

## D is for Dandelion

### Assignment 28

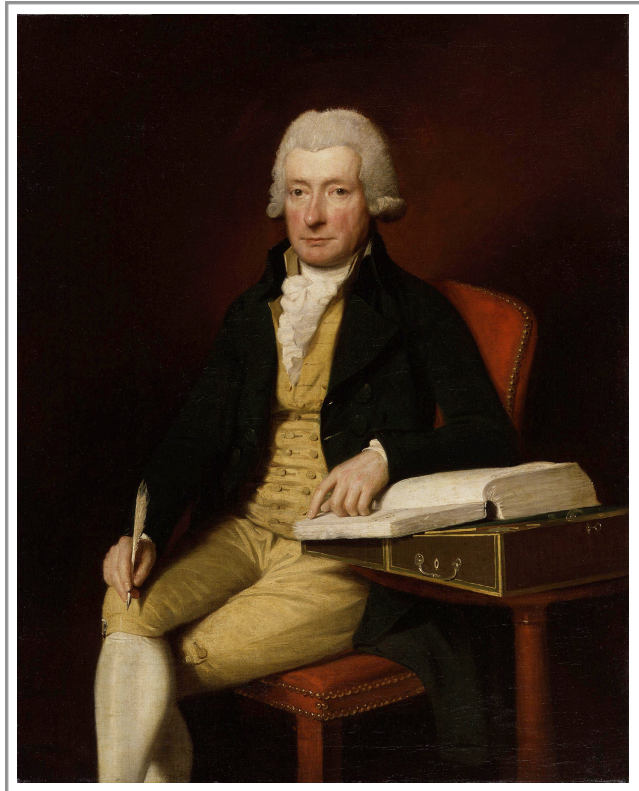
- **Poetry Memorization.** Memorize stanzas 1–4 of “Lines Written in Early Spring” by William Wordsworth.
- **Speech Night.** Continue working on your parts in the play or the poem that you will be reciting on speech night.
- **Daffodils Day.** Next Friday we will be celebrating Daffodils Day, the day William Wordsworth went on a walk with his sister and saw a mass of daffodils “fluttering and dancing in the breeze” which inspired his famous poem, “Daffodils.” The celebration will include decorated cake and cupcakes fitting the occasion, baked by my daughter Elsa, and daffodil bookmarks. Click [here](#) for more information and pictures of previous cakes.
- **Vocabulary, Spelling, and Phonics** Memorize the vocabulary, spelling and phonics of Lesson 28.
- **Reading.** You will be reading letters this week from a poet and from a king and queen. Answer questions on both sections of reading passages.
- **Handwriting.** Complete Lesson 27 of the *D is for Dandelion* handwriting book.
- **Writing.** There is no writing assignment this week!
- **Dictation.** In this lesson students will learn about prepositions. Among other things, a preposition shows *direction* and the *position* of something in relation to another, such as in space or time. Students may read or write down the following common prepositions before beginning the dictation.

*of, on, for, in, to, about, with, out, out of, like, beside, near, under, over, below, above, between, next to, around, and near.*

Underline the prepositions in the following sentences. No sentence will have more than one preposition.

EXAMPLE

- Sam walked to Barbara's house.  
(The preposition *to* shows the direction in which Sam was walking.)



- Bob lost the paper that was lying on his desk.  
(The preposition *on* shows the relationship in space between the paper and the desk.)
- Tom ate during the game, but I told him I can't watch football and eat at the same time.  
(The preposition *during* shows the relationship in time between Tom's eating and watching a football game; he did it at the same time.)

#### EXERCISE A

1. That morning the goat was eating oats in the country barn.
2. Someone left a cloak and a load of books next to the road.
3. It was fortunate that Ted knew his duty to his family.
4. He lost one of his coats, and his mom gave some advice.
5. She said, "The frog near the moat then began croaking."

#### EXERCISE B

1. Did he seem anxious when his dog roamed out of the fence?
2. Tim said, "The man with the cane then approached us."
3. He had more affection for his cat than she did.
4. "I read an essay about angels," Bob said.
5. The yellow float was bobbing on the foaming sea.

- ***Parts for speech night.***

#### **The Barber of Bagdad**

Barber played by Mary Levenick  
 Calif played by Rocco Haselbarth  
 Donkey played by Ellie Shapren  
 Courtier played by Michael Levenick  
 Woodcutter played by John Malachowski

#### **The Selfish Woman**

Greedy Woman played by Julie Shapren  
 Poor Woman played by Caroline Lengkeek

#### **Recitations**

"The Stranger on the Sill" recited by Dominic Wargo  
 "Fire and Ice" recited by Declan Ireland  
 "Who Loves the Trees Best" recited by Elise Sheridan  
 "The Fountain" recited by Ellie Shapren  
 "Mr. Finney's Turnip" recited by Natalie Kelly  
 "I Remember" recited by Sviat Voznyi  
 Melvin of *Babysitting the Wilsons* played by Finn McGowan  
 "The First Day of Spring" recited by Abby Giannotti  
 "Lines Written in Early Spring" recited by Catherine Patton

## Reading Questions

### A Poet's Letters

Name \_\_\_\_\_

1. In the first paragraph of the letter to his cousin, William Cowper mentions \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a) that he likes green fruit
  - b) that he is no longer foolish
  - c) that he looks older, but doesn't feel older
  - d) that he notices that time is going very fast—so fast he still thinks that he is young
2. Why does William Cowper talk about painters in the second paragraph of the letter to his cousin?
  - a) He is comparing painters who do self-portraits to writers who write about themselves.
  - b) He is comparing idle chat to painting portraits of other people.
  - c) He is expressing his opinion that painters are amazingly proud.
  - d) He is expressing his opinion that it is far more pleasurable to write about himself than about other people.
3. What does William Cowper mean when he says that the “law was like an arrow in a quiver” in paragraph 3?
  - a) He is afraid that though his cousin is innocent, she might be punished by the law.
  - b) He means that those who have committed a crime have not yet been punished.
  - c) He means that the law is of no use in England.
  - d) He is criticizing judges who are supposed to uphold the law.
4. What does his letter to his cousin NOT reveal about William Cowper?
  - a) He thinks Mungo is courageous.
  - b) He does not like writing about himself in his letters.
  - c) He thinks of himself as being a quiet person.
  - d) He was a victim of a riot.

*I was walking from the parlor into the hall with Mungo at my heels,  
when a flash seemed to fill the room with fire.*

5. What does the word *parlor* mean in the above sentence, taken from William Cowper's letter to William Unwin?
  - a) a room to talk
  - b) outside
  - c) a kitchen
  - d) a conversation

6. It is clear from his letter to William Unwin, that Mango is \_\_\_\_.
  - a) a friend
  - b) a dog
  - c) a rabbit
  - d) the name he gave to his gun
  
7. William Cowper mentions that the lightning that struck in a storm that he recently experienced \_\_\_\_.
  - a) was hardly noticeable
  - b) damaged his own house
  - c) was rather close to his own house
  - d) scared the women he was with
  
8. What does William Cowper mean when he says that he has “seen many such promises broken in the end” in paragraph 2?
  - a) He thinks that one cannot prevent lightning from striking.
  - b) He is saying that people who drink alcohol do not know what they are doing.
  - c) He is commenting on how unfortunate it was that a man was almost killed by the lightning.
  - d) He is expressing his belief that many people make resolutions that they do not carry out.
  
9. Which of the following is NOT true of the letters that William Cowper received from both Mr. Bacon and Mr. Barham \_\_\_\_?
  - a) They were letters about a lean and humble poet.
  - b) They made him happy.
  - c) They praised his poetry.
  - d) They might have made Mr. Unwin happy.
  
10. Which of the following can we say is probably true from reading William Cowper’s letter to William Unwin?
  - a) William Unwin was once caught outside in a storm.
  - b) William Unwin was not a close friend of William Cowper.
  - c) William Unwin had been visiting William Cowper just two days before William Cowper wrote his letter.
  - d) William Unwin knew the drunk man whose house was destroyed in the storm.

## A Poet's Letters

1. What lesson does the King of the Belgians give in his first letter to his niece Queen Victoria (dated June 23, 1837)
  - a) Distance will make one like a person more.
  - b) Difficulties will always come, so we should be prepared for them.
  - c) Being a queen is not a pleasant job.
  - d) Feeling confident will often ensure our success.
  
2. The first letter of Queen Victoria to her uncle (June 25, 1837) reveals that she thinks it is important for leaders not to \_\_\_\_.
  - a) favor one group of people in a country over another
  - b) always be honest in speaking to the common people
  - c) be overly smart
  - d) be kind if it means losing an election
  
3. What does the first letter of Queen Victoria to her uncle (June 25, 1837) NOT say about Queen Victoria or her uncle?
  - a) Queen Victoria thinks that the last letter that she received from her uncle was useful.
  - b) Queen Victoria wanted to do her duty to her country and the people she ruled over.
  - c) Queen Victoria was very sick when she wrote her letter.
  - d) Lord Melbourne was useful to her.
  
4. The advice that the King of the Belgians gives Queen Victoria in the third letter (June 30, 1837) is about \_\_\_\_.
  - a) Lord Melbourne's dishonest character
  - b) choosing the right kind of advisor (minister)
  - c) how to be happy even when one is disliked
  - d) how a queen cannot count on receiving the love of her nation

*I have, alas, seen so much of bad hearts and dishonest and double minds, that I know how to value and appreciate real worth.*

5. What does Queen Victoria mean by *double* in the above sentence taken from the last letter?
  - a) unhappy
  - b) honest
  - c) deceitful or tricky
  - d) having two opinions about someone