

Appendix A



STUDENT'S QUESTIONNAIRE

Tick (/) if you agree and cross (X) if you disagree.

	Yes	No
Reading gives pleasure.	___	___
It's good to spend money on books.	___	___
Reading is useless.	___	___
Reading books are useful.	___	___
Short stories are better than novels.	___	___
Reading is a good hobby.	___	___
I surf the net regularly.	___	___
Novels are lengthy and time consuming.	___	___
Reading can help me in my essay writing.	___	___
I like to choose my own reading materials.	___	___
I like my teachers to choose the reading materials.	___	___
I like to read at home.	___	___
Reading in the classroom is convenient.	___	___
Reading materials found in the Internet is interesting.	___	___
I get bored if I cannot understand the story I'm reading.	___	___
Reading stories with pictures are more interesting.	___	___
I like stories that I can understand easily.	___	___
Reading is fun when I don't have to answer questions.	___	___
I learn new words when I read stories.	___	___
I wish we could choose our own stories for literature.	___	___

A BIG THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND CO-OPERATION

Appendix B**READING LOG**

Name: _____

No.	Title of the story	Why do you like the story?

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Appendix C**INTERVIEW QUESTIONS**

1. Do you read a lot of storybooks?
2. What kind of storybooks do you read a lot? In what language do you most often read?
3. Do you find reading in English difficult? Why?
4. How do you normally study?
5. Which do you like, short stories or novel? Why?
6. Do you like the stories from the Internet? Why did you like them?
7. Did you know that there are a lot of interesting stories in the Internet?
8. Do you think reading can help you improve your command of English?

Appendix D

Source - <http://classic.mit.edu/Aesop/fab.1.1.html> (Fables)

THE GOATHERD AND THE WILD GOATS

A Goatherd, driving his flock from their pasture at eventide, found some Wild Goats mingled among them, and shut them up together with his own for the night. The next day it snowed very hard, so that he could not take the herd to their usual feeding places, but was obliged to keep them in the fold. He gave his own goats just sufficient food to keep them alive, but fed the strangers more abundantly in the hope of enticing them to stay with him and of making them his own. When the thaw set in, he led them all out to feed, and the Wild Goats scampered away as fast as they could to the mountains. The Goatherd scolded them for their ingratitude in leaving him, when during the storm he had taken more care of them than of his own herd. One of them, turning about, said to him “ That is the very reason why we are so cautious; for if you yesterday treated us better than the Goats you have had so long, it is plain also that if others came after us, you would in the same manner prefer them to ourselves.”

Old friends cannot with impunity be sacrificed for new ones.

THE GOATHERD AND THE WILD GOATS

A Goatherd, driving his flock from their *grazing field*, found some Wild Goats *mixed* among them, and shut them up together with his own for the night. The next day it snowed very hard, so that he could not take the herd to their usual feeding places, but was *forced* to keep them in the fold.

He gave his own goats just *enough* food to keep them alive, but fed the strangers more *than enough* in the hope of *persuading* them to stay with him and of making them his own. When the *warm weather* set in, he led them all out to feed, and the Wild Goats *ran* away as fast as they could to the mountains. The Goatherd scolded them for *not being grateful and* leaving him, when during the storm he had taken more care of them than of his own herd. One of them, turning about, said to him “ That is the very reason why we are so *careful*; for if you yesterday treated us better than the Goats you have had so long, it is plain also that if others came after us, you would in the same manner prefer them to ourselves.”

Moral Value: What is done to one today may come to you tomorrow

THE ASTRONOMER

An astronomer used to go out at night to observe the stars. One evening, as he wandered through the suburb with his whole attention fixed in the sky, he fell accidentally into a deep well. While he lamented and bewailed his sores and bruises, and cried loudly for help, a neighbor ran to the well, and learning what had happened said: “ Hark ye, old fellow, why, in striving to pry into what is in heaven, do you not manage to see what is on earth?”

THE ASTRONOMER

An astronomer is a person who studies the moon, sun and star. One day an astronomer used to go out at night to *see* the stars. One evening, as he *walked* through the suburb with his whole attention fixed in the sky, he

fell accidentally into a deep well. While he *regretted for the sores and bruises*, and cried loudly for help, a neighbor ran to the well, and learning what had happened said: “ *Listen you, old fellow, grapple with matters that are within the manageable limit.* ”

Moral Value: Do things that are within our manageable level.

THE MAN AND HIS TWO SWEETHEARTS

A middle-aged man, whose hair had begun to turn gray, courted two women at the same time. One of them was young, and the other well advanced in years. The elder women, ashamed to be courted by a man younger than her self, made a point, whenever her admirer visited her, to pull out some portion of his black hairs. The younger, on the contrary, not wishing to become the wife of an old man, was equally zealous in removing every gray hair she could find. Thus it came it pass that between them both he very soon found that he had not a hair left on his head.

THE MAN AND HIS TWO SWEETHEARTS

A middle-aged man, whose hair had begun to turn gray, *dated* two women at the same time. One of them was young, and the other well advanced in years. The elder women, ashamed to be *partnered* by a man younger than her self, made a point, whenever her admirer visited her, to pull out some portion of his black hairs. The younger, on the *other hand*, not wishing to become the wife of an old man, was equally *eager* in removing every gray hair she could find. Thus it came it pass that

between them both he very soon found that he had not a hair left on his head.

Moral Value: Be where you ought to be

THE VAIN JACKDAW

Jupiter determined, it is said, to create a sovereign over the birds, and made proclamation that on a certain day they should all present themselves before him, when he would himself choose the most beautiful among them to be king. The Jackdaw, knowing his own ugliness, searched through the woods and fields, and collected the feathers which had fallen from the wings of his companions, and stuck them in all parts of his body, hoping thereby to make himself the most beautiful of all. When the appointed day arrived, and the birds had assembled before Jupiter, the Jackdaw also made his appearance in his many feathered finery. But when Jupiter proposed to make him king because of the beauty of his plumage, the birds indignantly protested and each plucked from him his own feathers, leaving the Jackdaw nothing but a Jackdaw.

THE PROUD JACKDAW

Jupiter determined, it is said, to create a *supreme ruler* over the birds, and *announced* that on a certain day they should all present themselves before him, when he would himself choose the most beautiful among them to be king. The Jackdaw, knowing his own ugliness, searched through the woods and fields, and collected the feathers which had fallen from the wings of his companions, and stuck them in all parts of his body,

hoping thereby to make himself the most beautiful of all. When the appointed day arrived, and the birds had *gathered* before Jupiter, the Jackdaw also made his appearance in his many feathered finery. But when Jupiter proposed to make him king because of the beauty of his *featheres*, the birds *angrily* protested and each plucked from him his own feathers, leaving the Jackdaw nothing but a Jackdaw.

Moral Value: You should be what you are

THE FROGS ASKING FOR A KING

The Frogs, grieved at having no established Ruler, sent ambassadors to Jupiter entreating for a King. Perceiving their simplicity, he cast down a huge log into the lake. The Frogs were terrified at the splash occasioned by its fall and hid themselves in the depths of the pool. But as soon as they realized that the huge log was motionless, they swam again to the top of the water, dismissed their fears, climbed up, and began squatting on it in contempt. After some time they began to think themselves ill-treated in the appointment of so inert a Ruler and sent a second deputation to Jupiter to pray that he would set over them another sovereign. He then gave them an Eel to govern them. When the Frogs discovered his easy good nature, they sent yet a third time to Jupiter to beg him to choose for them still another King. Jupiter, displeased with all their complaints, sent a Heron, who preyed upon the Frogs day bay day till there were none left to crock upon the lake.

THE FROGS ASKING FOR A KING

The Frogs, *sad* at having no established Ruler, sent *representatives* to Jupiter *requesting* for a King. *Understanding* their simplicity, he cast down a huge log into the lake. The Frogs were terrified at the splash *caused* by its fall and hid themselves in the depths of the pool. But as soon as they realized that the huge log was *not moving*, they swam again to the top of the water, dismissed their fears, climbed up, and began squatting on it in *fearlessly*. After some time they began to think themselves ill-treated in the appointment of *powerless* Ruler and sent a second deputation to Jupiter to pray that he would set over them another *ruler*. He then gave them an Eel to govern them. When the Frogs discovered his easy good nature, they sent yet a third time to Jupiter to beg him to choose for them still another King. Jupiter, *unhappy* with all their complaints, sent a Heron, who preyed upon the Frogs day by day till there were none left to crouch upon the lake.

Moral Value: *Be contented with what you have as greed might lead misery.*

THE WOLVES AND THE SHEEP

“Why should there always be this fear and slaughter between us?” said the Wolves to the Sheep. “Those evil-disposed Dogs have much to answer for. They always bark whenever we approach you and attack us before we have done any harm. If you would only dismiss them from your heels, there might soon be treaties of peace and reconciliation between us.” The Sheep, poor silly creatures, were easily beguiled and dismissed the Dogs,

whereupon the Wolves destroyed the unguarded flock at their own pleasure.

THE WOLVES AND THE SHEEP

“ Why should there always be this far and slaughter between us?” said the Wolves to the Sheep. “Those evil-disposed Dogs have much to answer for. They always bark whenever we approach you and attack us before we have done any harm. If you would only dismiss them from your heels, there might soon be *friendship* between us.” The Sheep, poor silly creatures, were easily *cheated*. They dismissed the Dogs, whereupon the Wolves destroyed the unguarded flock at their own pleasure.

Moral Values: 1. *A wolf is always a wolf. A pleading wolf always has a hidden agenda.*

2. *Not all pleadings deserve sympathy and immediate response.*

THE CHARGER AND THE MILLER

A Charger, feeling the infirmities of age, was sent to work in a mill instead of going out to battle. But when he was compelled to grind instead of serving in the wars, he bewailed his change of fortune and called to mind his former state, saying, “Ah! Miller, I had indeed to go campaigning before, but I was barbed from counter to tail, and a man went along to groom me; and now I cannot understand what ailed me to prefer the mill before the battle.” “Forbear,” said the Miller to him, “harping on what was of yore, for it is the common lot of mortals to

sustain the ups and downs of fortune.”

THE CHARGER AND THE MILLER

A Charger, feeling the *weakness* of age, was sent to work in a mill instead of going out to *war*. But when he was *forced* to grind instead of serving in the wars, *he was quite sad with his predicament and told the Miller*, “Ah! Miller, I had indeed to go campaigning before, but I was barbed from counter to tail, and a man went along to groom me; and now *I don't* understand what I'm doing here now.” “*Hang on,*” said the Miller. “*Bragging about your past is not going to help as it's common for everyone to face the ups and downs of life.*” The Miller continued.

Moral Value: Think of the present and adopt yourself, not the past.

The Man and the Lion.

A man and a lion traveled together in the forest. They soon began to boast of their respective superiority to each other in strength and of their prowess. As they were disputing, they passed a statue carved in stone, which represented “a lion strangled by a man.” The traveler pointed to it and said: “See there! How strong we are, and how we prevail over even the king of beasts.” The lion replied: This statue was made by one of you men. If lions knew how to erect statues, you would see the Man placed under the paw of the Lion.”

The Man and the Lion.

Once upon a time, a man and a lion travelled together in the *jungle*. They soon began to *talk big* of their respective *greatness* to each other in strength and of their *power*. As they were *arguing*, they passed a statue *made out of* stone, which *showed* “a lion strangled by a man.” The traveller pointed to it and said: “See there! How strong we are, and how we *champion* over even the king of beasts.” The lion replied: This statue was made by one of you men. If lions knew how to *make* statues, you would see the *helpless* Man *dying* under the paws of the Lion. How is it?

Moral Lesson: One story is good, till another is told.

THE DOG IN THE MANGER

A dog lay in a manger, and by his growling and snapping prevented the oxen from eating the hay, which had been placed for them. “What a selfish Dog!’ said one of them to his companions; “he cannot eat the hay himself, and yet refuses to allow those to eat who can.”

The Dog in the Manger.

Once upon a time, a stingy dog lay in a low lying open container, and by his barking and snapping prevented the oxen from eating the dried grass which had been placed for them to eat. “What a selfish and stupid Dog!’ said one of them to his friends; “he cannot eat the hay himself, and yet doesn’t allow those who can eat.”

Moral Lesson: 1. Do unto to others as you would wish to be done by others to you.

2. Don't be a stumbling block to others.

The Lion in Love

A lion demanded the daughter of a woodcutter in marriage. The father, unwilling to grant, and yet afraid to refuse his request, hit upon this expedient to rid himself of his importunities. He expressed his willingness to accept the lion as the suitor of his daughter on one condition; that he should allow him to extract his teeth, and cut of his claws, as his daughter was fearfully afraid of both. The lion cheerfully assented to the proposal. But when the toothless, clawless Lion returned to repeat his request, the woodman, no longer afraid, set upon him with his club, and drove him away into the forest.

The Lion in Love

A lion demanded the daughter of a woodcutter *to be married to him*. The father *was not happy to marry off his daughter*, and yet afraid to *turn down the lion's demand*, hit upon this *tricky idea* to free himself of his *misfortune*. He expressed his willingness to accept the lion as the *bridegroom* of his daughter on one condition; that he should allow him to *pull out his sharp and dangerous teeth*, and cut of his *sharp claws*, as his daughter was fearfully afraid of both. The lion *happily agreed* to the *sly idea*. But when the toothless, clawless Lion returned to repeat his *desire to marry his daughter*, the woodcutter, no longer afraid, set upon him

with his club, and drove him away into the *deep jungle and the lion never came back to disturb them again. They lived happily ever after without any fear.*

Moral Values: 1. *Look before you leap.*

2. *Great charm does great harm.*

The piglet, the sheep, and the Goat

A young pig was shut up in a fold-yard with a Goat and a sheep. On one occasion when the shepherd laid hold of him, he grunted and squeaked and resisted violently. The sheep and the Goat complained of his distressing cries, saying, "He often handles us, and we do not cry out." To this the pig replied. "Your handling and mine are different things. He catches you only for your wool, or your milk, but he lays hold on me for my very life."

The piglet, the sheep, and the Goat

A young pig was *closed* up in a fold-yard with a Goat and a sheep. *One unlucky day* when the shepherd laid hold of him, he grunted and squeaked and *fought* violently *to escape*. The sheep and the Goat complained of his *annoying* cries, saying, "He often handles us, and we do not cry *aloud like you.*" To this the pig replied. "Your *situation* and mine are *two* different things. He catches you only for your wool, or your milk, but he lays hold on me for my very life."

Moral Lesson: *Don't ever laugh at other people's misfortune.*

The Laborer and the Snake

A snake, having made his hole close to the porch of a cottage, inflicted a mortal bite on the Cottager's infant son. Grieving over his loss, the father resolved to kill the snake. The next day, when it came out of its hole for food, he took up his axe, but by swinging too hastily, missed its head and cut off only the end of its tail. After some time the Cottager, afraid that the snake would bite him also, endeavored to make peace, and placed some bread and salt in the hole. The snake, slightly hissing, said; "There can henceforth be no peace between us; for whenever I see you I shall remember the loss of my tail, and whenever you see me you will be thinking of the death of your son."

The Labourer and the Snake

A *cobra*, having made his hole close to the porch of a *small house*, inflicted a mortal bite on the Cottager's infant son. Grieving over his loss, the father *planned* to kill the *poisonous* snake. The *following morning*, when it came out of its hole for food, he took up his *sharp* axe, but by swinging too hastily, missed its head and cut off only the end of its tail. *The cottager was then worried*. After some time the Cottager, afraid that the snake would bite him also, *decided* to make peace, and placed some bread and *milk* in the hole. The snake, slightly hissing, said; "*Hello Joe*, there can henceforth be no peace between us; for whenever I see you I shall remember the loss of my tail, and whenever you see me you will be thinking of the death of your *dear* son."

Moral Lesson: No one truly forgets injuries in the presence of him who caused the injury

The Boy and the Filberts

A boy put his hand into a pitcher full of filberts. He grasped as many as he could possibly hold, but when he tried to pull out his hand, he was prevented from doing so by the neck of the pitcher. Unwilling to lose his filberts, and yet unable to withdraw his hand, he burst into tears and bitterly lamented his disappointment. A bystander said to him. “Be satisfied with half the quantity, and you will readily draw out your hand.”

The Boy and the Candies

A boy put his hand into a *jug* full of candies. He *held* as many as he could possibly hold, but when he tried to pull out his hand, he was prevented from doing so by the *narrow neck* of the *jug*. Unwilling to lose his candies, and yet unable to *take out* his hand, he *cried aloud* and bitterly *expressed* his disappointment. A *person who was walking by* told him. “Be *happy* with *half the amount of candies*, and you will *easily* draw out your hand.”

Moral Lesson:

1. *Do not attempt too much at once.*
2. *Always have ceiling on your desires.*
3. *Anything in abundance is dangerous.*

The Mischievous Dog

A Dog used to run up quietly to the heels of everyone he met, and to bite them without notice. His master suspended a bell about his neck so that the Dog might give notice of his presence wherever he went. Thinking it a mark of distinction, the Dog grew proud of his bell and went tinkling it all over the marketplace. One day an old hound said to him: "Why do you make such an exhibition of yourself? That bell that you carry is not, believe me, any order of merit, but on the contrary a mark of disgrace, a public notice to all men to avoid you as an ill mannered dog."

The mischievous Dog

A Dog used to run up quietly to the heels of everyone he met, and to bite them without notice. His master *tied* a bell *around* his neck so that the Dog might *inform others* of his presence wherever he went. Thinking it a mark of *prestige*, the Dog grew proud of his bell and went tinkling it all over the marketplace. One day an old *dog told him off*: "Why do you make such an exhibition of yourself? That bell that you *wear* is not, believe me, any order of *prestige or greatness*, but on the contrary a mark of disgrace, a public notice to all men to avoid you as an ill mannered *lousy* dog."

Moral Lesson: Notoriety is often mistaken for fame.

The Dog and the Shadow

A Dog, crossing a bridge over a stream with a piece of flesh in his mouth, saw his own shadow in the water and took it for that of another Dog, with a piece of meat double his own in size. He immediately let go of his own, and fiercely attacked the other Dog to get his larger piece from him. He thus lost both: that which he grasped at in the water, because it was a shadow; and his own, because the stream swept it away.

The Dog and the Shadow

A *greedy* Dog, crossing a bridge over a *small river* with a piece of flesh in *its* mouth, saw his own shadow in the water and took it for that of another Dog, with a piece of meat double his own in size. He *quickly* let go of his own, and *angrily* attacked the other Dog to get his larger piece *of meat* from him. *In doing so he* lost both: that which he *held* at in the water, because it was a shadow; and his own *too*, because the stream swept it away *swiftly*.

Moral Lessons:

1. *A bird in the hand is worth two in the forest.*
2. *Do not trust the king and forsake your husband.*
(A Tamil saying)