

MY NAME IS _____

MY CLASS IS _____

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LANGUAGE THROUGH LITERATURE
TEACHING ESL, VOL II

Professor Courtney Webb, MA



LANGUAGE THROUGH LITERATURE
TEACHING ESL

Edited by Courtney Webb

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FABLES AND TALES

Aesop's Fables



Google Images - The Ant and the Grasshopper

The Ant and the Grasshopper - Jean de la Fontaine "Fables"

One summer's day, a merry Grasshopper was dancing, singing and playing his violin with all his heart. He saw an Ant passing by, bearing along with great toil a wheatear to store for the winter.

"Come and sing with me instead of working so hard", said the Grasshopper "Let's have fun together."

"I must store food for the winter", said the Ant, "and I advise you to do the same."

"Don't worry about winter, it's still very far away", said the Grasshopper, laughing at him. But the Ant wouldn't listen and continued his toil.

When the winter came, the starving Grasshopper went to the Ant's house and humbly begged for something to eat.

"If you had listened to my advice in the summer you would not now be in need," said the Ant. "I'm afraid you will have to go supperless to bed," and he closed the door.

It is best to prepare for the days of necessity.

1) What is the 'lesson' from the Grasshopper and the Ant?

2) Does this happen in your life?

Teacher Resources - You Tube - Disney Silly Symphonies - The Ant and The Grasshopper -1935

Words

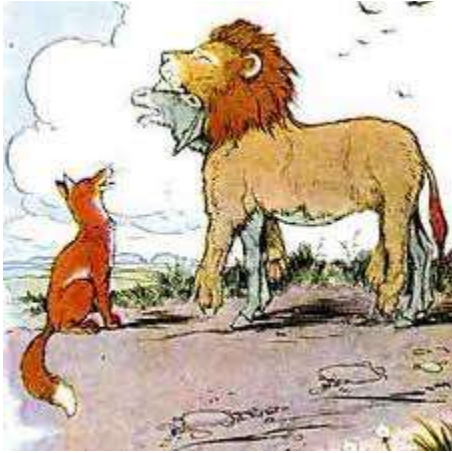
Fable or Tale - a very short story often told with a 'lesson' at the end

Ass - Donkey

Triumph - great success

Bray - the Donkey's laugh

The Ass in the Lions Skin



One day, an Ass found a Lion's skin left in the forest by a hunter, and wishing to amuse himself and to feel powerful, put it on, scaring all the animals he met on his way. He was very proud of himself and felt like a real king. But in his delight, he opened his mouth and brayed in triumph.

The moment he heard the Ass's voice, a Fox who was running frightened as well, stopped suddenly and began to laugh. Approaching the Ass, he exclaimed: "You could have fooled me, too, had I not heard your bray."

Fine clothes may disguise a fool, but silly words will give him away.

Kids-pages for small ages.com Internet Site 2012

1) What is the 'lesson' in the Ass in the Lion's skin?

2) Do you know anyone like this?

3) Do you know of any tales or fables like this in Korean?

Teacher Resources - You Tube - Belinda Daley - The Ass and the Lion's Skin -
6/2011

The Crow and the Fox

Words

- Beak – nose of a bird
- Odor – smell
- Handsome – beautiful
- Phoenix- large, beautiful imaginary bird
- Demonstrate – show
- Flatterer – someone who tells you nice things about yourself
- Embarrassed – ashamed

The Crow and The Fox

Master Crow sat on a tree,
Holding a cheese in his beak.
Master Fox was attracted by the odor,
And tried to attract him thus.
"Mister Crow, good day to you.
You are a handsome and good looking bird!
In truth, if your song is as beautiful as your plumage,
You are the Phoenix of this forest."
Hearing these words the Crow felt great joy,
And to demonstrate his beautiful voice,
He opened his mouth wide and let drop his prey.
The Fox seized it and said: "My good Sir,
Know that every flatterer,
Lives at the expense of those who take him seriously:
This is a lesson that is worth a cheese no doubt."

The Crow, embarrassed and confused,
Swore, though somewhat later, that he would never be
tricked thus again.

=====



The Crow and the Fox - Iraninan

AE AesopFables.com – Fables of Jean de la Fontaine

- 1) Did the fox trick the crow? _____
- 2) How? _____
- 3) What did the Fox want? Did he get it? _____
- 4) Was the Crow vain (thinks too well of himself)? Do you know anyone who is like this? _____

Teacher Resources – You Tube – Fox and Crow – Lixandro Cordero 2/2009

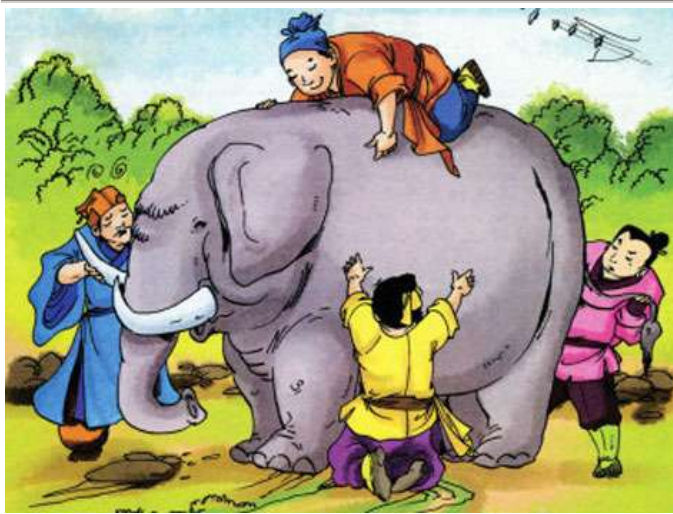


Illustration - history.cultural-china.com

The Blind Men and the Elephant

John Godfrey Saxe (1816-1887)

It was six men of India
To learning much inclined,
Who went to see the Elephant
(Though all of them were blind),
That each by observation
Might satisfy his mind.

The *First* approached the Elephant,
And happening to fall
Against his broad and sturdy side,
At once began to bawl:
"God bless me! but the Elephant
Is very like a WALL!"

The *Second*, feeling of the tusk,
Cried, "Ho, what have we here,
So very round and smooth and sharp?
To me 'tis mighty clear
This wonder of an Elephant
Is very like a SPEAR!"

The *Third* approached the animal,
And happening to take
The squirming trunk within his hands,
Thus boldly up and spoke:
"I see," quote he, "the Elephant
Is very like a SNAKE!"

The *Fourth* reached out an eager hand,
And felt about the knee
"What most this wondrous beast is like
Is mighty plain," quote he:
"It's clear enough the Elephant
Is very like a TREE!"

The *Fifth*, who chanced to touch the ear,
Said: "Even the blindest man
Can tell what this resembles most;
Deny the fact who can,
This marvel of an Elephant
Is very like a FAN!"

The *Sixth* no sooner had begun

About the beast to grope,
Than seizing on the swinging tail
That fell within his scope,
"I see," quote he, "the Elephant
Is very like a ROPE!"

*And so these men of India
Disputed loud and long,
Each in his own opinion
Exceeding stiff and strong,
Though each was partly in the right,
And all were in the wrong!*

1) *What did each man see?* _____

2) *Which one of them was right?* _____

3) *Which one was wrong?* _____

4) *What does this story tell
us?* _____



The Rabbit, And Other Legends. Stories Of Birds And Animals. Horace Allen Newton
(adapted)

The animals, too, have their stories, and in [Korea](#), the rabbit seems to come off best, as a rule. One very good story is told concerning a scrape (trouble) the rabbit got himself into because of his curiosity, but out of which he removed himself at the expense of the

whole group of water animals.

It seems that on one occasion the King of fishes was a little unwise, and while snapping greedily at a worm, got a hook through his nose. He succeeded in breaking the line, and escaped having his royal bones picked by some hungry person, but he was still in a great problem, for he could in no way remove the cruel hook.

His finny majesty grew very ill; all the officials of his kingdom were summoned and met in solemn council. From the turtle to the whale, each one wore an anxious expression, and did his best at thinking. At last the turtle was asked for his opinion, and announced his firm belief that a poultice (medicine masque) made from the fresh eye of a rabbit would remove the disorder of their King at once.

He was listened to attentively, but his plan was thought to be not good, since they had no fresh rabbit eyes or any means of getting them. Then the turtle again came to the rescue, and said that he had a passing friendship with the rabbit, whom he had seen when walking along the beach, and that he would try to bring him to the palace and then he was done.

He was royally thanked for his offer, and sent off quickly, realizing full well that his career was made if he succeeded, while he would be in trouble if he failed.

It was a very hot day as the fat turtle dragged himself up the hill-side, where he fortunately saw the rabbit. The rabbit, having jumped away a short distance, and picked up his ears, and looked over his back to see who was coming. Seeing the turtle, he went over and said,

Rabbit: "What are you doing away up here, sir?"

Turtle: "I simply came up for a view. I have always heard that the view over the water from your hills was excellent, but I can't say it is worth the trouble of coming up," and

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