Worksheet – Using stories in the classroom

Task: Vocabulary

_____ – extremely good or beautiful

_____ – a soft, expensive material

_____ – a feeling when you can't think clearly or don't understand something

_____ – when you are proud about your appearance (negative meaning)

_____ – something you can't see is …

_____ – trying to impress people by showing them something you are proud of

_____ – if you have no clothes on, you are …

_____ – lots of people moving slowly in a line along the streets, maybe as part of a ceremony (e.g. in Rio de Janeiro)

Task: End of the story

How do you think the story ends?

1) Two thieves told the Emperor they could make him some beautiful clothes. He gave them lots of money and the thieves pretended to make his clothes. They said you couldn't see the clothes if you were stupid. The Emperor and all his people said they could see the clothes because they didn't want people to think they were stupid. When the Emperor walked along the streets in the clothes, he was actually naked.

2) Two thieves stole all the Emperor's clothes and gave them to the poor people of the city. The Emperor was very sad and thought he couldn't live without his lovely clothes, but when he saw the poor people looking so happy, he became extremely happy and was very happy that the thieves had stolen his clothes. He made the thieves ministers.

3) Two thieves gave the Emperor a suit that actually belonged to the king of another country. When the king visited, he saw that the Emperor was wearing his clothes and said that the Emperor was a thief. The Emperor became so angry that he said the king could never visit again. The king started a war against the Emperor and they were both killed. One of the thieves became Emperor, and the other became King.

© British Council, 2025 The United Kingdom's international organisation for educational opportunities and cultural relations. We are registered in England as a charity.

Question practice – A

Work with a partner and read the text again to make questions for the following answers.

1. They could make beautiful clothes with material that was invisible to anyone who was very stupid.

2. They did not buy anything.

3. They asked for more money

4. In the morning.

5. He went out into the streets

© British Council, 2025 The United Kingdom's international organisation for educational opportunities and cultural relations. We are registered in England as a charity.

Question practice – B

Work with a partner and read the text again to make questions for the following answers.

1. To buy silk and gold for his new clothes.
2. A very important minister.
3. They worked hard – making nothing.
4. Because nobody wanted to be called stupid.
5. 'But he's got nothing on!'

© British Council, 2025 The United Kingdom's international organisation for educational opportunities and cultural relations. We are registered in England as a charity.