

## D is for Dandelion

### Assignment 11

- **Reading.** Students will be reading “The Wonderful Weaver” and “The Iron Box” and answer questions on both stories.
- **Handwriting.** Complete Lesson 10 of the *D is for Dandelion* handwriting book.
- **Poetics.** Memorize stanzas 1–3 of Alice May Douglas’s “Who Loves the Trees Best?”
- **Writing.** There is no writing assignment.
- **Dictation.**



This week students will have dictation exercises that practice using punctuation with quotations that interrupt a sentence.

#### INTERRUPTING A QUOTATION

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

#### EXERCISE A

1. “The bridge,” he said, “leads straight to the edge of town.”
2. “The skein of yarn,” she told me, “is a marvelous color.”
3. “I’ll steadily work on the widget,” he said, “as I have time.”
4. “Of course his eyes,” she said, “were on the mussels.”
5. “His sentence,” the judge said, “will be determined.”

#### EXERCISE B

1. “The stolen diamonds,” he said, “were found in the hedge.”
2. “I guess,” Jim said, “she didn’t budge from the ledge.”
3. “The sludge,” she said, “went up to his ankle.”
4. “Did they,” she asked, “stay at the budget lodge?”
5. “His badge,” Dan said, “was a smooth wedge of cardboard.”

## The Wonderful Weaver

1. Why does the story describe Arachne's cloth as "so rare could not be made of flax, or wool, or silk, but that the warp was of rays of sunlight and the woof was of threads of gold"?
  - a) to stress that the cloth could hardly be found anywhere.
  - b) to show that Arachne has not made the cloth herself
  - c) to hint that Arachne is equal to the gods
  - d) to show how beautiful Arachne's weaving work was
2. When she asks whether or not Athena taught her the craft of weaving, Arachne's reply shows \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a) humor
  - b) humbleness
  - c) pride
  - d) uncertainty
3. What is the stated punishment that Arachne must suffer if she loses the contest with Athena?
  - a) becoming a lowly creature
  - b) not being able to do what gave her joy
  - c) getting trapped in a web
  - d) never marrying
4. Whose work really turns out the better?
  - a) Arachne's
  - b) Athena's
  - c) Arachne's and Athena's creations were equal in beauty
5. When Arachne loses the contest, what at last is Athena's response?
  - a) pity
  - b) gloating
  - c) fear
  - d) merciless revenge

## “The Iron Box”

1. Which of the following does not describe Peter Simons' father?
  - a) a fisherman
  - b) a poor man
  - c) an idle parent
  - d) an indulgent father
  
2. What does Peter Simons not gain from his experience in finding the iron box?
  - a) an ability to make needed money
  - b) physical strength
  - c) discipline and diligence
  - d) great material wealth
  - e) Off he went, therefore, early the next morning, going a roundabout way to avoid being seen by anyone who knew him.
  
3. The phrase going a roundabout way in the above sentence quoted from the passage means \_\_\_\_.
  - a) acting in a sneaky way
  - b) going indirectly
  - c) going in circles
  - d) acting in a silly manner
  
4. What does Peter mean when he says, “I found all my good fortune in an empty box”?
  - a) The empty box gave him what he needed to succeed in life.
  - b) The box's contents rewarded him for all his efforts
  - c) He learned how to make straw hats for a living.
  - d) He learned a lesson about looking for fortune in a box.
  
5. What is the purpose of this story?
  - a) to talk about how boys will sometimes find unusual things that turn out to be nothing in the end.
  - b) to say that one never knows what one can find.
  - c) to say that a blacksmith's job can be rewarding.
  - d) to express the idea that success requires hard work.