

D is for Dandelion

Assignment 20

- **Reading.** Students will be reading “The Tar Wolf” and “What Do You Have to Lose?” and answer questions on both.
- **Handwriting.** Complete Lesson 19 of the D is for Dandelion handwriting book.
- **Poetics.** Finish memorizing “The Stranger on the Sill,” stanzas 1–6.
- **Writing.** There is no writing assignment this week.
- **Dictation.**

This week students will learn to identify the simple predicate,

called the *verb*. While the complete predicate completes the sentence, the verb expresses action—like *wipe*, *sing*, *change*, etc. Students should underline the verbs in the following dictation sentences.



EXERCISE A

1. The foreign sovereign has the leisure to read.
2. The weird group seized the government.
3. Scientists spoke about the drought and the environment.
4. The suspicious banker felt the counterfeit money.
5. Neither Mom nor Dad know Bob's exact height.

EXERCISE B

1. The wolf ate some of the farmer's geese.
2. The chameleon camouflaged itself.
3. Tom bought either a lizard or a snake.
4. Jim read a scarce book about invisible fairies.
5. He wrote a story about the government's seizure of money.

The Tar Wolf

1. Why do most of the animals not agree with what the bear, ducks and wild goose suggest as an answer to the problem of drought?
 - a) They do not like the bears, ducks and geese.
 - b) It is not easy for them to travel.
 - c) They are waiting for the rabbit to suggest his solution to the problem.
 - d) The bear and wild goose do not need to drink as much water.

2. Why are the other animals happy after the council meeting?
 - a) The meeting was long and they have been eager for it to end.
 - b) The bears showed wisdom.
 - c) All of the animals were in agreement about the need to travel far to get water.
 - d) The decision that they made would not inconvenience them.

3. Why are the grey wolf and wild cat waiting in the early morning to watch the rabbit?
 - a) They are suspicious of the rabbit.
 - b) They admire the rabbit's ways.
 - c) They want to know the rabbit's habits of living.
 - d) They could not sleep.

4. What is the "The Tar Wolf"?
 - a) a trick meant to be funny
 - b) a traditional custom
 - c) a clever way to trap a liar or trickster
 - d) a cruel punishment

5. Which of the following is true about the story "The Tar Wolf"?
 - a) The rabbit is punished for just being honest.
 - b) The other animals suggest punishments that the rabbit is truly not afraid of.
 - c) The rabbit gets to choose his punishment by tricking the other animals.
 - d) The council animals are wise in their choice of punishment.

What Do You Have to Lose?

1. It is suggested in the story that Tim's family decides to get a chameleon because ____.
 - a) the mother thinks it is a cute and cuddly animal, unlike a snake
 - b) the mother thinks that the animal looks most similar to a kitten
 - c) the father's favorite lizard is the chameleon
 - d) the father wants a snake, but the mother does not like them; however, she decides that a lizard is acceptable

*My dad was thinking about getting a snake, but Mom wasn't **keen on** that idea.*

2. The words *keen on*, printed above in bold, mean ____.
 - a) excited about
 - b) understanding of
 - c) opposed to
 - d) reacting to
3. To prove to Brad that he is telling the truth about the effect of the potion, Tim mentions that his dad is a scientist. Brad first thinks that Tim's "proof" is ____.
 - a) very convincing because the colors of computers are similar to the color of chameleons
 - b) very ridiculous and not worthy of considering
 - c) not trustworthy because Tim's dad is a computer scientist, not an expert on chameleons and how they change color
 - d) not surprising because computer scientists know about a lot of things
4. When Tim explains the similarity between the colors of a computer screen and the colors of a chameleon, he ____.
 - a) is bragging about how important his father and the company that he works for are
 - b) uses language that is difficult to understand, which persuades Brad to think that what Tim is saying about the potion is correct
 - c) tries to use simple words so that Brad can understand everything he is saying
 - d) is not trying to trick Brad, but is using obvious humor that he thinks Brad will understand; however, he foolishly doesn't understand the joke
5. At the end of the story, Brad is proved ____.
 - a) enthusiastic about ordinary things
 - b) clever
 - c) too trusting
 - d) wisely skeptical