

e-future Classic Readers

LEVEL 4-6

Why the Dog Hates the Cat



Norman Hinsdale Pitman

A Write the correct word for each definition.

welcome

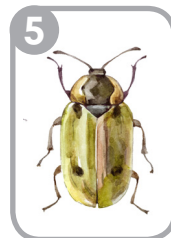
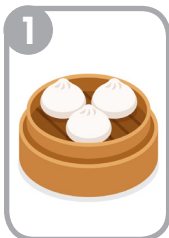
dumplings

bark

sneak

journey

beetle



1. Dumplings are pieces of food that are wrapped in dough and cooked.
2. To bark is to make a short, loud sound, like dogs do.
3. To sneak is to move quietly and secretly so that no one notices you.
4. A journey is a trip from one place to another.
5. A beetle is a type of insect with wings that form a hard cover on its back.
6. To welcome people is to greet them in a warm and friendly way.

B Write the antonym for the given word. Change the form if needed.

boil

weak

enemy

lazy

1. Everyone in the house had become weak.
strong
2. Just place it in a pot of boiling water, and tell it what you'd like to eat.
freezing
3. They grew strong, but they also grew lazy.
hard-working
4. Dogs and cats have been enemies ever since.
friends

C Write the correct word to complete the sentence.

what that how when while after

1. "I will show you how we make the most delicious food ever," Widow Wang said.
2. After many weeks of good food, the cat and dog did not like being hungry.
3. Ming-Li looked sad. Widow Wang knew that he had not found work.
4. The dog swam across the river while the cat stayed dry on his back.
5. "When I come home, I'll bring food," said Ming-Li.
6. "Oh, what a wonderful meal I just had," said the cat.

D Write your own sentences using the same pattern below.

wishes

I don't have any dumplings to eat. → I wish I **had** some dumplings to eat.
I can't draw well. → I wish I **could** draw well.
I have a lot of homework. → I wish I **didn't have** a lot of homework.

[Sample answers]

1. I wish I lived by the ocean.
2. I wish I knew how to drive.
3. I wish I didn't have to get up early.

IDEAS

don't know → *knew* am not → *was*
don't live → *lived* have to → *didn't have to*

A Choose the best answers.

1. What was the main problem for Widow Wang and her son?



- a. They were cold.
- b. They had too much work.
- ☒ c. They had little food.

2. Everyone in the house became lazy because



- a. their neighbors did all the work.
- ☒ b. they had lots of food to eat.
- c. it was a very cold winter.

3. What did Mr. Chu do?



- ☒ a. He stole the golden beetle.
- b. He asked to borrow the golden beetle.
- c. He tried to make a golden beetle.

4. Who got the charm from Mr. and Mrs. Chu's house?



- ☒ a. The rat
- b. The dog
- c. The cat

B Circle the right answer and write it in the blank.

1. A man gave the charm to Widow Wang.
☒ gave / sold

2. The dog and the cat didn't try to stop Mr. Chu.
tried / ☒ didn't try

3. When she had the charm back, Widow Wang forgot about the dog.
thanked / ☒ forgot about

4. At the end of the story, the dog was angry at the cat.
☒ angry at / afraid of

C Circle T for true or F for false.

1. Ming-Li was trying to find a job. (T) / F
2. The golden beetle made any food that Widow Wang wanted. (T) / F
3. Widow Wang invited her neighbors over for a feast. (T) / F
4. The cat caught and ate a rat. T / (F)
5. The dog did not help to get the charm back. T / (F)

D Summarize the story. Write 1 or 2 words in each blank.

Beginning

It was a hard winter. Widow Wang, her son Ming-Li, her dog, and her cat were very hungry. Then a man knocked at the door. He gave Widow Wang a golden beetle that could make food.

Middle

Everyone ate a lot for weeks. One night, Mr. and Mrs. Chu came over for dinner. The next day, Mr. Chu sneaked in to steal the charm. The dog and the cat wanted to get it back. The dog protected the cat on the journey. The cat made a rat take the charm from the house.

End

When they came home, the cat went inside and left the dog outside. Widow Wang gave the cat a big, wonderful meal/feast. The dog got nothing. The dog told all the other dogs what the cat had done. Since then, dogs and cats have been enemies.