

D is for Dandelion

Assignment 1

- **Reading.** Complete Lesson 1 of the *D is for Dandelion* textbook, volume 1. One of the stories in this week's lesson is about a woman and her jewels—but the jewels are not those that one ordinarily thinks of, like the ones on the right of this assignment sheet. Students can find out what jewels the woman of the story prizes most by reading "Cornelia and Her Jewels."
- **Handwriting.** Complete Lesson 1 of the *D is for Dandelion* handwriting book. The first lesson will be on the swing-up connection. Note: *Students should aim to write only in cursive in all of their assignments.* It may take new students a while before this goal becomes practicable.
- **Grammar and Poetics.** Students will not be completing any homework in grammar and poetics at home. However, *students will be thoroughly instructed and drilled in these subjects throughout the year in class.* Next week we will cover the following terms and concepts in grammar: *subjects, predicates, fragments, helping verbs, the understood you, helping verbs, simple subjects, and simple predicates.* In poetics we covered the biography of James Russell Lowell and the following terms: *stanza, meter, foot, dimeter, anapestic, trochaic, iambic, and scansion.* Again, we will be going over these terms repeatedly throughout the year, and I am confident that the terms will be indelibly engraved in all of the students' minds by the end of the school year!
- **Writing.** Students will be giving an oral summary of a story every week *in class.* For homework, they will be assigned one of the composition assignments every two or three weeks. This week they will be choosing one of the assignments from Composition 1 or Composition 2, due the fourth Friday of September. If there is available time, students will complete this first assignment in class.
- As part of their spelling program, students will be writing out dictation exercises twice a week. Students should write out the two dictation exercises in their dictation book or loose leaf paper (to be shown to me in class). They should make sure that they bring their dictation work every week to class. We will be doing dictation exercises in class as well! The dictation exercises are below.



EXERCISE A

1. The crowd is wrong.
2. His odd laugh was like a howl.
3. The brown towels, however, aren't wet.
4. The flowers drank in the shower.
5. Their beautiful jewels on the crown aren't diamonds.

EXERCISE B

1. Did justice win?
2. Did he lengthen the tower?
3. The bad judge had a lot of power.
4. Jim whispered, "I like chowder."
5. Allow the rabbits to roam.

Long Term Assignment

Complete one of the assignments under Composition 1 or Composition 2 of Lesson 1. This assignment will be due on the **fourth Friday in September**, but students are *not* to start it at home, but wait for our next lesson when they begin it in class.