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Mark is reading a fable.

The Golden Touch

Once there lived a businessman. He always wanted to make more money.
He lived in a large house with his wife and son.



He had a neighbour who was richer than him. The neighbour had a golden statue in his garden. In his house, the tables, chairs, cupboards and bookcases were all made of gold too. The businessman was jealous of his neighbour so he decided to make more money. 5

One day when the businessman went hunting in the forest, he shot a rabbit. Suddenly the injured rabbit begged, 'I'm a fairy. If you free me, I'll grant you one wish.' 10

'I want to turn everything I touch into gold,' said the businessman.

'No problem,' said the rabbit, 'but please think carefully. Don't regret it.'

'I won't regret it!' the businessman said loudly. Then the rabbit granted him the wish and disappeared. The businessman could not wait for a minute. He touched the tree next to him. It turned into gold at once. The businessman was shocked and could not believe it. Soon he rushed home and wished to tell his family the good news. 15

He ran as fast as a deer and arrived home. His wife and son came out to welcome him. He went to hug them. Oh no! They were turned into gold. They could not move or speak. The businessman lost all his loved ones. He looked at them and could not say a word. 20

Answer the questions.

- In line 2, 'He always wanted to make more money.' means he was _____.
 - A. cruel
 - B. wise
 - C. generous
 - D. greedy



2. In the neighbour's house, what was made of gold?

- A. the books B. the cups
 C. the furniture D. the electronic products

What kind of things are tables, chairs, cupboards and bookcases?

3. What did the businessman want for his wish?

- A. He wanted to turn everyone into gold.
 B. He wanted to turn his wife and son into gold.
 C. He wanted to have the power to turn things into gold.
 D. He wanted to turn himself into gold.

4. How did the businessman feel when he could turn the tree into gold?

- A. disappointed B. surprised
 C. angry D. worried

5. What do you think would happen to the businessman?

- A. He would boast about his wealth. B. He would feel regret.
 C. He would buy a bigger house. D. He would feel overjoyed.

6. What does this fable teach us?

- A. Don't touch any gold.
 B. Don't believe in fairies.
 C. Don't make any wishes.
 D. Don't be greedy.

Language Arts

Write the correct letters (A–D) in the boxes to form similes.

A. a kitten B. an ox C. a deer D. a tortoise

- (i) as fast as _____
(ii) as slow as _____
(iii) strong like _____
(iv) weak like _____

A simile compares two things with 'as' or 'like'.

For example:

It is as sweet as honey.

It is sweet like honey.



A sad song from Nature



Date _____

sample

James is reading a poem.

The sea is singing sadly, sadly.

Can you hear? Can you hear?

Sharks are caught for their fins.

Whales are killed for their meat.

How helpless these giants feel

5

When humans want to satisfy their greed.

The ice is crying loudly, loudly.

It is breaking and melting

Into the sea which is rising, rising.

Polar bears have nowhere to stand on,

10

Nowhere they call home.

Can you feel their heartbreak?

Can you see their wounds we make?

All around the Earth

Nature is calling for help.

15

Answer the questions.

- Why do people kill whales?
 A. They want to get their fins.
 B. They want to get their meat.
 C. Whales are dangerous.
 D. Whales hurt people.
- Stanza 2 is mainly about _____.
 A. polar bears' new homes
 B. the crying animals
 C. rising temperature
 D. falling temperature
- The ice becomes _____.
 A. harder
 B. softer
 C. bigger
 D. smaller
- What is the main message of this poem?
 A. Sea animals are dangerous.
 B. We can do nothing for sea animals.
 C. We should stop harming Nature.
 D. We should find new homes for polar bears.