



## Getting Started

- 1 Where is this place in the picture?
- 2 What does the crow have in its beak?
- 3 Do you think the fox will eat the cheese?

## Before You Read



*Aesop's Fables* is a collection of stories created by Aesop, an ancient Greek storyteller. He was a slave who lived sometime between 400 and 500 B.C., and then his name became famous for telling short stories involving talking animals and moral lessons. However, we are not sure if Aesop actually created these stories, or he was just successful in retelling them. In fact, modern scholars now debate whether many of Aesop's fables originally came from India or Greece. Whatever the truth is, *Aesop's Fables* has delighted and educated readers all over the world from ancient times to the present.

## ★ Meet the Characters



### Fox

I'm very clever, so I can trick others into giving me what I want.



### Crow

Most people think I am an ugly bird with an ugly voice.



### Wind

I am strong! I can do anything I want with my power.



### Sun

Gentle persuasion is more effective than brute force.

## <The Fox and the Crow>

1 A fox was walking in the woods one day. He saw a crow sitting on a tree branch. A piece of cheese was in its beak. The fox was hungry, and the cheese looked delicious. The fox was very **clever**. He had an idea about how he could get the cheese.

5 "Hello," said the fox. "You look very beautiful today. I am sure such a beautiful bird can sing a beautiful song."

The crow was very happy. Without thinking, she opened her beak to sing. Two things happened next. First, the air was filled with a **horrible** sound: "Caw, caw!" Second, the cheese fell. The fox caught it in his **greedy** mouth.

10 "Thank you," said the fox. "Now please stop making that terrible noise!"

### Before You Move On

Do you think the crow is smart?



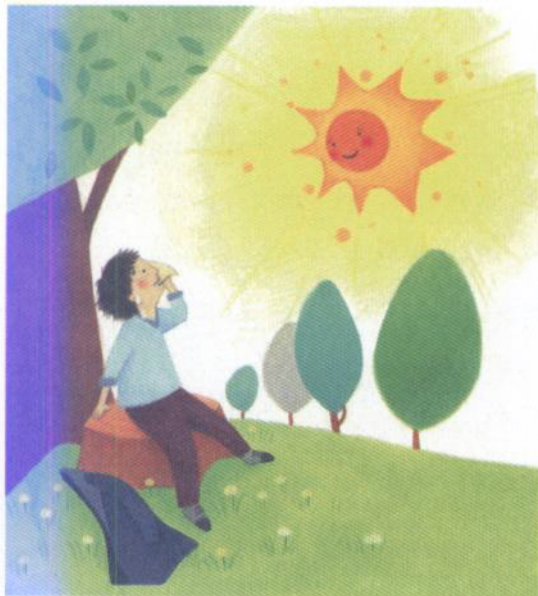
**clever** adj very smart    **horrible** adj very unpleasant and awful  
**greedy** adj wanting to have more than one needs    **violently** adv intensely in force  
**wrap** v to fold paper or cloth tightly to cover    **increase** v to become larger in number or amount  
**gentle** adj mild and soft    **force** n strong and violent physical action

### <The Wind and the Sun>

11 The Wind and the Sun were having a  
contest. The contest was about who was  
stronger. "Here comes a man wearing a  
coat," said the Wind. "Watch as I blow it off  
15 him!"

The Wind blew strongly. The man's  
coat flapped **violently** behind him. He had  
trouble walking forward. The Wind blew  
harder. The man almost fell down. But he  
20 **wrapped** his coat tightly around his body.  
The coat would not come off.

"Now, it's my turn," said the Sun. The Sun **increased** the strength of its rays.  
The weather became calm and warm. The man smiled. He was happy about the  
change in the weather. Soon, he felt very warm. Seeing a tree, he decided to sit  
25 under it and to take a nap. He finally took off his coat.



"You see; I'm the winner," said the Sun.

"It's better to be kind than to be cruel."

"I see," said the Wind. "You won by  
being **gentle**. I lost by trying to use **force**."

#### Before You Move On

Which do you like better: being gentle  
or using force?



wrap  
horrible

force  
greedy

clever  
gentle

increase  
violently

**A**

**Meaning**

Write the correct words from the box above.

- 1 to become larger in number or amount
- 2 very unpleasant and awful
- 3 to fold paper or cloth tightly to cover
- 4 very smart
- 5 strong and violent physical action

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

**B**

**Use**

Read and choose the correct answers.

1 What can be *gentle*?

a. a boxer's fist

b. a mother's hug

c. a tiger's paw

2 What do you usually *wrap*?

a. a gift

b. a building

c. a person

3 What do *greedy* people usually want more of?

a. love

b. money

c. care

4 What can be a *horrible* sound?

a. an opera singer's song

b. a machine's noise

c. a piano performance

**C**

**Synonym & Antonym**

Look and fill in the blanks by using the given words in A.

1 intelligent = \_\_\_\_\_

2 generous ↔ \_\_\_\_\_

3 pleasant ↔ \_\_\_\_\_

4 intensely = \_\_\_\_\_

5 violence = \_\_\_\_\_

6 decrease ↔ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ synonym    ↔ antonym

A

## Main Idea

What are these stories mainly about?

- a. life lessons
- b. how to trick others
- c. how to be clever
- d. what to do in difficult situations

B

## Understanding the Details

Answer the questions.

- 1 Why did the fox try to trick the crow?
  - a. He was starving to death.
  - b. He wanted to test the crow.
  - c. He was angry with the crow.
  - d. Her cheese looked delicious.
  
- 2 What did the man do when the weather became warm?
  - a. He started running.
  - b. He sat under a tree.
  - c. He went swimming.
  - d. He struggled to remain standing.

C

## Identifying Referents

In line 11, what does *that terrible noise* refer to?

- a. the sound of the crow cawing
- b. the sound of the crow laughing
- c. the sound of the fox eating the cheese
- d. the sound of the cheese hitting the ground

D

## Making Inferences

In line 27, what can be inferred from "*It's better to be kind than to be cruel*"?

- a. The stronger person always wins.
- b. Other people will love you if you are nice to them.
- c. Sometimes you have to force people to do what you want them to do.
- d. If you want someone to do something, it's better to be kind than cruel.



## Recall & Interpret

Read the story again and answer the questions by using the hints.

1 How did the fox trick the crow?

lied, beauty

→ The fox \_\_\_\_\_.

2 How did the Wind try to remove the man's coat? What happened?

blew, strongly, wrapped, tightly

→ The Wind \_\_\_\_\_, but the man \_\_\_\_\_.

3 How did the Sun try to remove the man's coat?

increased, strength, rays

→ The Sun \_\_\_\_\_.



## Connect

Answer the questions and share your ideas with your partner.

1 Did you ever say nice things to people to get what you wanted?

→ Once, \_\_\_\_\_.

2 When you want someone to do something, how would you get him/her to do it?

→ I would \_\_\_\_\_.

3 How would you feel if someone used force on you to do something?

→ \_\_\_\_\_.

• Now talk and share your ideas with your partner.



# Retell the Story

A

## Character Profile

Fill in the blanks by using the given expressions.



The fox is walking .....

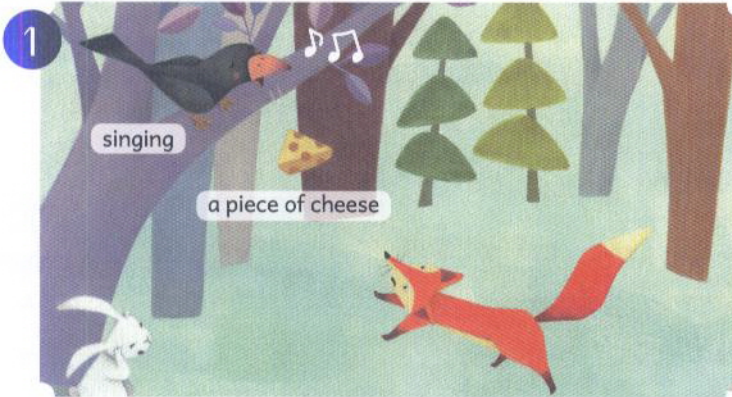
The crow is .....

The crow has ..... in .....

B

## Picture Description

Describe the picture by using the given expressions.



### Point!

- What is the crow doing?
- What falls from the crow's beak?
- Why is the fox waiting below the tree branch?

The crow is singing on a tree branch. ....

.....



### Point!

- What are the Wind and the Sun doing?
- What does the man do when the Wind blows?
- What does the man do when the Sun shines?

The Wind and the Sun are having a contest. ....

.....

# Story Theater



**A** Get into groups of two or three. Complete the script by filling in the blanks.

tightly      song      better      challenge      turn  
prove      delicious      strange      terrible      up

*In a forest*

Fox : (to himself) That's a ❶ \_\_\_\_\_ piece of cheese in the crow's beak.

Aha! I know how to get it!

(to the Crow) Hello! You look very beautiful today! I am sure that such a beautiful bird can sing a beautiful ❷ \_\_\_\_\_ . Won't you sing for me?

Crow : CAW! CAW!

*Cheese falls and is caught by the fox.*

Fox : Yummy! Thank you, Crow. Now please stop that ❸ \_\_\_\_\_ noise!

*On a country road*

Wind : Sun, I am stronger than you. To ❹ \_\_\_\_\_ it, let's see who can make that man take off his coat first.

Sun : I accept your ❺ \_\_\_\_\_ . You go first.

Man : Brrr! That wind is strong! I'm glad I'm wearing this coat! I'd better zip it up and hold it ❻ \_\_\_\_\_ !

Wind : I give ❼ \_\_\_\_\_ .

Sun : It's my ❽ \_\_\_\_\_ now.

Man : Wow, this is really ❾ \_\_\_\_\_ weather. Now it's getting hot.

I'd ❿ \_\_\_\_\_ sit under this tree and take my coat off.

Sun : **Your Idea** \_\_\_\_\_

**B** Discuss. What props would you prepare to add reality to these scenes?

**C** Now role-play with your group.