

## D is for Dandelion

### Assignment 9

- **Reading.** Complete Lesson 9 of the *D is for Dandelion* handwriting book. The reading passages include “The Perplexity of Zadig” and “Abdallah the Unhappy.” Answer questions on “The Perplexity of Zadig” (printed below).
- **Handwriting.** Complete Lesson 8 of the *D is for Dandelion* handwriting book.
- **Poetics.** Memorize stanza 1 of Alice May Douglas’s “Who Loves the Trees the Best?” Miss Douglas is pictured on the right.
- **Writing.** This week I want you to write #2 of Composition 1 of Lesson 9. It will be due this coming Friday. It could be with a gift that you were given, a friendship that was started, a place that you visited, a prayer that was answered, or any other person, event or thing that made you happy.



- **Dictation.**

Before giving the dictation, parents should review the following examples. This week, however, students will write only *sentences ending with a quotation*. Notice that when a sentence ends with a quotation, the comma comes *before* the beginning quotation marks and that the ending quotation marks come *after* the end mark. Students should understand that an apostrophe and the letter *s* are added to singular nouns to show possession, even if the word ends in an *s*. John’s friend means “the friend of John.”

#### ENDING WITH A QUOTATION

John’s friend said, “I wouldn’t do it.”

Tim’s mom asked, “Why wouldn’t you do it?”

#### BEGINNING WITH A QUOTATION

“I heard a loud cricket in your room,” Sam’s brother said.

“What was that?” Bill asked.

“Watch your step!” Jim shouted.

#### INTERRUPTING A QUOTATION

“If you want to have friends,” his father said, “you first have to be a friend.”

EXERCISE A

1. Tim's mom said, "Fetch the satchel in the kitchen."
2. She looked at her watch and said, "I need to catch a bus."
3. He described how his cat stretched after it seized a mouse.
4. Pam's dad said, "The chicks hatched in the garden patch."
5. The tribe's chief galloped away, holding the horse's reins.

EXERCISE B

1. The condemned man's mom cried as the sentence was read.
2. Tim's mom said, "Switch coats. The weather is changeable."
3. Is it his custom to eat a batch of cookies before bed?
4. She said, "Pursue the counsel and thank him for his service."
5. She struck the match and put her hand on the door's latch.

**Long Term Assignment**

**Book Report.** Your book report is due the third Friday of November, but it may be handed in early.

## Reading Questions on “The Perplexity of Zadig”

1. Which of the following does not describe Zadig?
  - a) a curious man
  - b) a wise man
  - c) dishonest man
  - d) a man who lives on the banks of the Euphrates in Babylon
2. How is Zadig able to tell the officer of the queen’s household what they were looking for?
  - a) his knowledge of the queen’s habits
  - b) his witnessing the dog and remembering what it looked like
  - c) his dishonesty
  - d) his keen observation
3. Why do the steward and the chief huntsman think that Zadig is lying when he says that he has not seen the king’s finest horse that ran from its stable?
  - a) because Zadig is known to be a liar
  - b) because Zadig has described the horse exactly
  - c) because Zadig does not know anything about horses
  - d) because Zadig is a thief
4. Which of the following best describes Zadig’s first sentence (he must pay 400 ounces of gold)?
  - a) a fair and just sentence
  - b) a sentence that shows wisdom
  - c) a compassionate sentence that relieves Zadig of any suffering
  - d) a sentence that covers up an obvious mistake in judgment
5. Zadig’s explanation of how he knew about the queen’s spaniel and the king’s horse shows \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a) attention to detail
  - b) a lazy mind
  - c) a dishonest character
  - d) jealousy
6. Which of the following describes the king’s response and the wise men’s response to Zadig’s explanation (in order)?
  - a) merciful and wise . . . foolish or ignorant
  - b) hasty . . . loving
  - c) unfair . . . jealous
  - d) hateful . . . persecuting

7. Why does Zadig not take back the money he paid as part of his sentence?
- a) He knows he was guilty.
  - b) He does not want to get into more trouble.
  - c) He is wealthy and has money to spare.
  - d) He likes the king.
8. Which of the following best expresses what Zadig *could* have said after he gave back the 400 ounces of gold?
- a) We should love others though they are wrong.
  - b) Kings are wiser than we are.
  - c) We must be silent to be safe.
  - d) should return stolen money.
9. Which of the following words best describes the ending of the story when Zadig is silent about what he sees?
- a) ordinary
  - b) just or fair
  - c) happy
  - d) ironic
10. Zadig's conclusion stated at the very end of the story can be described as \_\_\_\_.
- a) hateful
  - b) what the king and his officers believe
  - c) what Zadig thinks is true but his experiences show differently
  - d) what Zadig thinks he has learned from his experiences