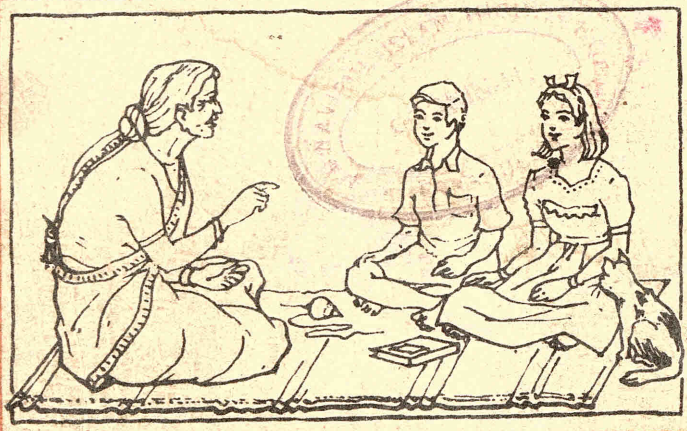


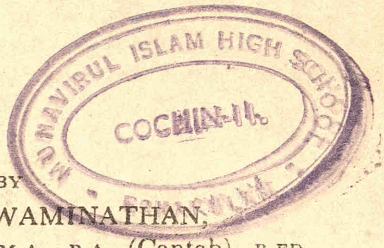
STORIES ROUND THE WORLD

Mina Swaminathan

FOR STANDARD VI PRICE : 70 PAISE

ORIENT LONGMAN

STORIES ROUND THE WORLD



BY

MRS. MINA SWAMINATHAN,

M.A., B.A. (Cantab), B.ED.

St. Thomas' Girls' Higher Secondary School,
New Delhi.



ORIENT LONGMAN

BOMBAY - CALCUTTA - MADRAS - NEW DELHI

ORIENT LONGMAN LIMITED

Registered Office: 50, SUNDAR NAGAR, NEW DELHI 3
Regional Offices: NICOL ROAD, BALLARD ESTATE, BOMBAY 1
17, CHITTARANJAN AVENUE, CALCUTTA 13
36A, MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS 2
3/5, ASAF ALI ROAD, NEW DELHI 1

LONGMAN GROUP LTD.
Longman House, Burnt Mill, Harlow, Essex
Associated companies, branches and representatives throughout the world.

First Published 1965
Reprinted 1971

© *Orient Longman Ltd., 1965*

Printed by Offset at Maps and Atlases Publications Private Ltd.
Pallavaram, Madras-43 and published by V. Abdulla,
Regional Manager, Orient Longman Ltd.,
36-A, Mount Road, Madras-2.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I would like to express my deep gratitude to Miss Ahalya Chari, at whose instance this book was written, for her valuable advice and comments on the manuscript.

The Author.

TO THE TEACHER

THIS is a supplementary reader for children doing English for the second year, and is based on the structures and vocabulary accepted in Delhi State for Class VI. The vocabulary is slightly more extensive than that taught in the Sixth Class. No new structures or words found here should be formally practised or learnt by the children. It should be sufficient if the children are able to read and understand the stories without hesitation.

A supplementary reader is meant primarily for enjoyment. It also serves the purpose of enabling the child to test his own mastery over skills he has learnt. It is therefore desirable that the children be allowed to read this book as far as possible by themselves, whether in or out of class. The reader has been prepared in such a way that it can be read with very little assistance from the teacher. It should be "read", not "taught". At the end of each story, the new vocabulary items are listed and some simple exercises suggested. This should help the child to recognise and master new words but is not intended to be used as a drill. At the end of the book will be found two groups of questions on each story. These can be used by the teacher not only to test comprehension, but also to stimulate critical thought about and around the stories and their implications. The children can be encouraged to answer the first group of questions when they have finished reading each story, and thus to test their own comprehension.

The Part B questions need not be introduced at the first reading but may be used towards the end of the year. This is chiefly because they need more critical thinking and also because they involve the use of structures which the children may learn only at the end of the second year course. Formal drills and exercises on these stories should be rigorously avoided, but as most of the stories lend themselves admirably to dramatisation, and as they are largely written in dialogue, children should be encouraged to enact these stories in class. This is the best exercise that can be suggested for stories of this type, as it will not only increase enjoyment and provide practice in speaking, but also lead to many new activities and suggest new lessons to the teacher.

Of the stories in this book, about half are Indian in origin, while the rest are drawn from the folklore, fairy tales and legends of other lands. The aim of the selection has been to appeal to the imagination of young readers by drawing on some classics of children's literature and to interest them in things and people far beyond the classroom. Children are apt to get bored with material which is far below their level of mental maturity and it is hoped that these stories, though written in the simplest of language, contain enough fun, nimble wit, and food for thought to capture the interest of the alert twelve-year-old. If the children enjoy reading this book, then its primary purpose is served.

A LETTER TO READERS

New Delhi
1st January, 1965.

My dear friends,

Here is a book for you. It is a book of stories. In this book we shall go round the world. We shall go to many countries and you will read their stories. First you will find some stories from our country, and then you will find stories from other countries. Do you like that ? You will read stories from Korea, France, Greece and Germany. Boys and girls in those countries enjoy these stories. I hope you will enjoy them too. Then you will have friends in many lands. Do you like that ? Next time we shall visit some more countries. Now let us read these stories.

Your friend,
MINA SWAMINATHAN.

CONTENTS

		Page
1.	The Mice and the Iron Pole ...	1
2.	Grandmother and the Robber ...	4
3.	Lin Foo's Money (Part 1) ...	8
4.	Lin Foo's Money (Part 2) ...	11
5.	The Buffalo and the Crow ...	14
6.	Tenali Raman	18
7.	Puss in Boots (Part 1)	21
8.	Puss in Boots (Part 2)	24
9.	The Seven Sisters	28
10.	Pandora's Box	31
11.	Helen	34
12.	The Weaving Match	37
13.	The Donkey's Song	40
14.	The Two Friends	43
15.	The Blue Fox	46
16.	The Four Friends	49
17.	Cinderella (Part 1)	52
18.	Cinderella (Part 2)	56
	Questions	62

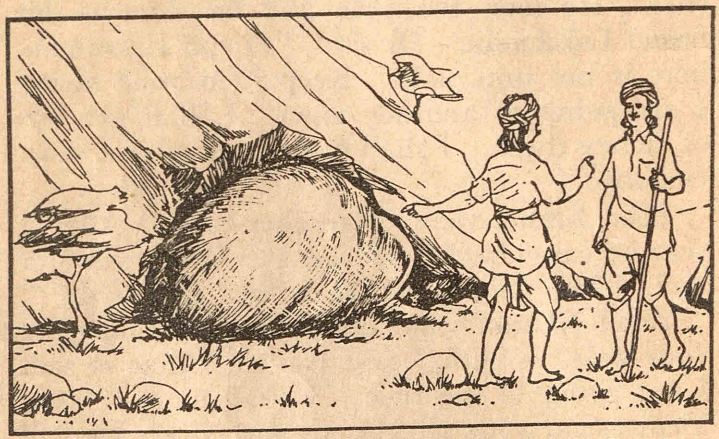
1. THE MICE AND THE IRON POLE

In a town, there lived a rich man. His name was Naduk. He lost his money. In his house there was a huge iron pole. A pole is a big stick. He took the pole and he went to his friend Lakshman. He said, "Friend Lakshman, here is my iron pole. Keep it in your home. I am going to another town. I shall get lots of money there. I shall come back after a year. Goodbye."

Then Naduk went to another town. After a year he came back. He went to Lakshman and said, "My friend, where is my iron pole?" "Friend Naduk," said Lakshman, "the mice ate your pole." "Oh," said Naduk, "that is sad. I am going to the river. I shall have a bath. Please send your son, Good, with me. He will carry my clothes." Lakshman called Good. "My son, here is uncle Naduk. He is going to the river. He will have a bath. Go with him and carry his clothes." So Naduk went to the river. He had a bath. Then he took Good to a cave. He put Good in the cave. He put a big stone in front of the cave. Then he went to Lakshman. Lakshman said, "My friend, where

is my son ?" Naduk said, "Friend Lakshman, I was having a bath. A bird carried away your son." Lakshman was angry. "Naduk," he said, "You are not telling the truth, are you ? A bird cannot carry away a boy, can he ?" But Naduk said, "Mice cannot eat an iron pole, can they ?"

"Come with me," said Lakshman. "We will



go to the King. He will punish you." So they went together to the King.

"What is it ?" asked the King. Lakshman told him. "Naduk, what is this ?" said the King. "Can a bird carry away a boy ?" "Sir," said Naduk, "Can mice eat an iron pole ?"

The King laughed. "Give the iron pole to Naduk," he said, "and Naduk will give your son

to you." So Lakshman gave the iron pole to Naduk and Naduk gave Good to Lakshman. Naduk and Lakshman were friends again.

LOOK AND SAY

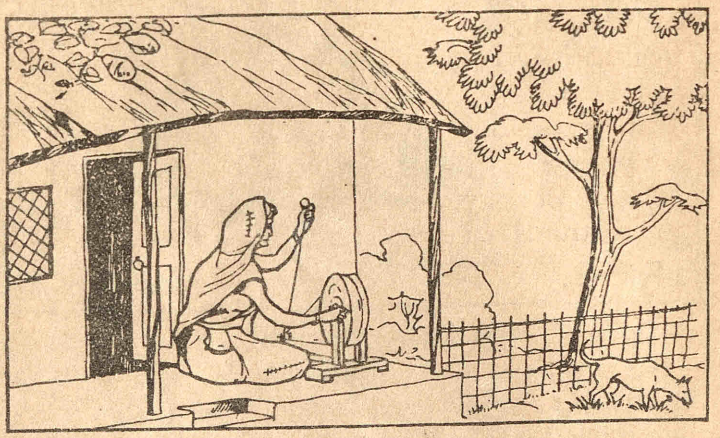
mouse	iron	punish	river
mice	cave	truth	huge

THESE WORDS MEAN THE SAME

large big huge

2. GRANDMOTHER AND THE ROBBER

ONCE there lived an old woman. She lived in a small house. She was very poor. She had no sons and no daughters. She lived alone. She spun all day. In the evening she went to the market and sold thread. With the money



she bought some food. Then she went home and slept.

Every day a man saw her. He was a robber. He said, "This old woman sells a lot of thread. Every evening she comes to the market and

sells thread. She must be rich. I shall go to her house tonight and I shall steal her money."

That night he went to her house. The old woman was sleeping. The thief took a sharp stick and stood near the door. He made a little noise. He was making a small hole in the door. The old woman heard the noise and woke up. She said, "That is a thief. He will come inside the house and kill me. What shall I do ? I shall do a clever thing. He will be afraid and he will run away."

So she turned her spinning-wheel and she said, "Son Black Eyes ! Son Black Eyes !" Then she said in a loud voice, "Yes, mother dear, what is it ?" Then she said, "Son, there is a mouse near the door. It is making a noise. Go and see." "Yes, mother, I am going," she then said in a loud voice.

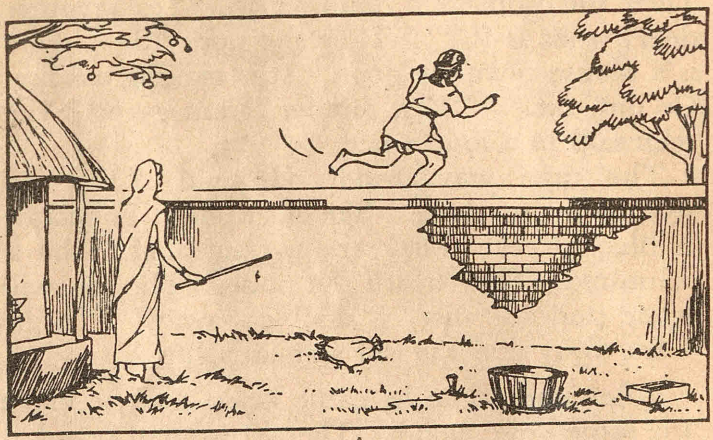
The thief was afraid. He said, "The old woman is not alone. She has a son. His name is Black Eyes. They are not sleeping. She is spinning. They heard the noise. The son will come and hit me. I shall go away." So he went away and the old woman slept.

After some time he came again and he made the same noise again. The old woman heard it and she got up. She turned her spinning-wheel and said, "Son Big Nose ! Son Big Nose !" "Yes, mother dear, I am coming," she said in a

loud voice. "There is a mouse near the door. Go and see," she said. Then she said in a loud voice, "Yes, mother, I shall take a stick and see."

Now the robber was afraid. He said, "She has two sons. The second son's name is Big Nose. They will both come and hit me." So he ran away again and the old woman slept.

After some time he came again. He said, "Now the old woman and her two sons are sleeping. I shall go in and take all their money." He made the same noise. The old woman heard it. She was angry. She jumped up and said,



"My sons, my sons! Black Eyes, Big Nose and Long Ears! Get up, my sons! The mouse is here again. Please go and kill it." And she

took a big stick and hit the spinning-wheel. It made a loud noise. She said in a loud voice, "Yes, mother, here I am. Yes mother, here is my stick. Yes mother, I am coming."

The robber was very afraid. He said, "She has three sons and they are all coming. They will kill me." He ran away and did not come back. He had a bag of money with him. He dropped it and ran away.

In the morning the old woman saw the bag. She opened it and gave some money to her friends. Then she kept some. She was very happy.

LOOK AND SAY

spin	sharp	loud
spun	hole	voice
spinning-wheel	alone	kill

WHICH TWO WORDS HERE MEAN THE SAME ?

thief, afraid, steal, robber.

THESE WORDS MEAN THE OPPOSITE

poor	—	rich
slept	—	woke
loud	—	soft

3. LIN FOO'S MONEY

Part 1

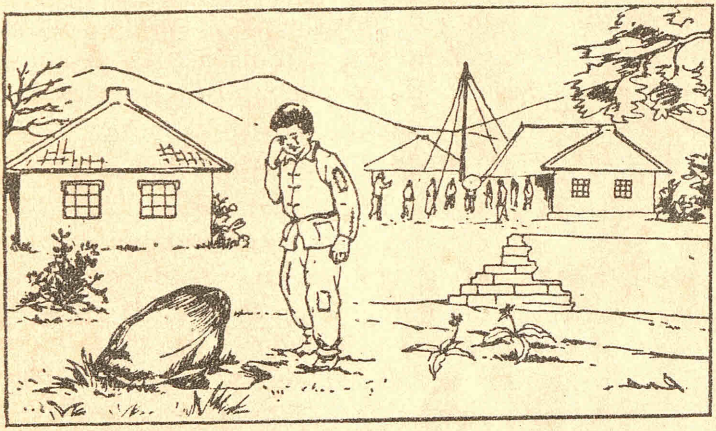
In a village there lived a small boy. His name was Lin Foo. He lived with his mother and he had no father. They were very poor. His mother made potato chips every Sunday and Lin Foo took them to the market and sold them. At night he brought the money to his mother, and with it she bought food.

One Sunday, there was a fair in the village. Lin Foo was very happy. He said, "Today I shall sell a lot of chips. Many people will come to the fair. Mother, make a lot of chips. I shall sell them and bring the money to you." Lin Foo's mother made a lot of chips and Lin Foo took them to the fair and sold them. He had a lot of money.

He said, "All my friends are at the fair. I shall go and play with them. We shall see everything. But what shall I do with this money? Shall I put it in my pocket? No, I shall lose it. I shall put it under a stone. There I cannot lose it."

So Lin Foo put the money under a stone and went to his friends. They went to the fair. They were happy. In the evening, Lin Foo

came back. He said, "Now I shall take the money and go home." He looked under the stone. There was no money. Lin Foo was surprised. He cried. "Where is my money? Oh, my money! My money! What shall I do? Where is my money? Who took it? My mother will hit me."



A great judge was at the fair. He saw Lin Foo. "What is it, little boy?" he said. Lin Foo told him. "My money! It is not there. What shall I do?"

"Where did you put the money?" said the judge.

"I put it under the stone," said Lin Foo. "Now it is not there."

"Who took the money ? Who knows ? Who saw the robber ?" said the judge.

Everyone said, "I did not see the robber." "Then the stone is the robber," said the judge. "Catch the stone and put it in prison. Tomorrow we shall punish the robber. Come here tomorrow. Bring two sticks and a big stone jar."

Everyone laughed and went away. "The judge is a fool. Who stole the money ? A man or a woman stole the money. But he caught the stone," they all said.

Lin Foo cried and went home.

4. LIN FOO'S MONEY

Part 2

THE next morning all the people of the village came there. Lin Foo and his mother came also. The judge came with his soldiers. The soldiers brought two big sticks and a stone jar. The jar was full. There was water in the jar.

"Who saw the robber?" said the judge. Everyone said, "I did not see the robber."

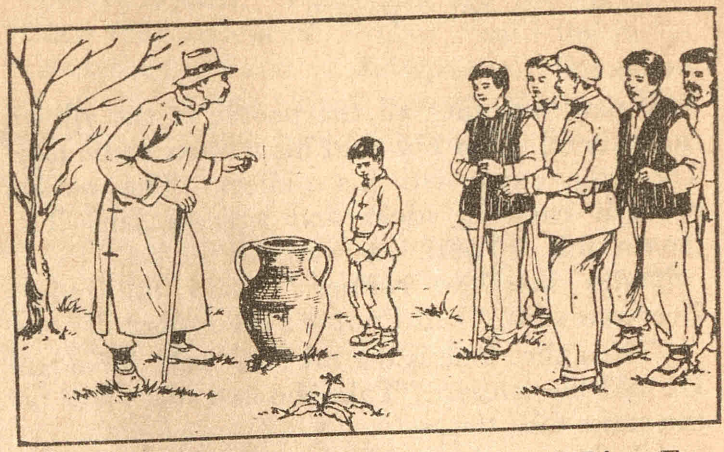
"Then the stone is the robber," said the judge. He told his soldiers "Take the two sticks and hit the stone fifty times."

All the people laughed. "He is hitting the stone! He is hitting the stone! The stone is not the robber, is it? The stone cannot be the robber. The judge is a fool."

The judge was angry. "I am not a fool. You are fools. I shall punish you all. You shall give me one rupee each. Everyone will pay one rupee. Put it in this jar."

Now the people did not laugh. They were sorry. Each man came and put one rupee in the jar of water. All the people put money in the jar. The last man came and put one rupee in the jar. The judge jumped up. "This is the robber. Catch him and hit him," he said.

The people were surprised. "Is he the robber ? Really ? Is he ?" they said.



"Listen," said the judge. "Lin Foo brought the chips to the market. He brought them in a basket. His mother cooked the chips in oil. So there was oil in the basket. He put the money in the basket. So there was oil on the money. Now this man took the money. He put one rupee in the jar of water. There is oil on that rupee. See, there is oil on the water. This is Lin Foo's money. It was in Lin Foo's basket. This man took it. He is the thief. Catch him and hit him."

The people caught the man and hit him. "Give the money to Lin Foo," they said. The man gave the money to Lin Foo. Lin Foo and

his mother took the money and went home. They were happy and everyone was happy.

LOOK AND SAY

chips	judge	jar
fair	prison	soldier
great	fool	angry

WHICH WORDS ARE NEW ?

steal	oil	robber
great	punish	people

5. THE BUFFALO AND THE CROW

ONCE there lived a buffalo and a crow. The buffalo was big and strong, but he was stupid, and the crow was small but he was clever. The buffalo said to the crow, "Go away, you small black ugly bird. Do not come near me. I am grazing. Go away." The crow was angry, and he said, "Do not talk like that, Mr. Buffalo. You are big and strong. But you cannot do something. I can do it."

"What is that ?" said the buffalo. "What can you do, you small black bird ? I can do that also."

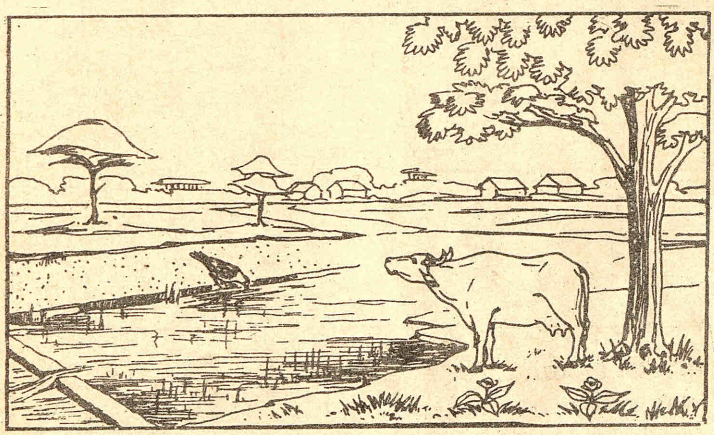
"No, you cannot," said the crow. "I can drink all the water in this field." That morning the farmer filled the field with water.

The buffalo said, "There is a lot of water in this field. I am standing in it. The water comes to my knees. You cannot drink all this water. Can you ?" "I can," said the crow. "Can you ?"

"We shall have a drinking match," said the buffalo. "You shall drink the water in this field and I shall drink the water in the next field."

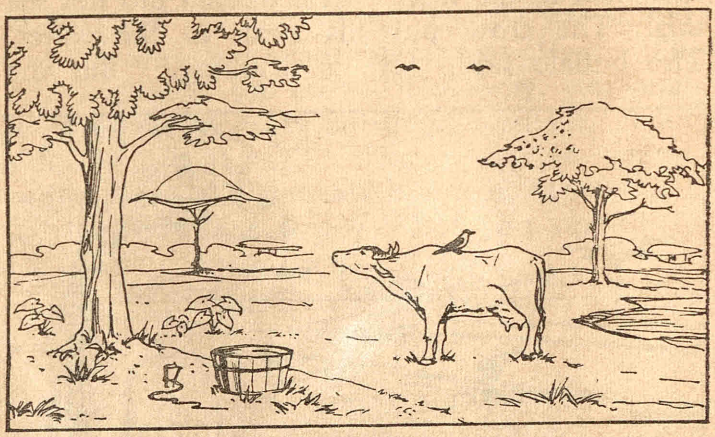
"Yes," said the crow, "We shall have a drinking match. We shall see."

The crow waited. Soon the farmer came into the field. There was a small channel between that field and the next. It had a gate. The farmer opened the gate. The water ran from that field to the next. The buffalo did not see this. The crow put his beak to the water. The buffalo said, "He is drinking." But the



crow was not drinking. The water was running into the next field. Soon all the water ran into the next field. There was no water in the field. The crow lifted his head. The buffalo said to himself, "The crow is a small bird. But he drank all the water in this big field. I shall do it too."

"Come, we shall go to another field," he said. They went to another field full of water. The buffalo put his mouth to the water and drank the water. He drank and drank and drank. He was full. But he drank and drank. He looked up. The field was full of water. He



drank again. At last, he stood up. The field was full of water. He said, "Friend crow, you win the match. I lose. I cannot drink the water in this field."

The crow laughed. He did not tell the truth to the buffalo. "Give me a prize," he said. "What shall I give you ?" said the buffalo. "I shall ride on your back every day," said the crow. So every day the crow rides on the buffalo's back. You can see them sometimes.

LOOK AND SAY

strong	channel	prize
stupid	beak	win
ugly	lifted	looked up

THESE WORDS MEAN THE OPPOSITE

strong	—	weak
stupid	—	clever
ugly	—	beautiful
lifted	—	dropped
win	—	lose

6. TENALI RAMAN

LONG ago, there lived a clever man. His name was Tenali Raman. He was poor but he was very clever. He told lovely stories and poems and he sang nice songs. He was the King's friend. He lived in the King's palace and told stories and sang songs.

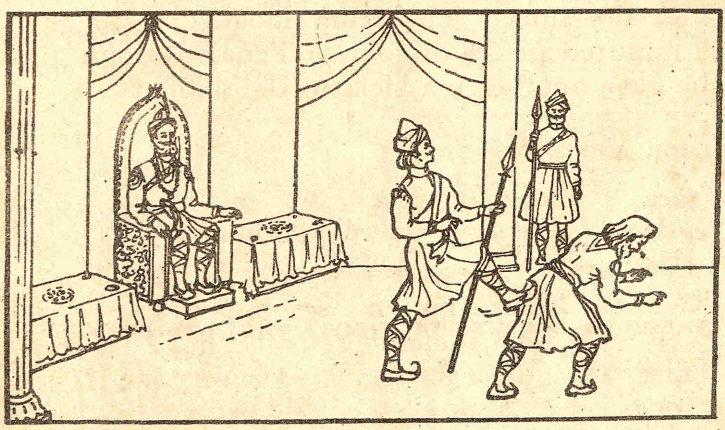
One day he went to his village. After a month, he came back. He came to the palace. At the door, there was a soldier. He said to Tenali Raman, "You cannot go in." "I shall go in," said Tenali Raman. "I am the King's friend." "No," said the soldier. "First you shall give me some money. Or you cannot go in." "But I have no money," said Tenali Raman. "Then give me something else. You shall give me something." "I have nothing else," said Tenali Raman. "I am a poet. I am the King's friend. Ask the King. He will tell you. Please let me go in." "No," said the soldier, "First give me something."

Tenali Raman said, "He is a greedy and bad man. I shall punish him."

Then he said, "I have nothing now. But listen to me. The King is my friend. He will

give me a gift. I shall give half of it to you." "What will he give you ?" said the soldier. "I do not know. But I shall give half of it to you," said Tenali Raman. "Then you can go in," said the soldier.

So Tenali Raman went in. The King was very happy. "My dear friend Tenali Raman," he said. "I am happy. What shall I give you?" "Give me twenty kicks," said Tenali Raman.



The King laughed. "That is a funny gift. No, I shall give you something else. Shall I give you money or clothes or a house or horses or elephants ?" "No," said Tenali Raman "Give me twenty kicks." The King said, "Tenali Raman is a clever man. But he says: 'Give me twenty kicks.' That is funny. But I

shall give them to him and see." So he told his soldiers, "Give him twenty kicks," and the soldiers gave him twenty kicks.

Tenali Raman came out of the room. He said to the soldier, "The King gave me a gift. Here is half of it. Take it," and he gave him ten kicks. "Oh, oh, oh!" cried the soldier. He was angry. He ran to the King and said, "Sir, this man hit me." "What is it?" said the King. "What is it?" So Tenali Raman told him the story. The King laughed. He gave a hundred pieces of gold to Tenali Raman and he gave another ten kicks to the soldier.

LOOK AND SAY

nice	song	ask	gold
palace	poem	greedy	funny
king	kick	half	sing

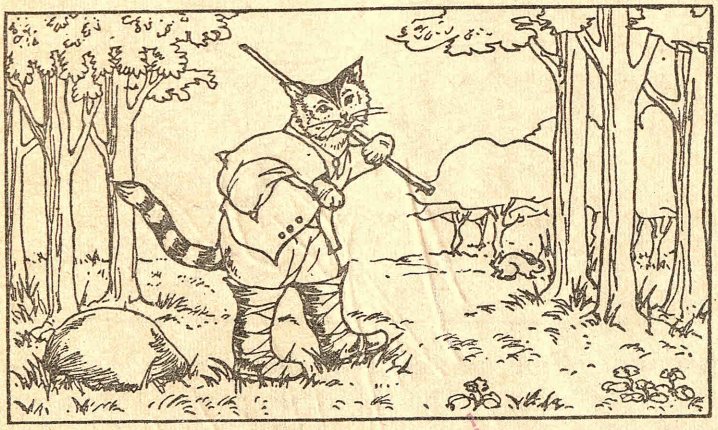
THESE WORDS SOUND THE SAME. THEY ARE RHYMES

ring	sing	king
wing	bring	thing

7. PUSS IN BOOTS

Part 1

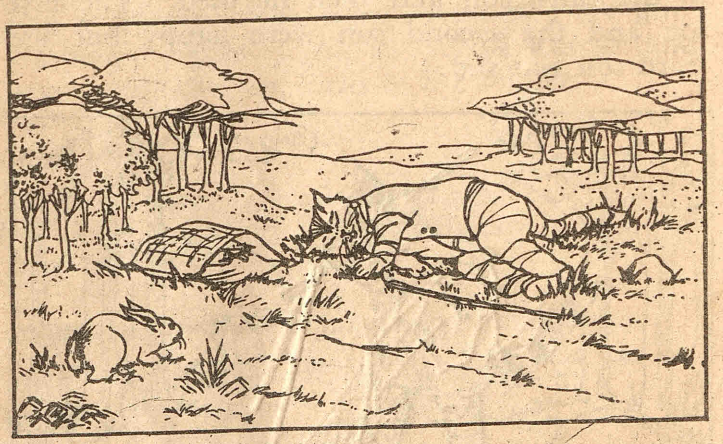
MANY years ago, there lived a farmer with three sons. He had a field, a donkey and a cat. The farmer gave the field to the eldest son and the donkey to the second son. He gave the cat to the third son and then he died. The first son and the second son were happy but the third son was sad.



"A cat cannot do anything," he said. "What will the cat do ? Can the cat help me ? I shall kill the cat and I shall sell the skin." The cat heard this. "Master, do not kill me," he said.

"I shall help you. Give me a big bag and a stick and a pair of shoes. You shall see." The third son laughed. "You are a cat," he said. "What can you do? But I shall give you a big bag and a stick and a pair of shoes."

The cat took the bag and the stick. He wore the shoes. He went to the forest. He put some nice carrots in the bag. Then he lay down. He shut his eyes. Some rabbits were



playing. One rabbit saw the carrots and the cat. He said, "The cat is sleeping. I shall eat the carrots." And the rabbit jumped into the bag. The cat jumped up. He took the stick and hit the rabbit. The rabbit died. He put the rabbit in the bag and shut the bag.

The cat went to the King. "Who are you?"

said the King. "What are you carrying in your bag ?" "My name is Puss," said the cat. "My master sent me here. He killed this rabbit. He sends you this gift. Take it." The King was happy. He took the rabbit and he gave the cat some money.

The cat took the money and went to his master. "Look, master !" he said. "Here is some money. Take it." "Who gave it to you ? When did you get it ? Where did you get it ?" said his master.

But the cat did not tell him. Every day the cat took his bag and went to the forest. He killed a rabbit or a bird and took it to the King. The King gave him money. The cat took it to his master. The cat and his master were happy.

The King had a lovely daughter. She was very beautiful. One day the cat said to his master, "The King's daughter is very beautiful." "Yes," said his master, "She is. But I cannot marry her. I am poor." "Of course you can," said the cat. "I shall help you. Listen to me. Then you can marry the King's daughter." "Good," said the master. "I shall listen to you. Tell me. What shall I do ?"

The cat told him. "We shall go to the river and you will have a bath in the river. Then you will see."

8. PUSS IN BOOTS

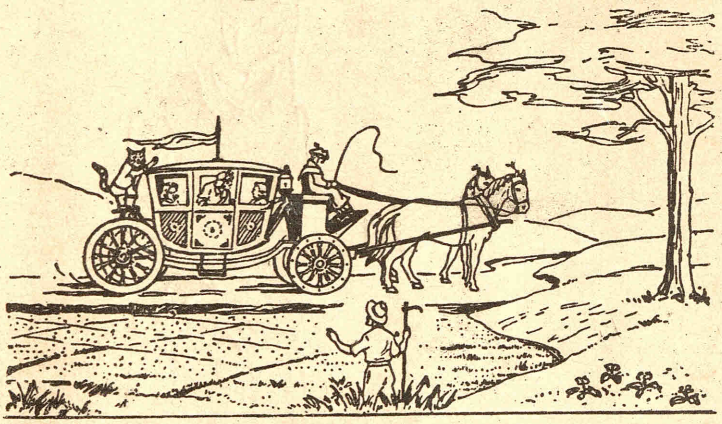
Part 2

ONE day, the King was driving near the river. His daughter was sitting near him. They saw the cat in front of them.

"Stop ! stop !" said the cat. "My master fell into the river. He is dying. Save him." The King stopped the carriage. His soldiers went to the river and pulled out the cat's master. The cat said to the King, "My master is a prince. He is the Prince of New Land. He was bathing in the river. Some robbers came and took away his clothes. Will you give him some clothes ?" "Yes, I shall give him some new clothes," said the King. The King's soldiers went and brought beautiful clothes. The prince wore them. The King said, "Will you sit with me in the carriage, Prince ?" The Prince sat with the King in the carriage. He looked at the Princess. The Princess looked at the Prince. She smiled. The cat ran in front. The Prince liked the Princess and the Princess liked the Prince.

On the way, there was a field. Some farmers were working in the field. The cat ran to them. He said, "The King is coming. He will say:

'Whose field is this ?' Then you must say 'It is the Prince's field.' Or I shall kill you all." The farmers were afraid.



The King saw the beautiful field. He stopped the carriage and said to the farmers, "Whose field is this ?" "It is the Prince of New Land's field," said the farmers. The King was happy. He said, "The Prince is young and handsome. He has many beautiful rich fields. My daughter shall marry him."

Now they came to a big and beautiful palace. In the palace there lived a giant. He was big, strong, clever and cruel. He was bad. Every one hated him. The cat went in first. He went to him. He said, "Sir, you are very

big and clever. You can do wonderful things. Everyone says: 'He can become a lion, a goat



or a dog.' Can you become a lion ?" "Yes, I can," said the giant. "Can you become a

mouse?" said the cat. "Yes, I can," said the giant.

"No, you can't," said the cat.

"Yes, I can," said the giant, "You shall see," and he became a mouse. The cat jumped on the mouse and killed it. Then he ran to the King. "Come in," he said. "This is my master's palace. It is the Prince's house." "It is a lovely palace," said the King. "Prince, you are young and handsome. You have beautiful fields and palaces. You shall marry my daughter."

So the Prince and the Princess were married. They lived in the palace. The cat lived with them. They were all very happy.

LOOK AND SAY

anything	donkey	master	prince
help	died	forest	dying
skin	lay down	carriage	driving

THESE WORDS MEAN THE OPPOSITE

cruel	—	kind
poor	—	rich
young	—	old
handsome	—	ugly
like	—	hate

THESE WORDS MEAN THE SAME

handsome lovely pretty beautiful

9 THE SEVEN SISTERS

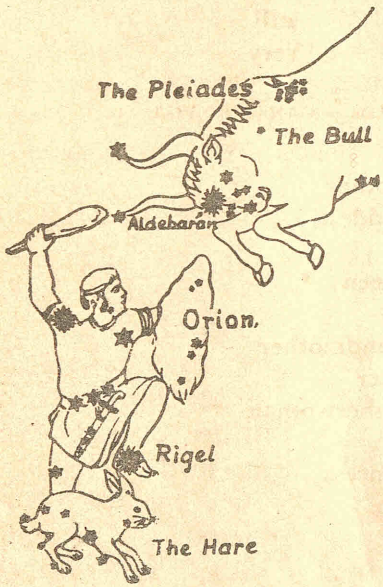
DIANA was the goddess of the moon. She had many friends. At night, she came to the forest. She danced and played with her friends. In the morning she went back to the



moon. There were seven sisters. They were very beautiful. They were Diana's friends.

One night they were dancing in the forest. A hunter came there. His name was Orion. He saw them and said, "There are seven lovely

birds. They are big white birds. I shall go near them and see." He came near them. The girls saw him. They were afraid and they ran away.



Orion ran after them. The girls ran very fast but Orion ran faster. He came very near them. The girls were afraid. They said "Diana, Diana, save us. The hunter will catch us and kill us."

Now Orion was very near the girls. Diana saved the girls. They became seven beautiful white birds. They flew away—up, up, up they flew to the sky. Then they became stars. You can see them up in the sky. The seven stars are together. Their name is the Seven Sisters.

Many years after, Orion died. He too became a star. He is shining up in the sky. You can see him too. He is behind the Seven Sisters. He is still looking at them. He is still running

after them. Now he still says, "I shall catch them."

LOOK AND SAY

goddess	fast	stars
moon	flew	still
danced	sky	very

HERE ARE TWO LISTS OF WORDS. CAN YOU FILL IN THE BLANKS?

father	mother
god	goddess
uncle	—
king	queen
son	—
grandfather	grandmother
—	sister
—	washerwoman
boy	—
prince	princess
cock	hen

10. PANDORA'S BOX

LONG, long ago every one was good and happy. The world was beautiful. There were flowers and fruits and trees and green grass everywhere. People ate fruits and drank milk. There were no troubles. No one was ill. Everyone sang and danced all day. Everyone was happy.

There lived two brothers. The first was Prom. The second was Epim. They were hunters. One day Prom went to another town. He called his brother and said, "Brother, I am going to another town. I shall come back after a year. Strangers will come here. They will bring many beautiful things. Do not take anything." "Brother, I shall not," said Epim, and Prom went away.

One day a stranger came to their house. With him there was a beautiful young girl. The stranger carried a heavy box. He said, "Epim, here is a friend for you. You are alone. She will sing and dance and play with you. Here is a box also. Keep it. But do not open it. Then you and Pandora will be happy. Do not open the box."

Epim was happy. Now he had a friend. He was not alone. Epim and Pandora ran and laughed and talked and played together. They sang and danced and ate and drank together. They were happy.

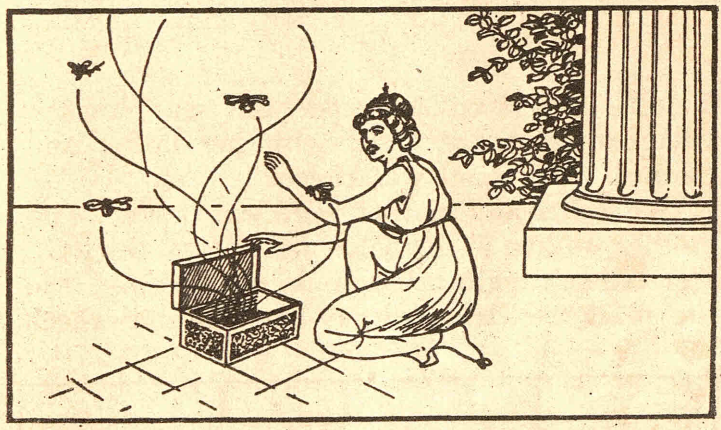
One day Epim said, "Pandora, I am going to the forest. I shall hunt and I shall come back in the evening. You stay here and cook some food for me. But do not open the box." So Epim went to the forest and Pandora stayed at home.

Pandora said, "What shall I do ? I am alone. I cannot sing or dance or talk or play. Shall I open the box ? Yes, I shall. What is in the box ? I shall open the box a little. I shall see."

She opened the box a little. A lot of little insects came out. They made a noise. Pandora was afraid. She shut the box. The insects bit Pandora. She cried. The insects flew everywhere and bit everyone. They were troubles.

Now everyone became ill. Everyone was sad. The sun did not shine. The trees lost their leaves and fruits and flowers. The grass became brown. The summer became very hot and the winter became very cold. There were many troubles. Pandora cried a lot. She was

sorry. She said, "What can I do ? I can do nothing."



She was a naughty girl. And troubles came into the world.

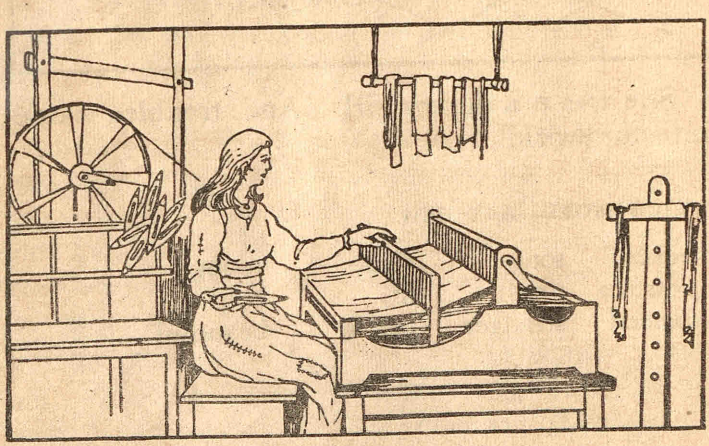
WHICH WORDS ARE NEW?

world	song	alone	young
troubles	forest	ill	keep
danced	stranger	insects	beautiful

11. HELEN

THERE was a village near the sea. In the village there lived a girl with her father and mother. Her name was Helen.

Her father and mother were very poor. Her mother worked in the fields and cooked the food. Her father caught fish from the sea and sold it in the market. Helen sat at her spinning-wheel.



She spun thread all day. Then she wove the thread into cloth at her weaving frame. She made beautiful pictures in the cloth. The

people bought her cloth. She helped her father and mother.

One day Helen's father brought some red and blue fish from the sea. He made a dye (or colour) from the fish. The red and blue colours were beautiful. Helen put her thread into the dye. The thread became a lovely red or blue. Now Helen wove cloth with the new red colour and the blue colour.

She wove beautiful cloth. The pictures in her cloth had many new colours. The people in her village bought her cloth. The people of other villages also bought her cloth. She sold a lot of cloth. She made more cloth and sold it. They became rich. Helen's mother did not work in the fields and cook all day and her father did not catch fish all day. They went to a big house.

All the people said, "Helen weaves lovely cloth. She makes beautiful pictures in the cloth. No one can weave like that." Helen became proud and vain. She said, "I am very clever. No one can weave cloth like this. No one can make pictures like these."

Some people said, "Where did you get these beautiful colours?" Helen said, "I made them." She did not say, "My father helped me. He made the colours for me."

Some people said, "Helen, you weave beautiful

cloth. Who is teaching you? Is Minerva teaching you?" Minerva was the goddess of spinning and weaving. Helen was angry. She said, "No, Minerva is not teaching me. I can do this. I learnt it alone. Who is Minerva? Where is she? Will she come here? We shall have a weaving match. Then you shall see. Minerva cannot weave like this. Yes, we shall have a weaving match."

Helen heard a loud noise. She looked back. What did she see? You will read about it in the next lesson.

LOOK AND SAY

weave	fish	vain
wove	dye	no one
weaving-frame	proud	

THESE WORDS YOU ALREADY KNOW

thread	poor	spun
spinning-wheel	goddess	loud
became	angry	

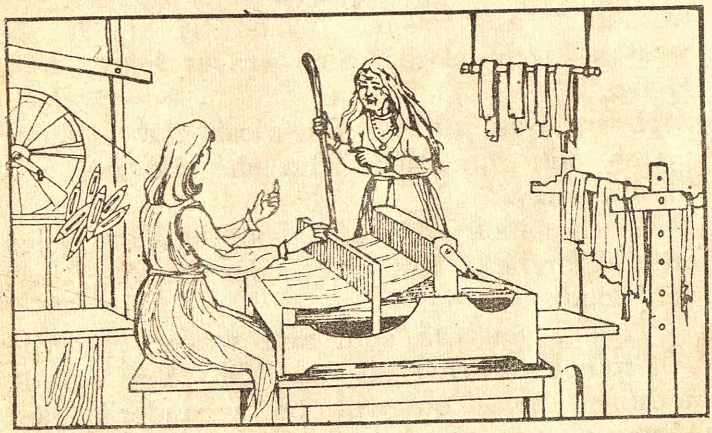
THESE WORDS MEAN THE SAME

dye	—	colour
proud	—	vain

12. THE WEAVING MATCH

HELEN saw an old woman in a long grey frock. Her eyes were grey, but they were shining. She leaned on a stick. She said "Helen, I am an old woman. Listen to me. You are making a mistake. You are proud. Say to Minerva 'I am sorry'."

"No," said Helen. "I will not say it. I am not sorry. Go away."



The old woman was angry. Her eyes shone. She dropped the stick. She became tall and straight. She was the goddess Minerva.

"Helen," she said "Are you sorry now?" "No," said Helen. "I am not sorry. We shall have a weaving match."

So Helen's father and mother brought two weaving frames and put them in the room. Helen and Minerva stood together. The weaving match began. All the people heard the news. They came to the house. They were looking at the weaving match.

Helen worked at her weaving-frame. She wove fast. But Minerva wove faster. Helen wove beautiful pictures. But all the people looked at Minerva's cloth. "Who is this woman?" they said. "Who is she? She weaves lovely cloth. She weaves better than Helen."

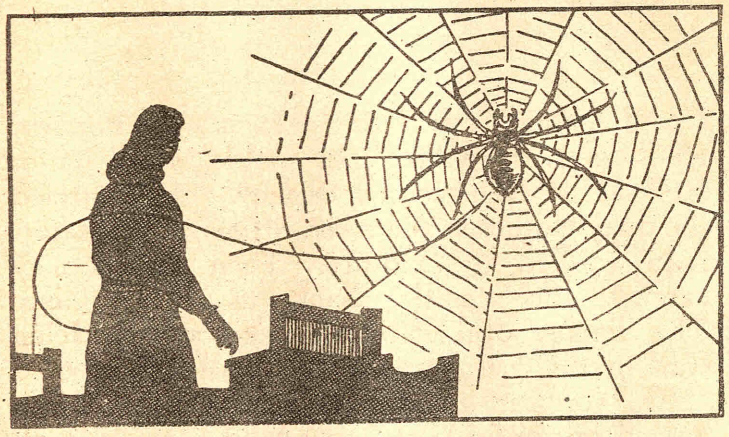
Helen was afraid. She lost the weaving match and she cried. But she did not say, "I am sorry."

Minerva took a piece of wood and hit Helen on the forehead with it. Helen became very, very small.

"Helen, you can spin and weave. So you will spin and weave all your life. You will do nothing else. You will be a spider," said Minerva.

So Helen became a spider. She ran to a corner. She spun and wove webs. In the web she caught little insects and she ate them.

She spun and wove all day. She did nothing else.



So spiders came into the world. You can still see them. They spin and weave webs. You can see the webs on the grass early in the morning. You can see them in the corners of rooms.

LOOK AND SAY

leaned	shone	spider
mistake	shining	web
grey	news	corner
began	forehead	better

THESE ARE COLOURS. DO YOU KNOW ANY MORE ?

red	green	pink
blue	grey	yellow

13. THE DONKEY'S SONG

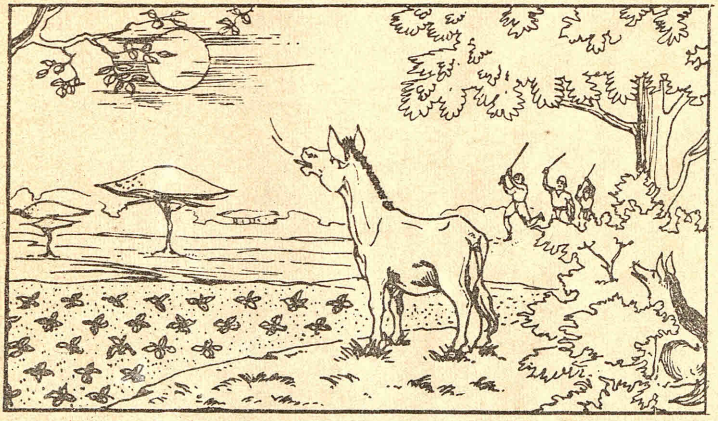
LONG long ago there was a donkey. He was very vain. His name was Banu. He was a washerman's donkey. He carried the dirty clothes to the river. There the washerman washed the clothes. Then the donkey carried the clothes back to the village. The donkey worked all day and at night he was tired. Every night the washerman said, "Now you can go and eat some food." Banu grazed in the fields and forests near the village. He ate grass and fruits and vegetables. In the morning he returned to the washerman.

Banu had a friend. He was a fox. The fox's name was Sunil. One night they entered a field of tomatoes together. All night they ate tomatoes and talked. They were very happy. In the morning the fox went back to the forest and the donkey went back to the washerman. Every night the donkey and the fox met and ate together.

One night the two friends were standing in a field of carrots. Banu said, "Dear friend, it is a beautiful night. The moon is full. I will sing a song. What song shall I sing ?"

"Dear friend," said the fox, "Do not sing a song. The farmers will hear it and they will come here and beat us. Besides, your voice is not sweet. It is very loud. The farmers will hear it."

The donkey heard this and he was angry. "Mr. Sunil," he said. "You live in the forest. You are a stupid fellow. You do not like music. I shall sing a beautiful song. Listen to me,



and you will like music." Now the fox was angry too. "Mr. Banu," he said. "You may sing your song. I shall wait outside the field." And the fox went away and hid behind a bush.

The donkey lifted his head and brayed. All the farmers heard it and woke up. They

took big sticks and stones and ran to the field. They found Mr. Banu. He was alone in the field. They hit him with their sticks and stones. Mr. Banu brayed again and went home. He cried and cried and cried. But Mr. Sunil laughed and ran away to the forest.

LOOK AND SAY

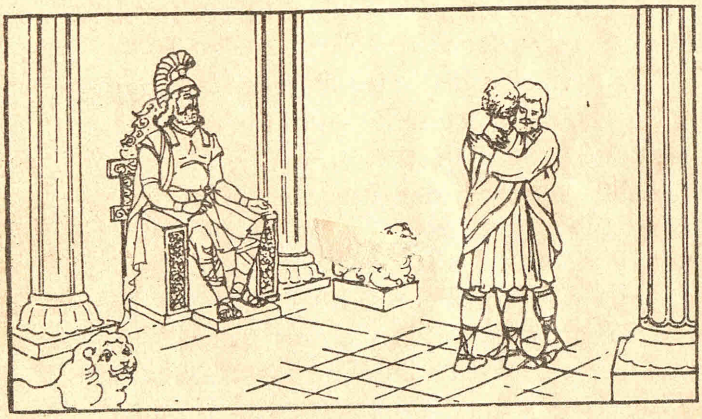
found	music	brayed
sweet	hid	beat
besides	bush	met

THESE WORDS MEAN ALMOST THE SAME

vain	—	proud
beat	—	hit
music	—	song
sweet	—	nice

14. THE TWO FRIENDS

MANY years ago, there lived two friends. Their names were Damon and Pythias. The King of that country was a cruel and bad man. He put Damon in prison and he said, "You do not listen to me. I shall kill you. You shall be in prison for a year. Then you shall die. I shall kill you."



Damon said, "You are the King. I shall listen to you and die. But first I shall ask one thing from you. My family lives in a town far away. It is across the sea. I shall go and

see them. I shall come back in a year. Then you can kill me. Please let me go."

The King laughed. "No, I cannot," he said. "You will go home and you will never come back."

Damon said, "I shall come back. For one year, my friend Pythias will stay in prison. He will take my place."

The King said to Pythias, "Will you take Damon's place ? Will you stay in prison ?"

"Yes," said Pythias.

"Then you can go," said the King to Damon. "But come back in a year. Or your friend will die in your place."

"He will not die," said Damon. "I shall come."

So Damon went to his town and Pythias took his place in prison.

After eleven months, the King came and said, "Where is your friend Damon ? He will not come and I shall kill you."

"He will come," said Pythias. "Or I shall die in his place. He is my friend."

The year finished. The last day came. The King laughed. "Where is your friend Damon? Today I shall kill you. He will not come," he said.

"Yes, I am ready," said Pythias. "I shall die in his place. Kill me."

So the King called his soldiers. They were ready. "Now we shall kill you," they said to Pythias. Just then Damon came. "My dear friend Pythias," he said. "Here I am. Now I shall die. I saw my family and I came here at once. You shall not die." The two friends embraced each other.

The King was surprised and he called them. "Damon and Pythias, you are good friends. I never saw friends like this. I shall not kill you and I shall not keep you in prison. You can both go. Go to your homes and be happy."

So Damon and Pythias thanked the King and went away. They were real friends.

WHICH WORDS ARE NEW ?

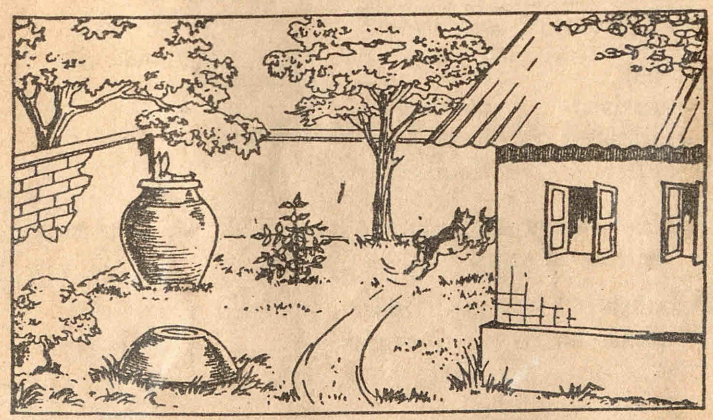
cruel	free	finished
surprised	country	prison
embraced	listen	ready
soldier	thanked	real

THESE WORDS MEAN THE OPPOSITE. CAN YOU FILL IN THE BLANKS ?

foolish	wise
handsome	ugly
—	kind
good	—
before	after
finished	began
—	sad

15. THE BLUE FOX

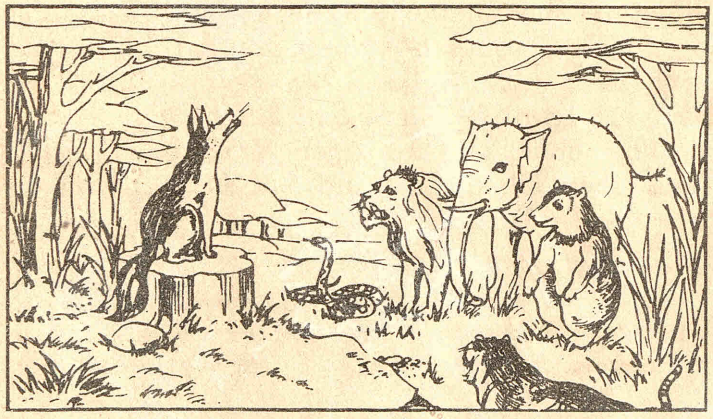
ONCE a fox lived in a forest. His name was Ravi. One day he went into the city. He had no food. He was hungry. Some fierce dogs saw him. They ran after him. The fox ran away. He ran fast but the dogs ran faster. The fox was afraid. "What shall I do ?" he said. "The dogs will catch me and they will kill me." He ran into a house. In a corner there was a huge jar of blue dye.



He jumped into the jar and hid. The dogs did not find him. They went away.

Soon the fox came out of the jar. He was blue. He changed his name. His new name was Neelu. He went back to the forest. The other animals saw the blue fox. They were afraid. "Oh, oh," they said, "What is this animal? Who is he? Where did he come from? Do you know?" But all the animals said, "We do not know." So all the animals were frightened and they ran away.

But the fox said, "Dear Friends, come here, come here. Do not run away. Do not be afraid. God sent me to you. I shall be your king. You will be my servants. You will



do my work and I shall be the king of the forest." Then all the animals said, "Yes, you will be our king and we shall be your servants.

We shall do your work and you will be the king."

The fox became the king. He was very happy. The lions, the tigers, the monkeys, the elephants, the bears, the birds, the snakes and the rabbits did his work. There were other foxes in the forest. They did not do Neelu's work. So he said to the other foxes, "Go away. Go to another forest."

One day the fox was sitting in the forest. Some other foxes came to the forest. They were howling. Neelu heard the noise. He was happy. He jumped up. He lifted his head and he howled. All the animals heard it. They were ashamed. They said, "This is a fox. This is not a strange animal. God did not send him to us. We were foolish. We did not know. This is only a fox."

The lion and the tiger jumped on Neelu and they killed him and he died. That is the story of Neelu.

LOOK AND SAY

city	servants	find	howl
fierce	hungry	ashamed	foolish
change	frightened	God	strange

THESE WORDS MEAN THE SAME

frightened	—	afraid
foolish	—	stupid
city	—	town

16. THE FOUR FRIENDS

In a town, there lived three men. Their names were Ram, Shyam and Prem. They went to school together and studied together. They went to many schools and learnt many things and read many books. They studied science and poetry and history and magic. They learnt everything but they were foolish.

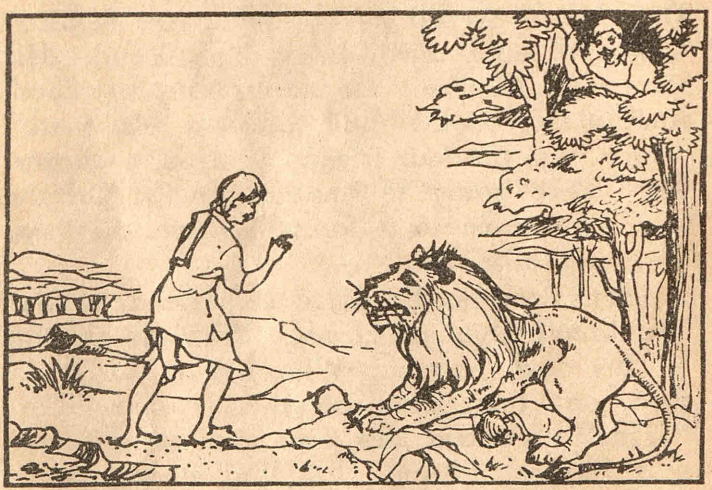
In the same town, lived their friend. His name was Madhu. He never went to school or read any books. But he was a wise man.

One day, the four friends went on a journey. They were going to another town. On the way they came to a forest. There they saw the bones of a lion.

Then Prem said, "Here is a dead animal. We three friends are clever. We shall give life to this dead animal. Who will do it?" "I shall put the bones together," said Ram. "I shall give skin and flesh and blood to it," said Shyam. "And I shall give life to it", said Prem.

So Ram took all the bones and put them together. Shyam gave flesh and blood and skin to it. "Here is a dead animal. Now

I shall give life to it," said Prem. "Wait, wait, my friends," said Madhu. "This is a lion. Do not give life to it. It will kill us." "Fool," said the three friends. "We have done a wonderful thing. We shall do another. We shall give life to this animal and take it to the village. The people of the village will be surprised. They will say : 'Ram, Shyam and Prem are clever men. They gave life to a dead animal.' Then the people of the village will



give us many nice gifts." "Wait a moment," replied Madhu. "I shall climb a tree. I shall look at the lion from the tree."

So Madhu climbed a tree and Prem gave life to the lion. The lion killed and ate the three friends. Then he went away. Madhu came down from the tree and went home. He thought of his three friends and he was very sad.

LOOK AND SAY

magic	life	journey	thought
study	lion	dead	bones

IN SCHOOL YOU STUDY THESE SUBJECTS

science, poetry, history, English.

WHAT ELSE DO YOU STUDY ?

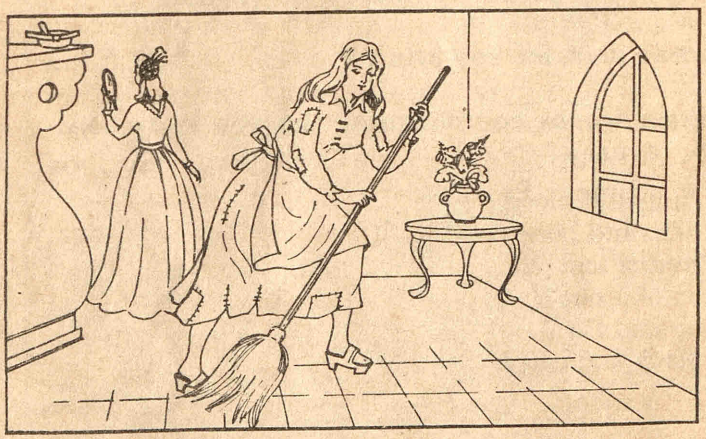
THESE WORDS GO TOGETHER. DO YOU KNOW ANY OTHERS ?

flesh and blood
skin and bone
young and old
in and out
to and fro
fetch and carry

17. CINDERELLA

Part 1

ONCE there lived a girl. She was young, beautiful, good and kind. Her name was Cinderella. She had no mother. Her father married again. Now she had a step-mother and two step-sisters. Her step-sisters were ugly, cruel and bad. Their names were Reena and Teena. They hated Cinderella.



Cinderella's step-mother was cruel too. She said, "Cinderella, clean the house. Cinderella, light the fire. Cinderella, wash the clothes.

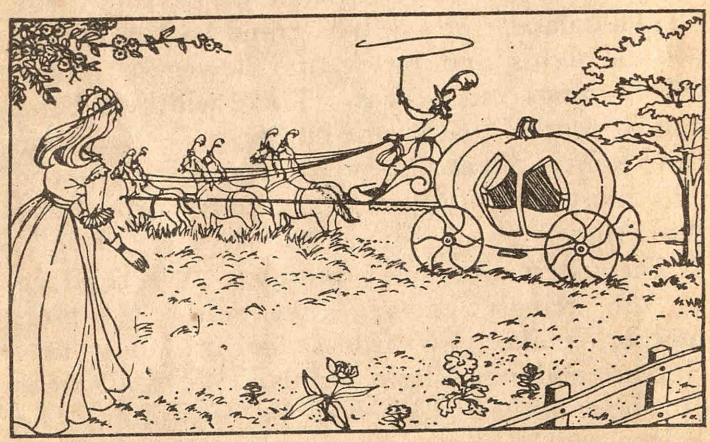
Cinderella, cook the food. Cinderella, wash the dishes." She gave Cinderella old and dirty clothes and no shoes. She gave her very little food and no bed. Cinderella did all the work. She was cold and hungry and tired at night. But she was a good girl. She did all the work and said nothing. Reena and Teena did nothing. They ate a lot and did no work. "Mother," they said, "Cinderella is lazy. She did not wash our frocks and clean our shoes." And their mother beat Cinderella. But Cinderella said nothing.

One day the King's soldiers came there. They said, "Tonight there will be a party in the King's palace. It will be a grand party. There will be lights and music and flowers. There will be songs and dances. There will be a band and fireworks. Everyone can come. Everyone can come. Please come to the King's party. The most beautiful girl at the party will marry the Prince."

The sisters were very happy. "We shall go to the King's party," they said. "Mother, mother, make new frocks for us. Buy new ribbons and new shoes for us. We shall wear our best clothes. We shall be beautiful. The Prince will marry one of us." They laughed and talked and sewed new frocks and bought new shoes. "Cinderella, sew my frock," said

Reena. "Cinderella, brush my hair," said Teena.

Cinderella helped them. "Step-mother," she said, "Can I go to the party?" Reena and Teena laughed and laughed. "You cannot go to the party. You have no nice clothes. Everyone will laugh. You shall stay at home and do your work." "Of course you cannot go," said the step-mother, "You will stay at home and sweep the floor." So Reena and Teena and the step-mother put on their best clothes and went to the party and Cinderella stayed at home.



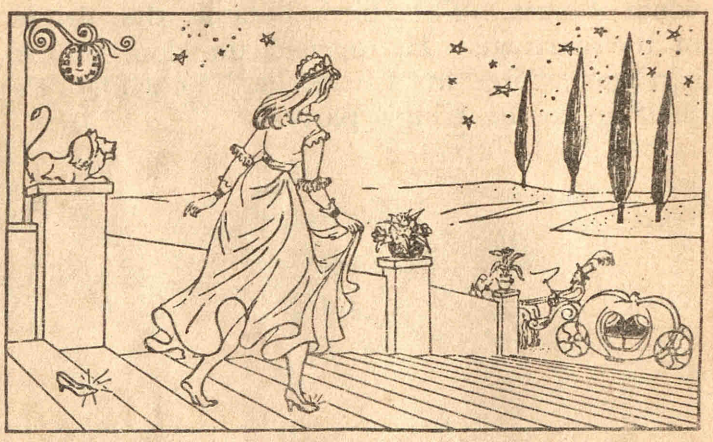
Cinderella was crying. She was very sad. She cried and cried. She heard a noise and

looked up. She saw a lady. The lady was fair and beautiful. She wore a silver dress and a golden crown. "Cinderella," she said, "Do not cry. I shall help you. I am a fairy. You are a good girl. You do your work and listen to your step-mother. You are never angry. So I shall help you. Now look." Cinderella looked, and she saw a pumpkin, six white mice and a bird. "Now look again," said the fairy, and she waved her stick. Cinderella looked. The pumpkin became a beautiful carriage. The six white mice became six white horses. The bird became the driver of the carriage. He opened the door of the carriage. "Get in, Cinderella," he said, "We shall go to the King's party."

18. CINDERELLA

Part 2

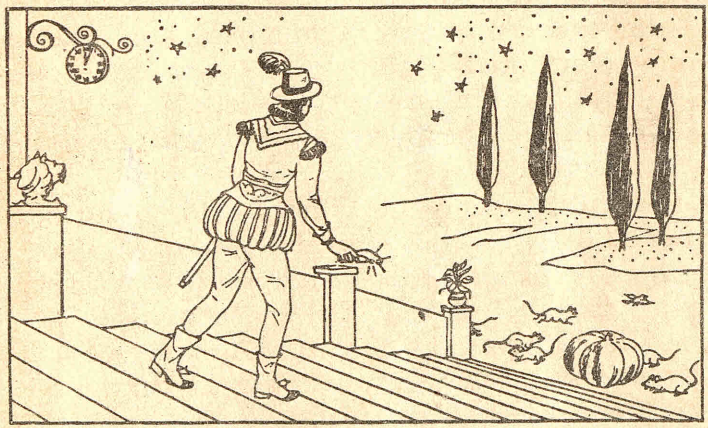
CINDERELLA was surprised. "But I have no nice frock for the party. I have only old and dirty clothes," she said. The fairy waved her stick again. Now Cinderella had a lovely dress of white and gold. She had gold earrings and a pink ribbon in her hair. There were pretty glass slippers on her feet. "Thank you,



dear fairy," said Cinderella. "Listen to me," said the fairy. "You must come home before midnight. At twelve o'clock, all these things will change. The carriage will become a pump-

kin, the horses will become mice and your new dress will become the old one. So come home before twelve o'clock." "All right, I shall. Thank you and goodbye," said Cinderella and she got into the carriage and went to the party.

At the party, Cinderella was happy. The Prince danced with her. He liked her. She liked him. "What is your name?" he said. But she did not tell it to him. Everyone said, "Who is this beautiful girl in the white and gold dress? What is her name?" Reena and Teena also said, "Who is that beautiful girl?" The Prince did not dance with them and he did not look at them. He danced with Cinderella.



Cinderella and the Prince were happy. "I shall marry you," said the Prince.

The clock was striking. It was twelve.

"Oh, oh," said Cinderella. "It is twelve o'clock. I must go home." And she ran away. She dropped a glass slipper but she did not pick it up. She ran.

"Wait, wait," said the Prince, "Here is your slipper. Don't run away. Come back. Listen to me." But Cinderella did not wait. One-two - three - four - five - six - seven - eight - nine -ten - eleven - twelve ! It was twelve ! Now Cinderella had no lovely dress or slippers or earrings or ribbon—she had her old and dirty clothes. She cried and she ran. The Prince ran after her. He ran outside the palace. But there was no carriage or horses or driver there—there was only a pumpkin and a bird and some mice. The Prince was sad. He went back to the palace. Cinderella cried and went home. The party finished and everyone went home.

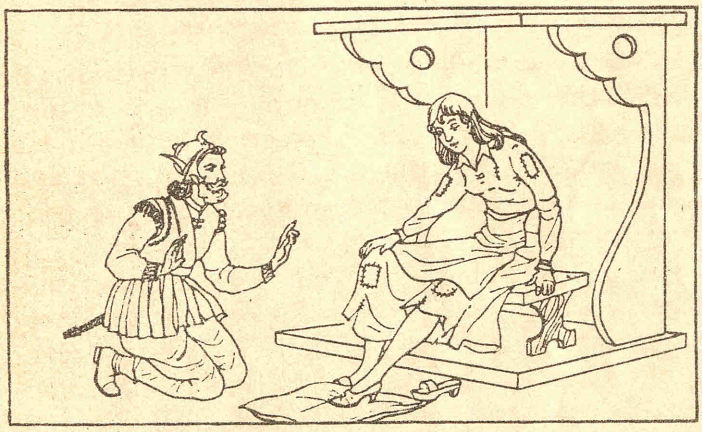
In the morning, the Prince said to his soldiers, "There was a beautiful girl at the party yesterday. Find her. I shall marry her. Here is her slipper. Take it and find her. It is very small. She has small feet. She can wear it. No one else can wear it. Find her and bring her here. I shall marry her."

So the soldiers took the slipper and went to every house in the town. They asked every girl, "Can you wear this slipper?" Every

girl tried, and said, "No, I cannot." Soon they came to Cinderella's house. Reena and Teena ran to them. "I shall wear it, I shall wear it," they said. But they could not wear the slipper. They were angry. "Go away," they said.

A soldier saw Cinderella. "Who is she? Can she wear the slipper?" he said.

"No," said Reena. "She cannot. She is Cinderella. She is our servant. She did not go to the party."



But the soldier said, "No, she must try. Every girl is trying. Let us see. Come here." So Cinderella tried the slipper and she wore it. Reena and Teena were surprised. The soldiers

took Cinderella to the Prince. "Here is the girl," they said. The Prince was happy. "Do not run away now," he said. "You shall be my wife."

So Cinderella married the Prince and lived in the palace. The King punished Reena and Teena and the cruel step-mother. Cinderella and the Prince were happy ever after.

LOOK AND SAY

step-mother	tried	fire-works
step-sister	party	crown
fairy	band	pumpkin
earrings	slippers	change
ribbons	midnight	striking

ANOTHER LETTER TO READERS

New Delhi
1st January, 1965.

My dear friends,

Now we are at home again. Did you like your journey? We went to many countries and we have many friends there. Do you like them? Do you like Lin Foo and his mother in Korea? Do you like Pandora and Helen and Orion and the Seven Sisters in Greece? And do you like Puss in France? And do you like all your new friends in India? Did you laugh at the donkey, and the buffalo and the foolish robber and the greedy soldier? Were you sad for Cinderella? Shall we visit some more countries? Where shall we go? Tell me and I shall take you there next time.

Your friend,
MINA SWAMINATHAN.

QUESTIONS

1. THE MICE AND THE IRON POLE
   - A. 1. Did the mice eat Naduk's iron pole?
   - 2. What punishment did Naduk give to Lakshman?
   - B. 3. What is your answer to (1)? Why?

2. GRANDMOTHER AND THE ROBBER
   - A. 1. The robber said, "That old woman is very rich." Did she tell him that?
   - 2. She called her sons Black Eyes, Long Nose and Big Ears. Who answered?
   - B. 3. The old woman said, "I shall do a clever thing." What did she do?
   - 4. Why was the thief frightened? What did he do ?

3. LIN FOO'S MONEY Part 1
   - A. 1. Where did Lin Foo put the money?
   - 2. Lin Foo was crying. The judge saw him. What did Lin Foo tell the judge?
   - B. 3. Why did the judge catch the stone?
   - 4. Why did the people laugh?

4. LIN FOO'S MONEY Part 2
   - A. 1. What punishment did the judge give the stone?
   - 2. The people laughed. What punishment did the judge give to them?
   - 3. Who was the thief?
   - 4. What punishment did he get?
   - B. 5. How did the judge catch the thief?

5. THE BUFFALO AND THE CROW

A. 1. Did the crow really drink all the water?
2. What happened to the water?
3. What prize did the buffalo give to the crow?

B. 4. Why was the crow angry?
5. Why did the buffalo lose the match?

6. TENALI RAMAN

A. 1. What did the soldier ask Tenali Raman?
2. What did Tenali Raman ask the King?

B. 3. How did Tenali Raman punish the greedy soldier?

7. PUSS IN BOOTS Part 1

A. 1. What did the cat do with the bag?
2. What did the cat do with the rabbit?
3. The cat's master said, "I cannot marry the King's daughter." What did the cat tell him?

B. 4. The farmer gave his third son a cat. Why was the third son sad?
5. How did the cat get money for his master?

8. PUSS IN BOOTS Part 2

A. 1. What did the cat do to the man in the palace?
2. The King liked the Prince. What did he say?

B. 3. What was the cat's master doing in the river? What did the cat tell the King about it? Why?

4. Why did the cat tell the farmers: "Say to the King: "This is the Prince of New Land's field."

9. THE SEVEN SISTERS

A. 1. Diana helped the sisters. What did she do?
2. Where are the seven sisters now and where is Orion?

B. 3. Orion ran fast. He did not catch the sisters. Why?

10. PANDORA'S BOX

A. 1. What did the hunter tell his brother?
2. What did the stranger bring with him?
3. What came out of the box and what did they do?

B. 4. Why did Pandora open the box?
5. What were the insects?

11. HELEN

A. 1. Helen helped her father and mother. What did she do?
2. Where did she get the red and blue colours from?
3. Who was Minerva?

B. 4. Why did the people say, "Minerva is teaching her?"
5. Why was Helen angry?
6. Did Helen tell the truth always?

12. THE WEAVING MATCH

A. 1. Who was the old woman?

2. Who lost the weaving match?
3. What does a spider do?

B. 4. Why did the old woman come there?
5. What did Minerva do to Helen? Why?
6. Why did Helen lose the match?

13. THE DONKEY'S SONG

A. 1. What did the donkey and the fox do at night?
2. What did the donkey do in the field of carrots?
3. What did the farmers do to the donkey?

B. 4. Why did the fox hide behind a bush?
5. Why did the farmers hit the donkey?

14. THE TWO FRIENDS

A. 1. What did Damon ask the King?
2. What did the King say to Pythias on the last day?
3. What did Pythias say to the King?

B. 4. Damon came back. Why was the King surprised?
5. Why did the King let them go?

15. THE BLUE FOX

A. 1. The fox jumped into the jar. What happened to him?
2. When did the fox howl?
3. What did the animals do to the fox at the end?

B. 4. Why were the animals afraid of the fox?
5. Why did the fox howl?

16. THE FOUR FRIENDS

A. 1. What did the four friends see on the way?
2. What did they do to the lion?
3. What happened to the three foolish men?
1. 4. Why did they give life to the lion?
5. Why did Madhu climb a tree?

17. CINDERELLA Part 1

A. 1. Was Cinderella a good girl?
2. Whom did the soldiers invite to the party?
3. Reena and Teena got ready for the party. What did they do?
4. Who helped Cinderella?
B. 5. Why did the fairy help Cinderella?
6. How did she get a carriage, horses and driver?

18. CINDERELLA Part 2

A. 1. What did the fairy tell Cinderella?
2. When did Cinderella run away?
3. What did she drop?
4. The Prince said, "I shall find Cinderella." What did he do?
B. 5. The fairy told Cinderella, "Come home before midnight." Why?
6. Why did Cinderella run away at twelve o'clock?
7. Why could no one else wear the slipper?