

D is for Dandelion

Assignment 19

- **Reading.** Students will be reading the ballads “The Bailiff’s Daughter of Islington” and “Lady Elsbeth” and answer questions on both. On the right is a picture of the famous collector of ballads, Francis James Child.
- **Audio of Ballads.** To reinforce your child’s understanding of ballads, listen to **several ballads that I have posted online**. Basically, a ballad is a story poem composed of four-line stanzas.
- **Handwriting.** Complete Lesson 18 of the D is for Dandelion handwriting book.
- **Poetics.** Memorize stanzas 1–5 of “The Stranger on the Sill.”
- **Writing.** Complete Composition 1.
- **Dictation.**



This week students will learn about simple subjects. A simple subject is contained within the complete subject and is the word that controls the verb. In the sentence “His old dog is still active,” the complete subject is *His old dog* and the simple subject is *dog*. In each of the dictation sentences, students should underline the complete subject once and the simple subject twice.

EXERCISE A

1. Many people babble, but his daughter does not.
2. You should gargle with a little salt water. (*You* is both the complete subject and simple subject.)
3. The candle apprentice traveled to London.
4. The mother cuddled her boys and called them her jewels.
5. Three people wearing purple came to the desk.

EXERCISE B

1. The steeple was built in 1765.
2. The lady in the purple dress had a gem in her hat.
3. The handle on the paddle was smooth.
4. They were filled with grief when the innocent man died. (*They* is both the complete subject and simple subject.)
5. His interest fizzled and he did not fulfill his duty.

The Bailiff's Daughter of Islington

1. Which of the following is not true of the well-beloved youth talked about in the first line of the poem?
 - a) The youth truly loves the bailiff's daughter.
 - b) The youth becomes an apprentice to a trade in London.
 - c) The youth does not see his beloved for a full seven years, but still loves her.
 - d) The youth is a peasant.
2. The word case, used in line 1 of stanza 3, means _____.
 - a) situation
 - b) desire
 - c) legal matter
 - d) place for keeping things
3. The words stole away, used in line 4 of stanza 5, mean _____.
 - a) robbed
 - b) went away without being noticed
 - c) noticed
 - d) played
4. What does Lady Elspat, dressed as a beggar, ask the man on horseback?
 - a) She asks who he is.
 - b) She asks where the man was born.
 - c) She asks for charity.
 - d) She asks whether he knows where her beloved is.
5. Why does Lady Elspat say to the man on horseback that the bailiff's daughter died a long time ago?
 - a) She has a habit of lying.
 - b) She is trying to get more money.
 - c) She wants to see his reaction.
 - d) She is making a proposal of marriage.

Lady Elspat

1. Who is speaking in stanza 1?
 - a) Lady Elspat
 - b) the brother's page, mentioned in stanza 3
 - c) the sweet-innocent youth talked about in stanza 5
 - d) the Lord Justice
2. What does the word fair mean in line 4 of stanza 1?
 - a) very dark complexioned
 - b) lovely
 - c) playful
 - d) without taking sides
3. Why does Lady Elspat's mother turn red, mentioned in stanza 3?
 - a) She thinks that a youth is interested in robbing her of her castle.
 - b) She is in a rage because the youth has stolen her jewels.
 - c) She does not want the youth to marry her daughter.
 - d) She does not like men.
4. What best states what Lady Elspat's mother tells the Lord Justice.
 - a) She talks about Lady Elspat's disobedience.
 - b) She tells a story to make the Lord Justice pity the youth.
 - c) She talks about her desire for Lady Elspat to marry.
 - d) She tells a falsehood.
5. Which of the following words best identifies the "brothers page," mentioned in stanza 3?
 - a) an innocent-looking man
 - b) a spy
 - c) a sweet-faced young man
 - d) a jealous youth
6. What is the best word to describe how the mother treats the youth who wants to marry Lady Elspat?
 - a) cruelly
 - b) generously
 - c) fondly
 - d) stand-offishly
7. The antagonist in a story is one who goes against the main character. Who is the antagonist in this ballad?

- a) the page, mentioned in stanza 3
 - b) Lady Elspat
 - c) the one called Ma'am in stanza 6
 - d) the Lord Justice
8. What is the mother's opinion of "Sweet William," mentioned in stanza 2?
- a) He would make a harsh husband.
 - b) He is an honest man.
 - c) He is "sweet."
 - d) He is too common or poor to marry her daughter.
9. Which of the following does not describe the Lord Justice, mentioned in stanza 5?
- a) He is tricked into believing what Lady Elspat's mother wants him to believe.
 - b) He gets emotional when Lady Elspat states her case.
 - c) He is the uncle of the youth that wants to marry Lady Elspat, mentioned in stanza 4.
 - d) He is a relative of Sweet William, mentioned in stanza 2.
10. What does the Lord Justice not do at the end of the ballad?
- a) state his well-wishes on Lady Elspat and the youth
 - b) give a fair or just ruling on a case that he has just heard
 - c) give a horse and very valuable land to a young couple
 - d) get a steed from his stable and ride off after the case has been heard