did the crow see in front of a house?
  - Was there a lot of water in the pitcher? How do you know?
  - Could the crow drink the water in the pitcher? Why?
  - What would happen if the crow had no water to drink?
  - What did the crow do to drink the water in the pitcher?
- 3. Have students read the 4-panel comic of the fable.
- 4. Explain the meaning of "will" (e.g. mental power), "way" (e.g. method to do something), and the English saying of wisdom "Where there's a will, there's a way" (e.g. if you want something very much, you can find a way to get what you want, even if it is very difficult)
- 5. Have students complete Part A of Worksheet 3 to practise reading skills such as identifying specific information and understanding the connection between ideas.

# **Post-reading and Values Education**

- 1. Engage students in the discussion of the story ending.
- 2. Have students work in groups of four and complete Part B of Worksheet 3. Choose some students to share their ideas in class (Part C of Worksheet 3). Guide students to reflect and find out the moral of the fable by asking questions such as,
  - What was the problem of the crow?
  - The crow could solve the problem. What qualities did the crow have?
  - Imagine that you were the crow. What would you do if you could not drink the water in the pitcher?
  - What lesson have you learned from this fable?
- 3. Introduce students to the term "moral", the theme "be optimistic" and reiterate the English saying of wisdom "Where there's a will, there's a way.".
- 4. Encourage students to learn other English sayings of wisdom introduced in the appendix by playing card games in the games kit "English Fun Games with Sayings of Wisdom".

# **Reading and Writing**

- 1. Point out that a comic strip has story elements, speech bubbles and thought bubbles.
- 2. Discuss with students the functions of speech bubbles and thought bubbles.
- 3. Guide students to analyse the personality of the crow by asking questions such as,
  - Did the crow give up easily when facing a problem?
  - Why could the crow solve the problem?
  - Was it easy to raise the level of the water in the pitcher?
  - What adjectives would you use to describe the crow?
- 4. Conclude that the personality of the crow can be reflected from what it does (actions) and thinks (thoughts).
- 5. Guide students to complete Worksheet 4 to learn about character traits.
- 6. Practise the use of thought bubbles and speech bubbles in a 4-panel comic strip in Worksheet 5.
- 7. Revisit the features of a 4-panel comic strip and discuss with students the task requirements using *Comic Strip Rubric*.
- 8. Arrange students in groups and have them rewrite the 4-panel comic strip about another crow which had different character traits and the same / a different problem. The suggested steps are as follows:
  - Prepare 4 pieces of A4 paper, one piece for one panel of a 4-panel comic strip.
  - Number the students.
  - Have students discuss the storyline together (e.g. how the story begins and goes, what special
    or interesting things are to be included, what and how dialogue and thoughts of the
    characters are to be added).
  - Based on the storyline and elements agreed among the group-mates, have Student No.1 draw pictures, thought bubbles and/or speech bubbles in the first box.
  - He/She then passes the paper to Student No.2 when the first panel is finished.
  - Continue the story by drawing pictures, thought bubbles and/or speech bubbles by the groupmates.
  - Finish until all four boxes are completed.
- 9. Conduct a class sharing and encourage constructive feedback from classmates.
- 10. Ask students to create a 4-panel comic strip individually, by finishing Worksheets 6 & 7, completing the self-assessment checklist, and revising the 4-panel comic strip, if necessary. They can make reference to the ideas gained from the group work and class sharing.
- 11. Instead of creating a 4-panel comic strip, students may create their short stories based on this SOW "Where there's a will, there's a way.", or one of the SOW in the appendix.

The Crow and the Pitcher	Line
It was a long, hot summer. There was no rain for a long time. All the rivers and streams ran dry. A crow could not find water to drink. It was very thirsty.	
One afternoon, the thirsty crow was flying over a village, looking for water. It saw a pitcher in front of a house. It flew down and landed near the pitcher. When it looked carefully down the long neck of the pitcher, the crow could see that there was still some water at the bottom. "Hurray! I found some water in the pitcher," thought the crow with joy.	5
The crow lowered its beak to try to reach the water but it failed. The neck of the pitcher was far too narrow and the water was too low down. After several rounds, the poor crow could not take a sip of the water. "I can't give up. I must find a way to drink this water," it thought.	10
The crow walked around, looking for something that might help. After a while, it saw some pebbles. "Oh, I know what to do!" thought the crow. Then, it picked up some pebbles with its beak and dropped them into the pitcher, one by one. The water level rose higher and higher as the crow dropped more and more pebbles into the pitcher. At last, it was high enough for the crow to drink the water. The crow saved itself from dying and flew away happily.	15

# English saying of wisdom: Where there's a will, there's a way.

# Sample sentence:

I know that she can do this if she makes up her mind because where there's a will, there's a way.

# Aesop's Fable: an adapted version

# The Crow and the Pitcher

1. 2.





3. 4.

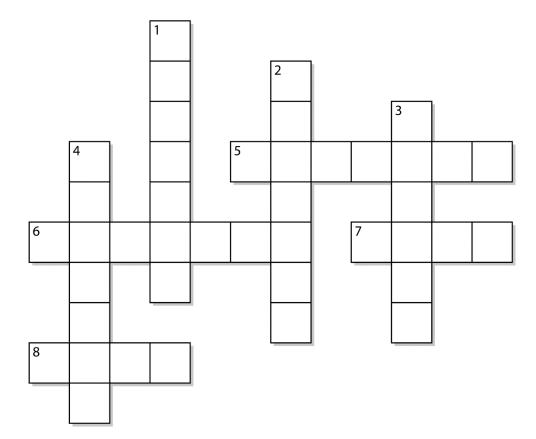




Adapted text: The Crow and the Pitcher

English Saying of Wisdom: Where there's a will, there's a way.

Read the clues and solve the crossword puzzle below. You can find the word in the given paragraph.



#### Down:

- 1. Small smooth round stones (para 4)
- 2. Needing to drink (para 1)
- 3. The opposite of "wide" (para 3)
- 4. A container for holding water that has a handle (para 2)

#### **Across:**

- A group of houses in the countryside (para 2)
- 6. Small, narrow rivers (para 1)
- 7. A black bird with a loud, unpleasant cry (para 2)
- 8. The hard, pointed part of a bird's mouth (para 3)

Circle the correct words to complete the story map below.

Adapted text: The Crow and the Pitcher

English Saying of Wisdom: Where there's a will, there's a way.

Complete the story map by circling the correct words.

# Character (Who):

the sun / the crow / the pitcher

# Setting (When and where):

one hot summer afternoon / a jungle / a house

# Event 1 (What):

- A thirsty crow was looking for <u>food to eat /</u> water to drink.
- 2. It found <u>some pebbles</u>
  / a <u>pitcher</u> which
  contained what it
  wanted.

# **Solution (How):**

- 1. The crow gave up / did not give up.
- It dropped some pebbles into the pitcher and the water level <u>rose / lowered</u>.
   At last, the crow could drink the water.

# **Event 2 (Problem):**

- 1. The neck of the pitcher was wide / narrow and the water level was low / high.
- 2. The poor crow <u>could drink /</u> <u>could not drink</u> the water in the pitcher.

#### Moral:

We should try our best to solve the problem / cherish what we have.

# (Worksheet 3)

# A. Answer the following questions by circling the best option.

1.	In paragraph 1, a crow could not find water to drink because
A B C D	it was a long summer the sun was warm the crow was sick all the rivers and streams ran dry
2.	In paragraph 2, the crow found a pitcher near
A B C D	a river a house a village a stream
3.	In paragraph 3, the crow's beak could not reach the water because
A B C D	the crow was thirsty the crow was not feeling well the neck of the pitcher was narrow the crow gave up
4.	What did the crow do to drink the water in the pitcher? The crow
A B C D	dropped pebbles into the pitcher had a bright idea lowered its beak overturned the pitcher

В.	Work in groups of four. Brainstorm the answers to the following questions. Write your answers in
	the space provided.

Qu	estions	Answers
1.	What was the problem of the crow?	
2.	The crow could solve the problem. What qualities did the crow have?	
3.	Imagine that you were the crow. What would you do if you could not drink the water in the pitcher?	
4.	What lesson have you learned from this fable?	

C. Share your ideas in class.

### What are character traits?

Character traits are words that describe characters' personality or qualities that make them who they are. We can determine character traits by looking at what a character says, does, thinks and feels.

# What are the character traits of the crow?

Circle the adjectives / words that best describe the personality of the crow as shown by its behaviour at that moment.

Para 3	Para 4	Para 4
(lines 8-11)	(lines 12-17)	(lines 12-17)
a. gave up easily	a. lucky	a. cute
b. tried its best to solve	b. clever	b. careless
the problem	c. brave	c. patient
c. cherished what it had		
Where in the text	Where in the text	Where in the text
e.g.		
After several rounds, the	Colour the relevant	Colour the relevant
poor crow could not take a	sentence(s) in <b>red</b> in the	sentence(s) in <b>blue</b> in the
sip of water. "I can't give up.	reading text.	reading text.
I must find a way to drink		
this water," it thought.		

Adapted text: The Crow and the Pitcher

Can you add dialogue (speech or thought bubbles) to the 4-panel comic strip? Remember to use the tense correctly, e.g. use <u>the simple present tense</u> to talk about present states, <u>the present continuous tense</u> to describe actions taking place at the time of speaking, <u>the simple past tense</u> to talk about past events, etc.

Read the story and the comic strip again. Add a speech / thought bubble to 1 of the 4 panels of the comic strip.



a speech bubble

Add a speech / thought bubble below.

(panel no.)

# **Writing Task**

Write a new version of a 4-panel comic strip about <u>another crow</u> which <u>had different character</u> <u>traits</u> and <u>the same / a different problem</u>. Remember to add speech bubbles and thought bubbles in your comic strip. You may use the following story map to brainstorm ideas.

Theme: cherish what you have / be grateful / be proactive / be optimistic (circle one) English saying of wisdom: \_ (write) Character (Who): Event 1 (What): Setting (When and where): the crow **Solution (How): Event 2 (Problem):** 

**Moral:** 

# (Worksheet 7)

1.	
3.	

# A 4-panel comic strip

# Task requirements:

- Create a 4-panel comic strip.
- Have a clear storyline and include basic story elements (e.g. title, characters, events).
- Use colourful drawings to portray what happened in the story.
- Add speech bubbles or thought bubbles to express what the characters are saying, thinking, doing or feeling.

# A 4-panel comic strip rubric (Self-assessment)

Name:		Cl	ass:	( )
Title of the 4-panel comic strip:				
Read the draft of your group's 4-panel comic strip number to indicate how well you think you've done in the 4-panel comic strip can be further improved.			_	
A. Content and Organisation				
Criteria	Needs work	Fair	Good	Very good
1. Characters: Do they have feelings and actions?	1	2	3	4
2. Use of speech bubbles or thought bubbles: Do the characters speak or think?	1	2	3	4
3. Do the drawings and the speech/thought bubbles match well with each other?	1	2	3	4
4. Do the drawings and speech/thought bubbles show creativity?	1	2	3	4
5. Does the story have an ending?	1	2	3	4
6. Does the main character learn a lesson?	1	2	3	4
B. Use of Language				
7. Grammar: Is the tense used correctly?	1	2	3	4
Comments:				

# Suggested Answers to Worksheet 1

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			b			h			<sup>3</sup> <b>n</b>		
	<sup>4</sup> <b>p</b>		b		<sup>5</sup> <b>V</b>	i	1	1	a	g	e
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	C		S			t			O		
	h					y			W		
<sup>8</sup> <b>b</b>	e	a	k								
	r			-							

# **Suggested Answers to Worksheet 2**

# Character (Who):

the sun /(the crow/ the pitcher

# Setting (When and where):

one hot summer afternoon / a jungle / (a house)

# Event 1 (What):

- 1. A thirsty crow was looking for food to eat / water to drink
- 2. It found some pebbles /a pitcher which contained what it wanted.

# **Solution (How):**

- 1. The crow gave up / did not give up
- 2. It dropped some pebbles into the pitcher and the water level rose / lowered. At last, the crow could drink the water.

# **Event 2 (Problem):**

- 1. The neck of the pitcher was wide / narrow and the water level was low/high.
- 2. The poor crow could drink / could not drink the water in the pitcher.

# Moral:

We should try our best to solve the problem / cherish what we have.

# **Suggested Answers to Worksheet 3**

Α

- 1. D
- 2. B
- 3. C
- 4. A

В

- 1. The crow could not drink the water in the pitcher. Q2-4 (Accept any reasonable answers)

# **Suggested Answers to Worksheet 4**

Davis 2	Davis 4	David 4
Para 3	Para 4	Para 4
(lines 8-11)	(lines 12-17)	(lines 12-17)
a. gave up easily	a. lucky	a. cute
b. tried its best to solve	b. clever	b. careless
the problem	c. brave	C. patient
c. cherished what it had		
Where in the text	Where in the text	Where in the text
e.g.		
After several rounds, the	Colour the relevant	Colour the relevant
poor crow could not take a	sentence(s) in <b>red</b> in the	sentence(s) in <b>blue</b> in the
sip of water. "I can't give up.	reading text.	reading text.
I must find a way to drink	After a while, it saw some	The water level rose higher
this water," it thought.	pebbles. "Oh, I know what to	and higher as the crow
	do!" thought the crow. Then,	dropped more and more
	it picked up some pebbles	pebbles into the pitcher. At
	with its beak and dropped	last, it was high enough for
	them into the pitcher, one by	the crow to drink the water.
	one.	

Suggested Answers to Worksheets 5-7 (Accept any reasonable answers.)

# Selected Sayings of Wisdom (SOW)

Themes	sow	
SOW a grateful	1) Count your blessings.	
heart	2) Gratitude turns what we have into enough.	
	3) Gratitude is the sign of noble souls.	
	4) One good turn deserves another.	
	5) Never look a gift horse in the mouth.	
Cherish what we	6) A friend in need is a friend indeed.	
have	7) A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.	
	8) Home is where the heart is.	
	9) The grass is always greener on the other side of the fence.	
	10) Opportunity only knocks once.	
SOW a proactive 11) Rome was not built in a day.		
attitude	12) The early bird catches the worm.	
	13) Time and tide wait for no man.	
	14) Prevention is better than cure.	
	15) A stitch in time saves nine.	
SOW an	16) All roads lead to Rome.	
optimistic mind	17) Every cloud has a silver lining.	
	18) Every dog has its day.	
	19) There is light at the end of the tunnel.	
	20) Where there's a will, there's a way.	

# Learning Task 2 A Bird in the Hand is Worth Two in the Bush

#### **Theme**

Cherish what we have

# Saying of Wisdom

A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.

# Suggested Key Stage

KS1 and KS2

# **Task Description**

Students read the adapted version of the fable "The Dog and the Reflection" to learn to cherish what we have and the English saying of wisdom "A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush." Teachers first guide students to identify different elements of a fable. Students then learn to analyse character traits based on actions, thoughts and speech. In the main writing task, students brainstorm new ideas using a story map and add dialogue to write a new version of a 4-panel comic strip. The new version has to convey one of the moral themes (i.e. cherish what we have, be grateful, be proactive and be optimistic) and one of the related English sayings of wisdom introduced in the appendix.

# **Learning Objectives**

#### Content

- To understand the content and features of a fable
- To analyse character traits
- To write a new 4-panel comic strip
- To develop positive values and attitudes (e.g. cherish what we have)

#### Language

- To practise skimming and scanning
- To construct a story using story elements
- To use dialogue to show words spoken by the characters and words in their minds

# **Suggested Learning Activities**

# **Pre-reading**

- 1. Introduce students to the theme of the fable by asking questions such as,
  - Are you satisfied with what you have now?
  - What do you want to have more? Why?
  - Have you ever heard of a story about a dog and its reflection? What is it about?
- 2. Have students predict the possible content of the adapted version of the fable.
- 3. Pre-teach some vocabulary items in order that the students could complete Worksheet 1.

# While-reading

- 1. Refer students to different elements of a fable using headings in Worksheet 2.
- 2. Guide students to skim and scan the fable to complete Worksheet 2 by asking questions like,
  - How did the dog feel when an old woman gave it a bone?
  - Why did the dog bark at the water?
  - What did the dog do in order to get another piece of bone?
  - How many bones did the dog have in the end? Why?
- 3. Have students follow the instructions in Worksheet 3 and colour relevant details in the fable.
- 4. Have students write down new vocabulary items they have learned in Worksheet 1.

### Post-reading and Values Education

- 1. Engage students in the discussion of the story ending.
- 2. Guide students to reflect and find out the moral of the fable by asking questions such as,
  - Did the dog get all the bones it wanted? Why?
  - Why did the dog lose his bone?
  - If you were the dog, what would you do if you saw another piece of bone?
  - What lesson have you learned from this fable?
- 3. Introduce students to the term "moral", the theme "cherish what we have" and the English saying of wisdom "A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush".
- 4. Encourage students to learn other English sayings of wisdom introduced in the appendix by playing card games in the games kit "English Fun Games with Sayings of Wisdom".

#### **Reading and Writing**

- 1. Point out that a comic strip has story elements, speech bubbles and thought bubbles.
- 2. Discuss with students the functions of speech bubbles and thought bubbles.

- 3. Guide students to analyse character traits by asking questions such as,
  - How did the old woman think of the dog?
  - What adjectives would you use to describe the dog?
  - How did the dog behave when it saw another piece of bone?
  - What did the dog think and say when it dropped its own bone into the water?
  - What adjectives best describe the dog (a) when it saw another piece of bone and (b) after it dropped its bone?
- 4. Conclude that character traits can be reflected from what people/animals do (actions), think (thoughts) and say (speech).
- 5. Guide students to complete Worksheet 4 and Worksheet 5 to learn about character traits, speech bubbles and thought bubbles used in 4-panel comic strips.
- 6. Revisit the features of a 4-panel comic strip and discuss with students the individual writing task requirements using *Comic Strip Rubric*.
- 7. Arrange students in groups and have them write a group 4-panel comic strip following the steps below,
  - Prepare 4 pieces of A4 paper, each paper representing one panel of a 4-panel comic strip.
  - Number the students.
  - Have students discuss the storyline together (e.g. how the story begins and goes, what special or interesting things are to be included, what and how dialogue and thoughts of the characters are to be added).
  - Based on the storyline and elements agreed among the groupmates, have Student No.1 draw pictures, thought bubbles and/or speech bubbles in the first box.
  - He/She then passes the paper to Student No.2 when the first panel is finished.
  - Continue the story by drawing pictures, thought bubbles and/or speech bubbles by the groupmates.
  - Finish until all four boxes are completed.
- 8. Conduct a class sharing and encourage constructive feedback from classmates.
- 9. Ask students to create a 4-panel comic strip individually, by finishing Worksheets 6 & 7, completing the self-assessment checklist, and revising the 4-panel comic strip, if necessary. They can make reference to the ideas gained from the group work and class sharing.
- 10. Instead of creating a 4-panel comic strip, students may create their short stories based on this SOW "A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.", or one of the SOW in the appendix.

# The Dog and the Reflection

There was a cute dog living with his owner in a village. He was the apple of everyone's eye and so many people offered him a lot of food to eat.

One day, the dog was passing through the backyard of a house. An old woman saw him. She said, "Oh! What a lovely dog! Let me feed him a piece of bone". The dog picked the bone up and was ready to run back home. He was happy to have his lunch.

5

As the dog was crossing a narrow footbridge, he looked down and saw a reflection in the quiet water. "That bone is bigger than mine. It must be tastier than mine. I want to have it too!" thought the dog.

However, he did not know that it was only his own reflection. He thought that it was another dog. So he tried to grab that piece of bone by growling at the reflection. Unfortunately, when he opened his mouth growling, he dropped his bone in the river and the bone was swept away.

10

"My bone! I dropped it in the river! Where is it now? I must get it back!" cried the dog. He jumped into the river at once and tried to look for the bone in the river. Unluckily, the dog could not find his bone. "My bone is lost! Why did I have to get another bone? Why wasn't I happy with the bone I had?" the dog cried more loudly. He was very upset and felt sorry for losing his bone. He left the footbridge and went home with sadness.

15

# English saying of wisdom: A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.

# Sample sentence in context:

You may not like your job, but don't quit just on the hope of finding a better one. A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.

# Aesop's Fable: an adapted version

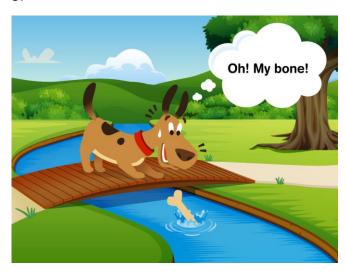
# The Dog and the Reflection

1. 2.





3. 4.

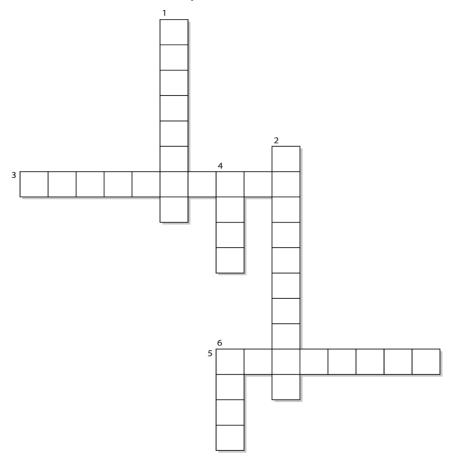




Adapted text: The Dog and the Reflection

English Saying of Wisdom: A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.

A. Read the clues and solve the crossword puzzle below.



## **Across:**

- 3: A narrow bridge which is used only by people who are walking
- 5: Making a low sound, usually in anger

# Down:

- 1: A small space with walls around at the back of a house
- 2: The image of something in a mirror or on any surface
- 4: To fall or to allow something to fall
- 6: To get hold of something suddenly
- B. Write down some new vocabulary items you have learned with their meanings.

Vocabulary items	Meanings (pictures or words)		
e.g. cherish	To love and care for someone or something that is important		

Adapted text: The Dog and the Reflection

English Saying of Wisdom: A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.

Complete the story map by circling the correct words.

# Characters (Who):

a cat / a dog / an old woman / a footbridge / a bone / a river

# Event 1 (What):

- An old man / An old woman gave the dog a piece of bone / fish for lunch.
- The dog saw another <u>cat / dog</u> in the river and wanted to get his fish / bone.

# **Ending (What):**

The dog jumped into the river to find his bone / fish. Unluckily, it was lost / found. The problem was solved / not solved.

# Setting (Where):

at home / on a footbridge / in the backyard

# Event 2 (What):

The dog <u>laughed / growled</u> at "another dog". However, he dropped his own into a <u>river / backyard</u>.

#### Moral:

We should <u>cherish what we</u> have. / get as much as possible for ourselves.

# Can you answer the following questions by colouring the important words in the text below?

# The Dog and the Reflection

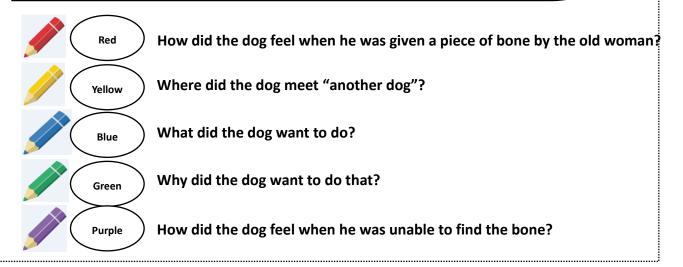
There was a cute dog living with his owner in a village. He was the apple of everyone's eye and so many people offered him a lot of food to eat.

One day, the dog was passing through the backyard of a house. An old woman saw him. She said, "Oh! What a lovely dog! Let me feed him a piece of bone". The dog picked the bone up and was ready to run back home. He was happy to have his lunch.

As the dog was crossing a narrow footbridge, he looked down and saw a reflection in the quiet water. "That bone is bigger than mine. It must be tastier than mine. I want to have it too!" thought the dog.

However, he did not know that it was only his own reflection. He thought that it was another dog. So he tried to grab that piece of bone by growling at the reflection. Unfortunately, when he opened his mouth growling, he dropped his bone in the river and the bone was swept away.

"My bone! I dropped it in the river! Where is it now? I must get it back!" cried the dog. He jumped into the river at once and tried to look for the bone in the river. Unluckily, the dog could not find his bone. "My bone is lost! Why did I have to get another bone? Why wasn't I happy with the bone I had?" the dog cried more loudly. He was very upset and felt sorry for losing his bone. He left the footbridge and went home with sadness.



# Adapted text: The Dog and the Reflection

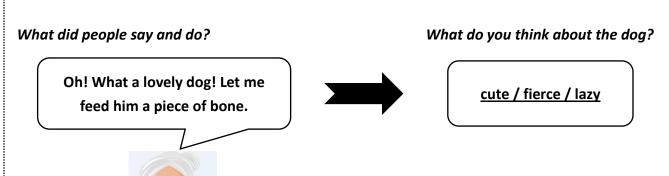
### What are character traits?

Character traits are words that describe characters' personality or qualities that make them who they are. We can determine character traits by looking at what a character says, does and thinks.

What are the character traits of the dog?

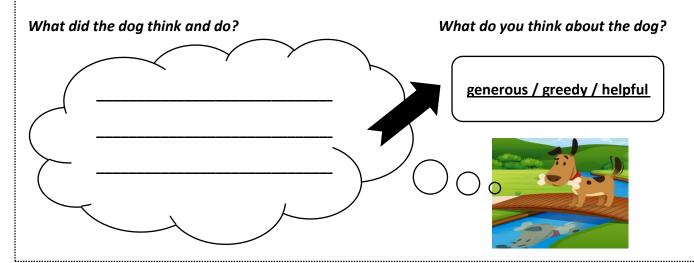
(a) Read the speech bubble and circle the most suitable adjective provided below.

# When people saw the dog



(b) Read paragraph 3. Find the thought bubble from the text to support the adjective you choose.

# When the dog saw another piece of bone



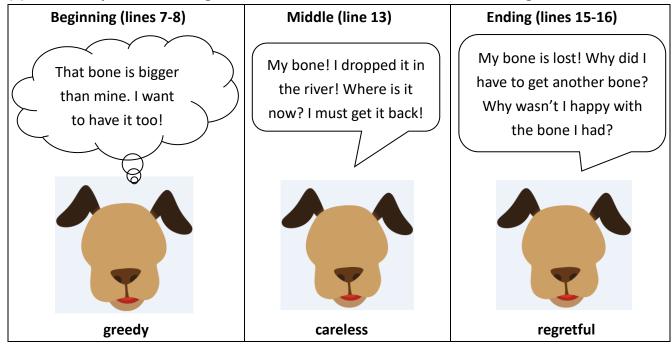
# Adapted text: The Dog and the Reflection

# What are character traits?

Character traits are words that describe characters' personality or qualities that make them who they are. We can determine character traits by looking at how a character feels.

# What are the character traits of the dog?

(a) Read the speech and thought bubbles below. Then draw the face of the dog in the three boxes.



(b) Many adjectives can be used to talk about how a character feels. Look at the pictures and circle the correct adjectives below.



# **Writing Task** Brainstorm new ideas using the story elements below. Then write your new version of a 4-panel comic strip. Remember to add speech bubbles and thought bubbles in your comic strip. Theme: cherish what we have / be grateful / be proactive / be optimistic (circle one) **English saying of wisdom:** (write) Character (Who): Setting Event 1 (What): (Where and when): (character 1) (character 2) (character 1/2/did/ thought/felt) **Ending (What):** Event 2 (What): (character 1/2/did/thought/felt) (character 1/2/did/thought/felt) Moral: We \_

mic strip:		(title
	2.	
3.	4.	
•		

# A 4-panel comic strip

# Task requirements:

- Create a 4-panel comic strip.
- Have a clear storyline and include basic story elements (e.g. a title, characters, events).
- Use colourful drawings to portray what happened in the story.
- Add speech bubbles or thought bubbles to express what the characters are saying, thinking and doing or how they feel.

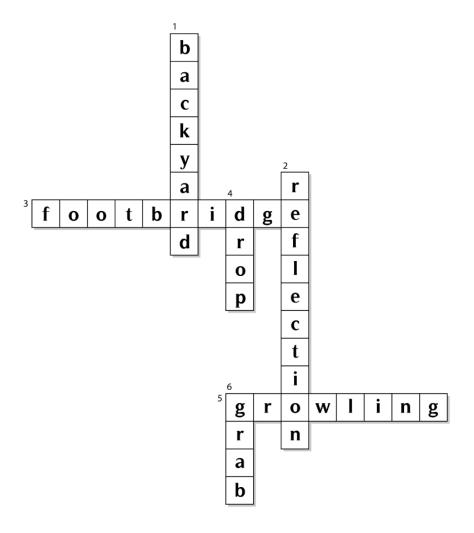
# A 4-panel comic strip rubric (Self-assessment)

Name:	Class:		lass:	( )
Title of the 4-panel comic strip:				
Read the draft of your group's 4-panel comic str number to indicate how well you think you've done the 4-panel comic strip can be further improved.	-		_	
A. Content and Organisation				
Criteria	Needs work	Fair	Good	Very good
1. Characters: Do they have feelings and actions?	1	2	3	4
2. Use of speech bubbles or thought bubbles:  Do the characters speak or think?	1	2	3	4
3. Do the drawings and the speech/thought bubbles match well to each other?	1	2	3	4
4. Do the drawings and speech/thought bubbles show creativity?	1	2	3	4
5. Does the story have an ending?	1	2	3	4
6. Does the main character learn a lesson?	1	2	3	4
B. Use of Language				
7. Grammar: Is the tense used correctly?	1	2	3	4
Comments:				

Adapted text: The Dog and the Reflection

English Saying of Wisdom: A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.

A. Read the clues and solve the crossword puzzle below.



## Across:

- 3: A narrow bridge which is used only by people who are walking
- 5: Making a low sound, usually in anger

## Down:

- 1: A small space with walls around at the back of a house
- 2: The image of something in a mirror or on any surface
- 4: To fall or to allow something to fall
- 6: To get hold of something suddenly

# (Suggested Answers to Worksheet 2)

Adapted text: The Dog and the Reflection

English Saying of Wisdom: A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.

Complete the story map by circling the correct words.

# Characters (Who):

a cat /a dog/an old woman/ a footbridge / a bone / a river

# Event 1 (What):

- 1. An old man / An old woman gave the dog a piece of bone / fish for lunch.
- 2. The dog saw another cat /dog in the river and wanted to get his fish /bone

# **Ending (What):**

The dog jumped into the river to find his bone / fish. Unluckily, it was lost / found.
The problem was solved / not solved.

# Setting (Where):

at home /on a footbridge/ in the backyard

#### Event 2 (What):

The dog <u>laughed</u>/growled at "another dog". However, he dropped his own into a <u>river</u>/ backyard.

#### Moral:

We should cherish what we have / get as much as possible for ourselves.

#### Can you answer the following questions by colouring the important words in the text below?

#### The Dog and the Reflection

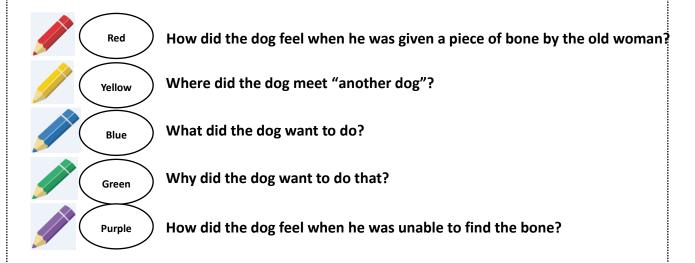
There was a cute dog living with his owner in a village. He was the apple of everyone's eye and so many people offered him a lot of food to eat.

One day, the dog was passing through the backyard of a house. An old woman saw him. She said, "Oh! What a lovely dog! Let me feed him a piece of bone". The dog picked the bone up and was ready to run back home. He was happy to have his lunch.

As the dog was crossing a narrow footbridge, he looked down and saw a reflection in the quiet water. "That bone is bigger than mine. It must be tastier than mine. I want to have it too!" thought the dog.

However, he did not know that it was only his own reflection. He thought that it was another dog. So he tried to grab that piece of bone by growling at the reflection. Unfortunately, when he opened his mouth growling, he dropped his bone in the river and the bone was swept away.

"My bone! I dropped it in the river! Where is it now? I must get it back!" cried the dog. He jumped into the river at once and tried to look for the bone in the river. Unluckily, the dog could not find his bone. "My bone is lost! Why did I have to get another bone? Why wasn't I happy with the bone I had?" the dog cried more loudly. He was very upset and felt sorry for losing his bone. He left the footbridge and went home with sadness.



## Adapted text: The Dog and the Reflection

#### What are character traits?

Character traits are words that describe characters' personality or qualities that make them who they are. We can determine character traits by looking at what a character says, does and thinks.

#### What are the character traits of the dog?

(a) Read the speech bubble and circle the most suitable adjective provided below.

# When people saw the dog

What did people say and do?

What do you think about the dog?

Oh! What a lovely dog! Let me feed him a piece of bone.

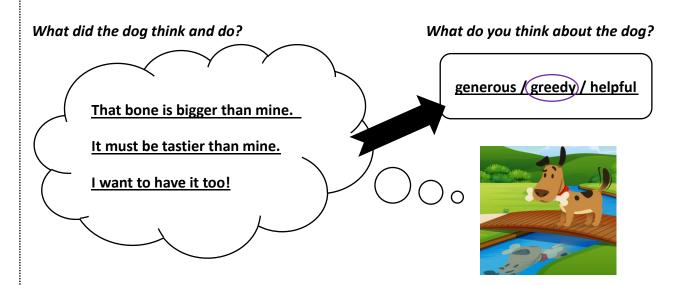


cute / fierce / lazy



(b) Read paragraph 3. Find the thought bubble from the text to support the adjective you choose.

# When the dog saw another piece of bone



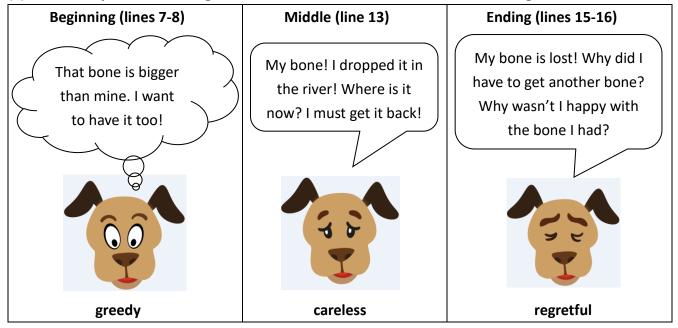
# Adapted text: The Dog and the Reflection

#### What are character traits?

Character traits are words that describe characters' personality or qualities that make them who they are. We can determine character traits by looking at how a character feels.

## What are the character traits of the dog?

(a) Read the speech and thought bubbles below. Then draw the face of the dog in the three boxes.



(b) Many adjectives can be used to talk about how a character feels. Look at the pictures and circle the correct adjectives below.



Suggested Answers to Worksheets 6 & 7 (Accept any reasonable answers.)

**Selected Sayings of Wisdom (SOW)** 

Themes	sow
SOW a grateful heart	1) Count your blessings.
	2) Gratitude turns what we have into enough.
	3) Gratitude is the sign of noble souls.
	4) One good turn deserves another.
	5) Never look a gift horse in the mouth.
Cherish what we have	6) A friend in need is a friend indeed.
	7) A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.
	8) Home is where the heart is.
	9) The grass is always greener on the other side of the fence.
	10) Opportunity only knocks once.
SOW a proactive	11) Rome was not built in a day.
attitude	12) The early bird catches the worm.
	13) Time and tide wait for no man.
	14) Prevention is better than cure.
	15) A stitch in time saves nine.
SOW an optimistic mind	16) All roads lead to Rome.
	17) Every cloud has a silver lining.
	18) Every dog has its day.
	19) There is light at the end of the tunnel.
	20) Where there's a will, there's a way.

# Learning Task 3 A Stitch in Time Saves Nine

**Theme** 

**Be Proactive** 

Saying of Wisdom

A stitch in time saves nine.

**Suggested Key Stage** 

KS2

#### Summary of the Learning Task

Students read an adapted fable "The Father, His Son, and the Pigeons" to learn to be proactive and the English saying of wisdom "A stitch in time saves nine." Teachers first guide students to identify different elements of a story. Students then analyse the personality of the characters based on their actions, thoughts and speech. In the main writing task, students write a short story or their new version of the fable using the above strategies. The story has to convey one of the moral themes (i.e. cherish what we have, be grateful, be proactive and be optimistic) and one of the related English sayings of wisdom introduced in the appendix.

#### **Learning Objectives**

#### Content

- To understand the content and features of a fable
- To analyse the personality of the characters
- To write a short story / a new version of the fable
- To develop positive values and attitudes (e.g. be proactive)

#### Language

- To practise reading skills, e.g. skimming, scanning and identifying main idea, identifying specific information, understanding the connection between ideas
- To construct a short story using story elements
- To add dialogue to show words spoken by the characters to add to the characterisation

#### **Suggested Learning Activities**

## **Pre-reading**

- 1. Introduce students to the theme of the fable by asking questions such as,
  - When there is a problem, will you take action to solve the problem immediately or will you wait and see first?
- 2. Have students discuss and predict the possible content of the fable.
- 3. Pre-teach some vocabulary items in order that the students could complete Worksheet 1.

#### While-reading

- 1. Refer students to different elements of a story using headings in Worksheet 2.
- 2. Guide students to skim, scan and identify the main idea of the story to complete Worksheet 2 by asking questions such as,
  - Why did the farmer take no action in the beginning?
  - In paragraph 2, why did the pigeons leave the field immediately one day?
  - Why did more and more pigeons settle on the field later?
  - What did the farmer and his son do to get rid of the pigeons?
  - Why did the farmer feel sorry in the end?
  - What lesson did the farmer learn?
  - What is the core message or main idea of this story?
- 3. Have students complete Worksheet 3 to practise reading skills such as identifying specific information and understanding the connection between ideas.
- 4. Explain the meaning of the English saying of wisdom "A stitch in time saves nine." (e.g. it is better to deal with problems immediately in order to prevent more work later).

#### **Post-reading and Values Education**

- 1. Engage students in the discussion of the story ending.
- 2. Guide students to reflect and find out the moral of the story by asking questions such as,
  - If you were the farmer, would you take action to get rid of the pigeons in the beginning? Why?
  - Have you ever missed the critical time to solve a problem? What are the consequences?
  - What lesson have you learned from this story?
- 3. Introduce students to the term "moral", the theme "to be proactive" and reiterate the English saying of wisdom "A stitch in time saves nine."
- 4. Encourage students to learn other English sayings of wisdom introduced in the appendix by playing card games in the games kit "English Fun Games with Sayings of Wisdom".

#### **Reading and Writing**

- 1. Revisit the elements of the story using Worksheet 2.
- 2. Remind students that characters are one of the five important elements (i.e. characters, setting, plot, conflict and resolution) in a story as they determine the way the plot will develop, and are usually the ones who will solve the problem.
- 3. Guide students to analyse the personality of the characters by asking questions such as,

- What was the attitude of the farmer when his son first told him about the pigeons?
- Why did the farmer feel sad even if he could get rid of the pigeons?
- What was the attitude of the son towards the pigeons?
- What other qualities of the son can you observe?
- Can you think of some adjectives to describe the farmer and his son?
- 4. Point out that the personality of the characters can be reflected from their actions, thoughts and speech. Have students complete Worksheet 4 about the character traits of the farmer and his son.
- 5. Practise dialogue writing using in Worksheet 5.
- 6. Introduce the writing task to students, i.e. to write a new story or rewrite the story "The Farmer, His Son, and the Pigeons" with new plots and a different ending.
- 7. Tell students that they can make use of Worksheet 6 to brainstorm ideas about the theme, the moral, the related saying of wisdom and the story elements.
- 8. Arrange students in groups, share their story outline and give comments to one another.
- 9. Ask students to write their stories individually in Worksheet 7, complete the self-assessment checklist, and revise their writing, if necessary.

#### Sample sentence in context:

If you have a problem, deal with it immediately. Don't wait, because a stitch in time saves nine.

#### The Farmer, His Son, and the Pigeons

Line

A farmer and his son had just sown a field of wheat. Some pigeons kept settling on the field. "Dad, do we need to keep these pigeons away from our field?" asked the son. Looking at the field and the pigeons, the farmer explained, "Don't worry. The pigeons just want to take a rest here.



5

They won't eat our grains." Both the farmer and his son left the field.



One day, the son saw the pigeons on the field again. He found that the pigeons not only took a rest but also ate the grains there. He ran quickly to the farmer and cried, "Dad, we have to do something about the pigeons! They are eating our grains!" The farmer looked at the field and the pigeons. He thought

for a while and replied, "Take out the bow and arrow in your bag. When the pigeons see them, they'll fly away at once." The pigeons really left the field immediately when the son took out the bow and arrow.

15

10

After that, the son took out the bow and arrow when he saw the pigeons on the field. However, the pigeons soon discovered that the son only pretended to shoot them. They were no longer afraid of the bow and arrow. More and more pigeons flew and settled on the field and ate the grains.



20



Some time later, the son pleaded, "Dad, our grains have all gone. We must get rid of all the pigeons right away." The farmer agreed, "Yes. Let's work together." The farmer and his son took turns to shoot the pigeons with bows and arrows. The pigeons were

25

so scared that they flew away and never returned. Then the farmer whispered to his son in despair, "I'm sorry, Son. I should have dealt with these pigeons as early as possible!"

The text:	The text: The Farmer, His Son, and the Pigeons					
A. Match	A. Match each word/phrase with the correct meaning. The first one has been done as an example.  Answer					
1.	bow	(line 13)	e.g. f	a.	did the same thing one after one	
2.	discovered	(line 18)		b.	send away someone or something annoying	
3.	settled	(line 20)		c.	frightened or worried	
4.	get rid of	(line 23)		d.	taken appropriate action	
5.	took turns	(line 25)		e.	the feeling that there is no hope	
6.	scared	(line 27)		f.	a weapon for shooting arrows	
7.	in despair	(line 28)		g.	relaxed into a comfortable position	
8.	dealt with	(line 28)		h.	found out about something	
B. Fill in e	B. Fill in each of the blank with a word / phrase in Part A.					
1. The m	nother wants he	r daughter to	·		the habit of staying up late as it is	
not go	ood for health.					
2. My m	other is a nurse.	. She has			_ different kinds of people in her job.	
3. My fa	ther was		about the	e wal	let he had lost.	
4. John	and Mary		to do the	was	shing-up after dinner to share the work of	
their	parents.					
5. Grand	dma	on the	e new sofa and	reac	d newspapers last night.	

The text: The Farmer, His Son, an English Saying of Wisdom:  Based on the story and the subher	eadings, write the key information in complete sentences below.
Character (Who):	Setting (Where and when):  Events (What):
Solution (How):	Events (Problems):
Moral:	

The t	ext: The Farm, His Son, and the Pigeons
Answ	er the following questions by circling the best option(s).
1.	In paragraph 1, the farmer thought that the pigeons kept settling on the field because they wanted to
Α	sing songs
В	take a rest
С	eat the grains
D	play on the field
2.	In paragraph 2, the pigeons left the field immediately when the son took out the bow and arrow because they
Α	were afraid of getting hurt
В	knew that the farmer was angry
C	did not want to play with the son
D	did not like the farmer and his son anymore
3.	In paragraph 3, more and more pigeons settled on the field because  (You can choose more than one answer.)
Α	there were grains to eat
В	they would like to stay with their friends
С	the son was friendly to them
D	the bow and arrow would not hurt them
4.	In paragraph 4, the pigeons never returned to the field because
Α	the grains were eaten up
В	they found a better field
С	the farmer and his son worked together
D	the farmer and his son shot the pigeons with bows and arrows
5.	At the end of the story, the farmer felt sorry because
۸	(You can choose more than one answer.)
A	some pigeons were scared
В	the grains were eaten up
C	the pigeons were not afraid of the bow and arrow
D	the action to get rid of the pigeons was not taken in time

The text: The Farmer, His Son, and the Pigeons

# What are character traits?

Character traits are words that describe characters' personality or qualities that make them who they are. We can determine character traits by looking at what a character says, does, thinks and feels.

Match the adjectives below with the characters and colour the relevant sentences in the reading text.

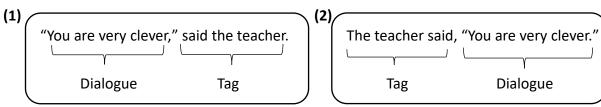
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į	pass	ive proactive	e regretful	observant	į
١	! <u>.</u>				j

Characters	Adjectives to describe the characters	Evidence from the reading text
	a.	Colour the relevant sentence(s) in red.
	b.	Colour the relevant sentence(s) in yellow.
	C.	Colour the relevant sentence(s) in <b>blue</b> .
	d.	Colour the relevant sentence(s) in green.

The text: The Farmer, His Son, and the Pigeons

- A. Dialogue is used in stories to make them more interesting, vivid and dynamic. Look at the dialogue in the story. Circle the capital letters and punctuation marks in the dialogue below.
  - 1. "Dad, do we need to keep these pigeons away from our field?" asked the son.
  - 2. Looking at the field and the pigeons, the farmer replied, "The pigeons just want to take a rest here. They won't eat our grains."

Can you find out some rules for writing dialogue? What do you notice?



- (1) If you write the dialogue first, use commas for sentences, question marks for questions and exclamation marks for exclamations. Then end them all with a full stop.
- (2) If you write the tag first, use a comma to separate. End the dialogue with the correct punctuation inside quotation marks.
- B. Read and rewrite the dialogue with the correct punctuation marks and capital letters.
  - 1. Dad the pigeons not only take a rest but also eat our grains said the son worriedly

  - 2. Looking at the pigeons flying away immediately the farmer said hurray the pigeons were terribly scared of the bow and arrow

\_\_\_\_\_

C. When writing dialogue, we can use different speaking verbs to give more information about the thoughts and feelings of the characters who are speaking. Can you find the speaking verbs in the story? Can you think of more speaking verbs? Complete the following table.

	Saying something (e.g. opinions, suggestions, facts, etc.)	Asking questions
Speaking verbs found in the story	e.g. explained	e.g. asked
Other speaking verbs		

D. Read the farmer's remark. What will the son say to his father to cheer him up?

The farmer's remark Then the farmer said to his son, "I'm sorry, Son. I should have dealt with these pigeons as early as possible!"
The son's response

#### **Writing Task**

Write a new story or rewrite the story "The Farmer, His Son, and the Pigeons" with a new plot and a different ending. Choose one of the four given themes and think of a relevant saying of wisdom when constructing your story. Brainstorm new ideas using the story elements below. Remember to add dialogue to show what your characters think, say and do in the story.

Theme: cherish what we have /be grateful / be proactive / be optimistic (circle one)

English saying of wisdom: \_ (write) **Character (Who):** Setting **Events (What):** (Where and when): **Solution (How): Events (Problems): Moral:** 

# (Worksheet 7)

Title:	
	_
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# Complete the self-assessment checklist.

(Ple	ase tick "√"the box if you did it.)
	My story includes story elements, i.e. characters, setting, events, problems and solutions.
	My story has a <b>theme</b> and a <b>moral</b> .
	I added <b>dialogue</b> to make my story more interesting.
	I used <b>speaking verbs</b> to give more information about the thoughts and feelings of the characters who are speaking
	I used <b>adjectives</b> to describe the characters (e.g. proactive, passive, brave, hard-working, etc.)
	I <b>proofread</b> (e.g. check spelling, capitalisation, the use of punctuation marks) my writing before handing it in to my teacher.

Based on the checklist above, revise the story if necessary.

## Suggested Answers to Worksheet 1

Α.

- 1. f (e.g.)
- 2. h
- 3. g
- 4. b

- 5. a
- 6. c
- 7. e
- 8. d

В.

- 1. get rid of
- 2. dealt with
- 3. in despair
- 4. took turns
- 5. settled

# **Suggested Answers to Worksheet 2**

# **Character (Who):**

the farmer, his son, and the pigeons

# Setting (Where and when):

on a field, when a farmer and his son had just sown a field of wheat

# **Events (What):**

- 1. <u>Some pigeons kept</u> settling on the field.
- 2. The pigeons left the field when they saw the bow and arrow.
- 3. The pigeons were not afraid of the bow and arrow.
- 4. More and more pigeons settled on the field.

# **Ending (What):**

- 1. The son scared the pigeons by taking out the bow and arrow.
- 2. The farmer and his son took turns to shoot the pigeons with bows and arrows.

# **Events (Problems):**

- 1. The pigeons kept on eating the grains on the field.
- 2. The grains were eaten up.

#### Moral:

We should be proactive when dealing with our problem. A stitch in time saves nine.

# **Suggested Answers to Worksheet 3**

1. B

2. A

3. A, D 4. D

5. B, D

# **Suggested Answers to Worksheet 4**

Characters	Adjectives to	Evidence from the reading text	
	describe the	(Accept any reasonable answers.)	
	characters		
	a.	(Lines 4-6) Looking at the field and the pigeons,	
100000	passive	the farmer explained, "Don't worry. The pigeons	
		just want to take a rest here. They won't eat our grains."	
		• (Lines 12-14) He thought for a while and replied,	
		"Take out the bow and arrow in your bag. When	
		the pigeons see them, they'll fly away at once."	
	b.	(Lines 27-29) Then the farmer whispered to his	
	regretful	son in despair, "I'm sorry, Son. I should have	
		dealt with these pigeons as early as possible!"	
,	c.	(Lines 2-3) "Dad, do we need to keep these	
	proactive	pigeons away from our field?" asked the son.	
		(Lines 9-11) He ran quickly to the farmer and	
4		cried, "Dad, we have to do something about the	
		pigeons! They are eating our grains!"	
		(Lines 16-17) After that, the son took out the	
		bow and arrow when he saw the pigeons on the	
		field.	
		(Lines 23-24) "We must get rid of all the	
		pigeons right away."	
	d.	(Lines 8-9) He found that the pigeons not only	
	observant	took a rest but also ate the grains there.	
		• (Lines 22-23) "Dad, our grains have all gone"	

# **Suggested Answers to Worksheet 5**

Α

- 1.  ${}^{O}$ Dad $_{\mathcal{D}}$ do we need to keep these pigeons away from our field  ${}^{O}$ Oasked the son $_{\mathcal{D}}$
- 2. Dooking at the field and the pigeons the farmer replied The pigeons just want to take a rest here. They won't eat our grains

В.

- 1. "Dad, the pigeons not only take a rest but also eat our grains," said the son worriedly.
- 2. Looking at the pigeons flying away immediately, the farmer said, "Hurray! The pigeons were terribly scared of the bow and arrow."

C.

	Saying something (e.g. opinions, suggestions, facts, etc.)	Asking questions
Speaking verbs found	e.g. explained	e.g. asked
in the story	cried	pleaded
	replied	
	agreed	
	whispered	
Other speaking verbs	admitted	begged
	guessed	enquired
	hinted	questioned
	laughed	requested
	promised	urged
	yelled	wondered
	(Accept any reasonable answers.)	(Accept any reasonable answers.)

D. (Accept any reasonable answers.)

Suggested Answers to Worksheets 6-7 (Accept any reasonable answers.)

# **Selected Sayings of Wisdom (SOW)**

Themes	SOW
SOW a grateful	1) Count your blessings.
heart	2) Gratitude turns what we have into enough.
	3) Gratitude is the sign of noble souls.
	4) One good turn deserves another.
	5) Never look a gift horse in the mouth.
Cherish what we	6) A friend in need is a friend indeed.
have	7) A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.
	8) Home is where the heart is.
	9) The grass is always greener on the other side of the fence.
	10) Opportunity only knocks once.
SOW a proactive	11) Rome was not built in a day.
attitude	12) The early bird catches the worm.
	13) Time and tide wait for no man.
	14) Prevention is better than cure.
	15) A stitch in time saves nine.
SOW an	16) All roads lead to Rome.
optimistic mind	17) Every cloud has a silver lining.
	18) Every dog has its day.
	19) There is light at the end of the tunnel.
	20) Where there's a will, there's a way.

# Learning Task 4 One Good Turn Deserves Another

**Theme** 

Be grateful

Saying of Wisdom

One good turn deserves another.

Suggested Key Stage

KS2

#### **Task Description**

Students read the adapted version of the fable "The Lion and the Mouse" to learn to be grateful and the English saying of wisdom "One good turn deserves another." Teachers first guide students to identify different elements of a fable. Students then analyse character traits based on appearance, actions, thoughts and speech. In the main writing task, students write their new version of the story using the above strategies. The new version has to convey one of the moral themes (i.e. cherish what we have, be grateful, be proactive and be optimistic) and one of the related English sayings of wisdom introduced in the appendix.

# **Learning Objectives**

#### Content

- To understand the content and features of a fable
- To analyse character traits
- To write a new short story
- To develop positive values and attitudes (e.g. be grateful)

#### Language

- To practise skimming, scanning and identifying main idea
- To construct a short story using story elements
- To use adjectives to describe the characters' physical appearance and personality, and also add dialogue to show words spoken by the characters and words in their minds

# **Suggested Learning Activities**

#### Pre-reading

- 1. Introduce students to the theme of the fable by asking questions such as,
  - Which animal is stronger, which one is more timid, a lion or a mouse? Why?
  - Have you ever heard of a story about a lion and a mouse? If yes, what is it about?
- 2. Have students discuss and predict the possible content of the adapted version of the fable, and also arrange the order of pictures (using pictures in the 4-panel comic strip).
- 3. Pre-teach some vocabulary items in order that students could complete Worksheet 1.

#### While-reading

- 1. Divide students into groups and engage them in the discussion of possible elements of a fable.
- 2. Refer students to different elements of a fable using headings in Worksheet 2.
- 3. Guide students to skim, scan and identify the main idea of the fable to complete Worksheet 2 by asking questions such as,
  - How did Lion King feel when the little mouse ran up and down his face?
  - What did the little mouse promise Lion King to do if it was released?
  - How did the little mouse help Lion King?
  - What lesson did Lion King learn when it was saved?
  - What is the core message or main idea of this fable story?
- 4. Have students write down new vocabulary items they have learned and related synonyms in Worksheet 1.

#### **Post-reading and Values Education**

- 1. Invite students to share their ideas on why the little mouse helped the lion in the end.
- 2. Guide students to reflect and find out the moral of the fable by asking questions such as,
  - Why did the little mouse help the lion in the end?
  - The little mouse said, "Size does not matter. Even a little mouse like me can help someone as big as you." Do you agree with what it said? Why?
  - If you were the little mouse, what would you do? Why?
  - Have you ever had the experience of helping others or getting help from others? How did you feel? Why?
  - What lesson have you learned from this fable?
- 3. Introduce students to the term "moral", the theme "be grateful" and the English saying of wisdom "One good turn deserves another".
- 4. Encourage students to learn other English sayings of wisdom introduced in the appendix by playing card games in the games kit "English Fun Games with Sayings of Wisdom".

#### **Reading and Writing**

1. Revisit the story elements of the fable using Worksheet 2.

- 2. Remind students that characters are one of the five important elements (i.e. characters, setting, plot, conflict and resolution) in a story as they determine the way the plot will develop, and are usually the ones who will solve the problem.
- 3. Guide students to analyse character traits by asking questions such as,
  - What was the attitude of Lion King when the little mouse said that it could help one day?
  - If you were the little mouse, how would you feel when Lion King laughed at you?
  - Lion King was saved by the little mouse. Was there any change in the attitude of Lion King?
  - What adjectives best describe Lion King before and after it was saved by the little mouse?
- 4. Point out that character traits can be reflected from how characters look (appearance) and do (actions), as well as what they think (thoughts) and say (speech).
- 5. Introduce some adjectives that are used to describe the physical appearance of the characters to students.
- 6. Guide students to find out some adjectives that are used to describe the physical appearance of the characters from the fable to complete Worksheet 3, Part A.
- 7. Practise the use of adjectives by drawing and writing short sentences about one of the chosen characters in Worksheet 3, Part B.
- 8. Refer students to Worksheet 4 to find out the possible changes in the character traits based on actions, dialogue and thoughts.
- 9. Remind students that the physical appearance and the character traits are important elements that make the description of the characters more vivid.
- 10. Introduce some saying verbs and thinking verbs to students, and guide them to colour these two kinds of verbs in Worksheet 5.
- 11. Guide students to find out some basic rules for writing and adding dialogue in short stories using Worksheet 6.
- 12. Introduce the writing task to students, i.e. to write a new short story or rewrite the fable "The Lion and the Mouse" with new plots and a different ending.
- 13. Tell students that they can make use of Worksheet 7 to brainstorm ideas about the theme, the moral, the related sayings of wisdom and the story elements.
- 14. Arrange students in groups, ask them to share their story outlines and give comments to each other.
- 15. Ask students to write their story individually in Worksheet 8, then complete the self-assessment checklist and revise their writing, if necessary.

English Saying of Wisdom: One good turn deserves another.

Sample sentence in context:

Shirley helped me when I was sick last week. So I am happy to look after her cat now. After all, **one good turn deserves another**.

(Reading Text)

#### The Lion and the Mouse

Line

Once upon a time, a big lion slept near a tree in a jungle. When he was sleeping, a small thing ran up and down his back and over his face quickly. He was annoyed and wanted to find out what that tiny thing was, so he opened his left eye and saw that it was a little mouse! He caught the little mouse by its long tail with his strong paws at once. "I'm Lion King! You're so impolite to disturb me!" roared Lion Kong. He opened his big jaw and was ready to swallow the little mouse.



5

"Lion King, please, please don't eat me. I'm too small for you! If you let me go, I can say for sure that I'll do something good to you in the future," begged the little mouse anxiously. "You'll help me in the future? That's the funniest thing I've ever heard in my life. How can a little mouse help a big lion?" laughed Lion King. "Yes, it's true. It's too small to be my meal," thought Lion King when he looked at the little mouse. "Okay, leave now before I change my mind," Lion King said to the little mouse. The little mouse thanked Lion King and ran away as fast as it could.



10

One hot afternoon, a hunter went into the jungle with a big net quietly. He wanted to catch a lion by setting a trap on the ground. "Help! Help!" cried Lion King loudly. Lion King was so unlucky that he was caught in the trap and was tied up high to a tree. "Who is crying for help? It's a familiar voice. Yes, that's the roar from Lion King!" The little mouse thought for a while and went to save Lion King immediately. Despite the danger, the little mouse gnawed the rope with its sharp teeth, and after a few minutes, the long rope was broken. Lion King was freed!



20

"Do you still remember me, Lion King? I'm that little mouse. Size does not matter. Even a little mouse like me can help someone as big as you," squeaked the little mouse happily. "Thank you so much! I'm sorry for being so rude last time. You're my best friend forever," replied Lion King gratefully.



English Saying of Wisdom	: One good turn deserv	ves another.
A. Match each verb listed	below with the correct n	neaning.
1. roar	•	<ul> <li>to tell someone that you will certainly do something</li> </ul>
2. squeak	•	• to shout loudly
3. promise	•	<ul> <li>to make a short, high sound or cry</li> </ul>
4. gnaw	•	<ul> <li>to make a long, loud, deep sound</li> </ul>
5. cry	•	<ul> <li>to bite or chew something repeatedly, usually making a hole in it</li> </ul>

Adapted text:

The Lion and the Mouse

B. Write down some new vocabulary items you have learned with their meanings. Can you find other words that mean the same as the original words?

Vocabulary items	Meanings	Synonyms (words with similar meanings)
e.g. grateful	To feel or show appreciation for	<ul><li>thankful</li></ul>
	something done or received	<ul><li>appreciative</li></ul>

Adapted text: The Lion and the Mouse
English Saying of Wisdom:
Based on the story and the subheadings, write some key information in complete sentences.
Characters (Who were they?)  Setting (Where did the story take place?)  Event 1
(What happened?)  Event 2 – Problem (What was wrong?)
Ending - Solution (How was the problem solved?)  Moral (What have you learned?)

		_	_			_			

A. Read the fable again. Can you find some adjectives that are used to describe how the characters look like or their physical appearance? Write the words in the table below.

Lion	King		The	little mouse	
•	a	lion	•	a	_ mouse
•	with	paws	•	with	_ teeth
•	has a	jaw	•	has a	_ tail

Below are some adjectives that are used to describe a character's physical appearance.

Characteristics	Adjectives
Height	• tall, gigantic
	• short, little
Weight	fat, overweight
	• slim, thin
Eyes	big, large
	• small, tiny
Nose	• curved, crooked
	• sharp, pointed

The pairs of adjectives above (e.g. "tall" and "gigantic", "small" and "tiny") are also called "synonyms". Synonyms are words which mean exactly or nearly the same as another word or phrase in the same language, e.g. English. Try to find some synonyms and write them down in Worksheet 1.

В. (	Can you add some adjectives to describe more about the physical appearance of the little mouse
(	or Lion King? Choose either the little mouse or Lion King. Then draw and write about the chosen
(	character on the lines.

1

#### What are character traits?

Character traits are words that describe characters' personality or qualities that make them who they are. We can determine character traits by looking at what a character says, does, thinks and feels.

Read the sentences extracted from the fable. Think about whether these sentences show characters' actions, dialogue or thoughts. Then choose one best adjective from the word bank.

# Adjectives to describe the characters

arrogant nervous powerful observant mysterious brave regretful

	Sentences	Actions, dialogue or thoughts?	Adjectives
Lio	n King (from the beginning to the end):		
1.	Lion King caught the little mouse by its long tail with his strong paws at once.		Lion King:
2.	"You'll help me in the future? That's the funniest thing I've ever heard in my life. How can a little mouse help a big lion?" laughed Lion King.		Lion King:
3.	"I'm sorry for being so rude last time. You're my best friend forever," replied Lion King gratefully.		Lion King:
The	e little mouse (from the beginning to the end):		
1.	"Lion King, please, please don't eat me. I'm too small for you," begged the little mouse anxiously.		The little mouse:
2.	"Who is crying for help? It's a familiar voice. Yes, that's the roar from Lion King!" the little mouse thought for a while and went to save Lion King immediately.		The little mouse:
3.	Despite the danger, the little mouse gnawed the rope with its sharp teeth, and after a few minutes, the long rope was broken.		The little mouse:

Based on the extracted sentences in Worksheet 4, how do you know they are related to characters' actions, dialogue or thoughts? What words tell you about that?

#### The Lion and the Mouse

Once upon a time, a big lion slept near a tree in a jungle. When he was sleeping, a small thing ran up and down his back and over his face quickly. He was annoyed and wanted to find out what that tiny thing was, so he opened his left eye and saw that it was a little mouse! He caught the little mouse by its long tail with his strong paws at once. "I'm Lion King! You're so impolite to disturb me!" roared Lion Kong. He opened his big jaw and was ready to swallow the little mouse.

"Lion King, please, please don't eat me. I'm too small for you! If you let me go, I can say for sure that I'll do something good to you in the future," begged the little mouse anxiously. "You'll help me in the future? That's the funniest thing I've ever heard in my life. How can a little mouse help a big lion?" laughed Lion King. "Yes, it's true. It's too small to be my meal," thought Lion King when he looked at the little mouse. "Okay, leave now before I change my mind," Lion King said to the little mouse. The little mouse thanked Lion King and ran away as fast as it could.

One hot afternoon, a hunter went into the jungle with a big net quietly. He wanted to catch a lion by setting a trap on the ground. "Help! Help!" cried Lion King loudly. Lion King was so unlucky that he was caught in the trap and was tied up high to a tree. "Who is crying for help? It's a familiar voice. Yes, that's the roar from Lion King!" The little mouse thought for a while and went to save Lion King immediately. Despite the danger, the little mouse gnawed the rope with its sharp teeth, and after a few minutes, the long rope was broken. Lion King was freed!

"Do you still remember me, Lion King? I'm that little mouse. Size does not matter. Even a little mouse like me can help someone as big as you," squeaked the little mouse happily. "Thank you so much! I'm sorry for being so rude last time. You're my best friend forever," replied Lion King gratefully.



Colour the verbs which show the words spoken by the characters (saying verbs).



Colour the verbs which show the words in the characters' minds (thinking verbs).

- A. There are different types of verbs such as saying verbs and thinking verbs.
  - (i) Saying verbs: A saying verb provides more information as to how something is being said, e.g. "I'm sorry," <u>sobbed</u> Tom.
  - (ii) Thinking verbs: A thinking verb tells readers what a character is thinking about,e.g. "I <u>think</u> Tim's suggestion is the best," said Mary.

Categorise the following verbs by writing letters (a) to (f) in the correct column below.

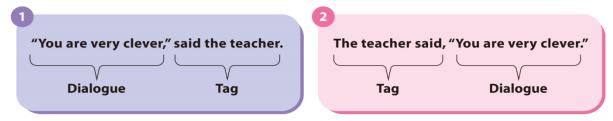
- (a) believe/believed
- (b) yell/yelled
- (c) explain/explained

- (d) think/thought
- (e) cry/cried
- (f) wonder/wondered

Saying verbs	Thinking verbs

- B. Look at the dialogue. Circle the capital letters and punctuation marks in the dialogue below.
  - 1. Lion King laughed, "How can a little mouse help a big lion?"
  - 2. "I'm Lion King! You're so impolite to disturb me!" roared Lion King.

Can you find out some rules for writing dialogue? What do you notice?



- (1) If you write the dialogue first, use commas for sentences, question marks for questions and exclamation marks for exclamations. Then end them all with a full stop.
- (2) If you write the tag first, use a comma to separate. End the dialogue with the correct punctuation inside quotation marks.
- C. Turn the following sentences into dialogue using correct punctuation marks and capital letters.
  - 1. who can help me Lion King cried

-----

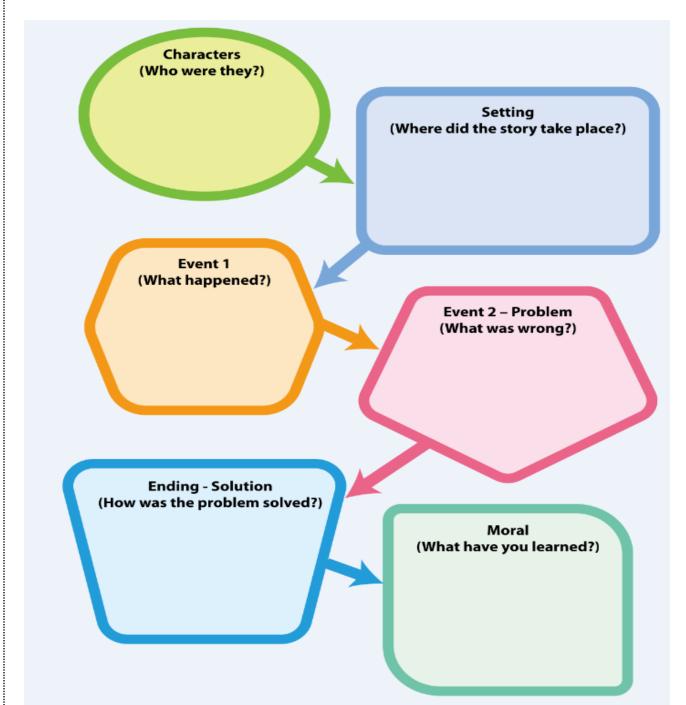
2. the little mouse replied I am coming to save you now

# **Writing Task**

Brainstorm new ideas using the story elements below. Then write a new version for your story. Remember to add dialogue to show how your characters think, say and do in the story.

Theme: cherish what we have / be grateful / be proactive / be optimistic (circle one)

English saying of wisdom:



# (Worksheet 8)

Title:	


# Complete the self-assessment checklist.

(Pled	ase tick "\"the box if you did it.)
	My story includes story elements, i.e. characters, setting, event, problem and solution.
	My story has a <b>theme</b> and a <b>moral</b> .
	I used adjectives to describe the physical appearance of the characters.
	I used <b>dialogue</b> to make my story more interesting.
	I used <b>thinking verbs and/or saying verbs</b> to describe more about what the characters think and/or say.
	I used synonyms to avoid using a word repeatedly.
	I <b>proofread</b> (e.g. spelling, capitalisation and punctuation) my writing before handing it in to my teacher.

Based on the checklist above, revise the story if necessary.

English Saying of Wisdom: One good turn deserves another.

A. Match each verb listed below with the correct meaning.

- 1. roar
- 2. squeak
- 3. promise
- 4. gnaw
- 5. cry

- to tell someone that you will certainly do something
- to shout loudly
- to make a short, high sound or cry
- to make a long, loud, deep sound
- to bite or chew something repeatedly, usually making a hole in it

English Saying of Wisdom: One good turn deserves another.

Based on the story and the subheadings, write some key information in complete sentences.

## Characters (Who were they?)

Lion King and the little mouse were the two main characters.

## Setting (Where did the story take place?)

The story took place in a jungle.

# Event 1 (What happened?)

Lion King was caught in a big net and was tied up high to a tree.

# Event 2 – Problem (What was wrong?)

The little mouse disturbed
Lion King's sleep. Lion King
caught it but he let it go at last.

# Ending - Solution (How was the problem solved?)

The little mouse heard the roar from Lion King and gnawed the rope to set Lion King free.

# Moral (What have you learned?)

We should be grateful and thankful for someone's love, care and help.

A. Read the fable again. Can you find some adjectives that are used to describe how the characters look like or their physical appearance? Write the words in the table below.

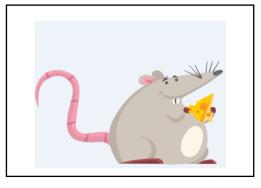
Lion King	The little mouse
• a big lion	• a small / little mouse
<ul><li>with strong paws</li></ul>	<ul><li>with <u>sharp</u> teeth</li></ul>
• has a <u>big</u> jaw	<ul> <li>has a <u>long</u> tail</li> </ul>

Below are some adjectives that are used to describe a character's physical appearance.

Characteristics	Adjectives
Height	• tall, gigantic
	• short, little
Weight	fat, overweight
	• slim, thin
Eyes	● big, large
	• small, tiny
Nose	• curved, crooked
	• sharp, pointed

The pairs of adjectives above (e.g. "tall" and "gigantic", "small" and "tiny") are also called "synonyms". Synonyms are words which mean exactly or nearly the same as another word or phrase in the same language, e.g. English. Try to find some synonyms and write them down in Worksheet 1.

B. Can you add some adjectives to describe more about the physical appearance of the little mouse or Lion King? Choose either the little mouse or Lion King. Then draw and write about the chosen character on the lines. (An example)



The little grey mouse was overweight. Its

eyes and ears were tiny. It had a pointed nose

and a long pink tail.

#### What are character traits?

Character traits are words that describe characters' personality or qualities that make them who they are. We can determine character traits by looking at what a character says, does, thinks and feels.

Read the sentences extracted from the fable. Think about whether these sentences show characters' actions, dialogue or thoughts. Then choose one best adjective from the word bank.

## Adjectives to describe the characters

arrogant nervous powerful observant mysterious brave regretful

	Sentences	Actions, dialogue or thoughts?	Adjectives
Lio	n King (from the beginning to the end):		
1.	Lion King caught the little mouse by its long tail with his strong paws at once.	Actions	Lion King: powerful
2.	"You'll help me in the future? That's the funniest thing I've ever heard in my life. How can a little mouse help a big lion?" laughed Lion King.	Dialogue	Lion King: arrogant
3.	"I'm sorry for being so rude last time. You're my best friend forever," replied Lion King gratefully.	Dialogue	Lion King: regretful
The	e little mouse (from the beginning to the end):		
4.	"Lion King, please, please don't eat me. I'm too small for you," begged the little mouse anxiously.	Dialogue	The little mouse: nervous
5.	"Who is crying for help? It's a familiar voice. Yes, that's the roar from Lion King!" the little mouse thought for a while and went to save Lion King immediately.	Thoughts	The little mouse: observant
6.	Despite the danger, the little mouse gnawed the rope with its sharp teeth, and after a few minutes, the long rope was broken.	Actions	The little mouse: brave

Based on the extracted sentences in *Worksheet 4*, how do you know they are related to characters' actions, dialogue or thoughts? What words tell you about that?

#### The Lion and the Mouse

Once upon a time, a big lion slept near a tree in a jungle. When he was sleeping, a small thing ran up and down his back and over his face quickly. He was annoyed and wanted to find out what that tiny thing was, so he opened his left eye and saw that it was a little mouse! He caught the little mouse by its long tail with his strong paws at once. "I'm Lion King! You're so impolite to disturb me!" roared Lion Kong. He opened his big jaw and was ready to swallow the little mouse.

"Lion King, please, please don't eat me. I'm too small for you! If you let me go, I can say for sure that I'll do something good to you in the future," begged the little mouse anxiously. "You'll help me in the future? That's the funniest thing I've ever heard in my life. How can a little mouse help a big lion?" laughed Lion King. "Yes, it's true. It's too small to be my meal," thought Lion King when he looked at the little mouse. "Okay, leave now before I change my mind," Lion King said to the little mouse. The little mouse thanked Lion King and ran away as fast as it could.

One hot afternoon, a hunter went into the jungle with a big net quietly. He wanted to catch a lion by setting a trap on the ground. "Help! Help!" cried Lion King loudly. Lion King was so unlucky that he was caught in the trap and was tied up high to a tree. "Who is crying for help? It's a familiar voice. Yes, that's the roar from Lion King!" The little mouse thought for a while and went to save Lion King immediately. Despite the danger, the little mouse gnawed the rope with its sharp teeth, and after a few minutes, the long rope was broken. Lion King was freed!

"Do you still remember me, Lion King? I'm that little mouse. Size does not matter. Even a little mouse like me can help someone as big as you," squeaked the little mouse happily. "Thank you so much! I'm sorry for being so rude last time. You're my best friend forever," replied Lion King gratefully.



Red

Colour the verbs which show the words spoken by the characters (saying verbs).



Colour the verbs which show the words in the characters' minds (thinking verbs).

- A. There are different types of verbs such as saying verbs and thinking verbs.
  - (i) Saying verbs: A saying verb provides more information as to how something is being said, e.g. "I'm sorry," <u>sobbed</u> Tom.
  - (ii) Thinking verbs: A thinking verb tells readers what a character is thinking about, e.g. "I think Tim's suggestion is the best," said Mary.

Categorise the following verbs by writing letters (a) to (f) in the correct column below.

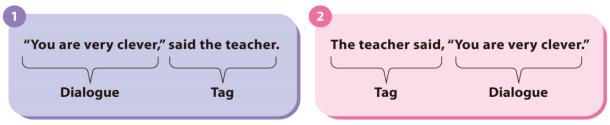
- (a) believe/believed
- (b) yell/yelled
- (c) explain/explained

- (d) think/thought
- (e) cry/cried
- (f) wonder/wondered

Saying verbs	Thinking verbs
b, c, e	a, d, f

- B. Look at the dialogue. Circle the capital letters and punctuation marks in the dialogue below.
  - 1. Lion king laughed How can a little mouse help a big lion?
  - 2. ('()'m()ion ()ing() You're so impolite to disturb me() (roared ()ion ()ing()

Can you find out some rules for writing dialogue? What do you notice?



- (1) If you write the dialogue first, use commas for sentences, question marks for questions and exclamation marks for exclamations. Then end them all with a full stop.
- (2) If you write the tag first, use a comma to separate. End the dialogue with the correct punctuation inside quotation marks.
- C. Turn the following sentences into dialogue using correct punctuation marks and capital letters.
  - who can help me Lion King cried
     "Who can help me?" Lion King cried.
  - the little mouse replied I am coming to save you now.
     <u>Little mouse replied, "I am coming to save you now."</u>

Suggested Answers to Worksheets 7 & 8 (Accept any reasonable answers.)

Selected Sayings of Wisdom (SOW)

Themes	SOW SOW
SOW a grateful heart	1) Count your blessings.
	2) Gratitude turns what we have into enough.
	3) Gratitude is the sign of noble souls.
	4) One good turn deserves another.
	5) Never look a gift horse in the mouth.
Cherish what we have	6) A friend in need is a friend indeed.
	7) A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.
	8) Home is where the heart is.
	9) The grass is always greener on the other side of the fence.
	10) Opportunity only knocks once.
SOW a proactive	11) Rome was not built in a day.
attitude	12) The early bird catches the worm.
	13) Time and tide wait for no man.
	14) Prevention is better than cure.
	15) A stitch in time saves nine.
SOW an optimistic mind	16) All roads lead to Rome.
	17) Every cloud has a silver lining.
	18) Every dog has its day.
	19) There is light at the end of the tunnel.
	20) Where there's a will, there's a way.