

D is for Dandelion

Assignment 21

- **Reading.** Read and study all the material of contained in Lesson 21. You will be reading “The Balloon” and “The Barber of Bagdad” and answering questions on the first.
- **Handwriting.** Complete Lesson 21 of the D is for Dandelion handwriting book.
- **Poetics.** Memorize the first stanza of “The First Day of Spring.”
- **Writing.** Work on your speech night narrative. (See below.)
- **Dictation.**

This week students will continue learning about the simple predicate, called the *verb*. In the last lesson, students learned that the verb can express action. Verbs, however, can also connect the subject with either a noun or an adjective (a describing word),

in which case it is called a *linking verb*. The verb *be* and its various forms—*am, is, are, was, were, be, been, and being*—are the most common linking verbs. Before completing the following dictation exercise, students should have all these forms of *be* memorized. Students should underline the verb in each of the dictation sentences and then after the sentence, should write “A” if the verb is an action and “L” for linking if it is linking verb.



EXERCISE A

1. It is the girl's third birthday. L
2. First stir it as much as possible. A
3. His companion obeyed the caliph's orders. A
4. Touching your insult, Sir, my bird is not mangey! L
5. Five of the thirty elephants were very old. L

EXERCISE B

1. The tired children squirmed in their seats. A

2. I saw Bob's excitement about the special bargain. A
3. His handshake was firm. L
4. Before his walk, he wiped the dirt off his feet. A
5. His speech was in spirits. L

Long-Term Assignment

Write a narrative of a recent experience. You can choose any of the topics that we have discussed in class. The essay will be due the last week in February. The narrative should be about one page more or less and should relate the experience chronologically—in order of time. You will be memorizing it and delivering it on Speech Day (date to be announced).