

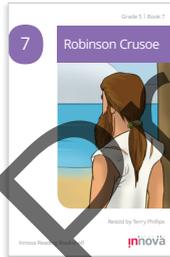
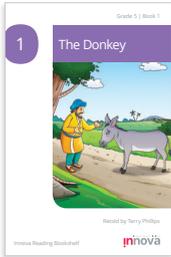
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Tales of Nasruddin



Retold by Terry Phillips

Titles in the Innova Reading Bookshelf, Grade 5



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Tales of Nasruddin



Nasruddin and
the Coins



Nasruddin and
the Key



Nasruddin and
the Party



Nasruddin and
the Tiger Hunt



Nasruddin and
the Pot



Nasruddin and
the Speech



Nasruddin and
the Roof



Nasruddin and the Coins

Nasruddin was very hungry. He saw a restaurant. The smell of food was wonderful. He thought, "What a wonderful smell!"

He sat down at a table. A waiter came and asked, "What would you like?"

Nasruddin looked at the coins in his pocket. He had 10 pennies but he needed some money for later.

"What can I have for two pennies?" he asked.

The waiter laughed. "One slice of bread," he said.

"OK," Nasruddin said. "I'll have a slice of bread."

The waiter brought the bread. Nasruddin thanked him and ate it very, very slowly. The waiter came back after a while and asked, "What would you like now?"

"Nothing," said Nasruddin. "I'm enjoying the smell of the food."

The waiter went away and came back with a bill.

It read, "10 pennies."

"But," Nasruddin said, "it's only two pennies for the bread."

"Yes," said the waiter. "Two pennies for the bread and eight pennies for the smell of the food."

Nasruddin gave the man two pennies, then he put his hand up to the man's ear and shook the coins.

What did Nasruddin say next? Read and choose.

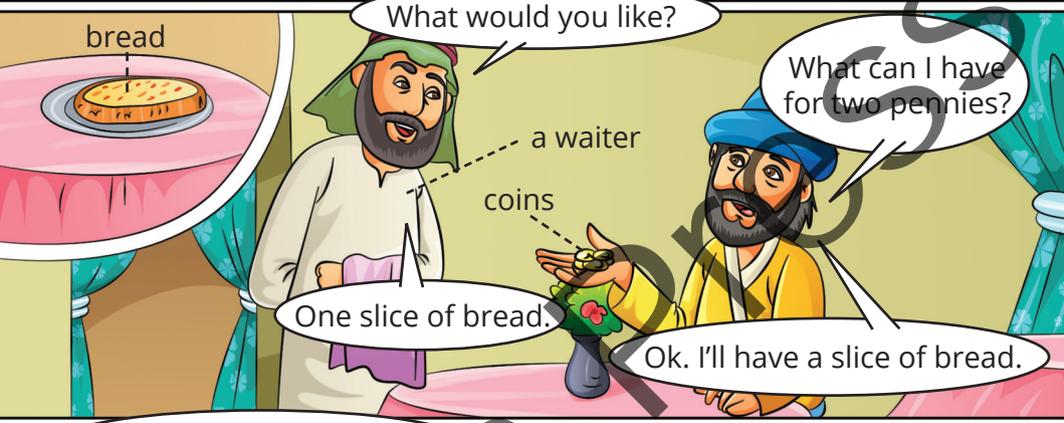
1. "Look. I have some more coins."
2. "Listen. It's the sound of the money for the smell of the food."

Think. Then look at the bottom of the next page.



What a wonderful smell!

a restaurant



What would you like?

What can I have for two pennies?

One slice of bread.

Ok. I'll have a slice of bread.

bread

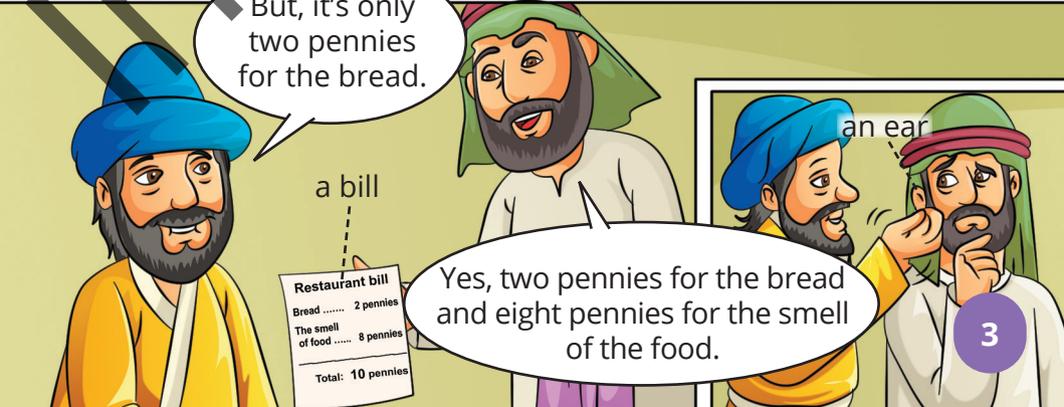
a waiter

coins



What would you like now?

Nothing. I'm enjoying the smell of the food.



But, it's only two pennies for the bread.

Yes, two pennies for the bread and eight pennies for the smell of the food.

a bill

an ear

Restaurant bill	
Bread	2 pennies
The smell of food	8 pennies
Total:	10 pennies

Nasruddin and the Key

It was a very dark night. Nasruddin was on his way home. He had his house key in his hand. Suddenly, a cat jumped off a wall. Nasruddin jumped and he dropped his key. "Ah! You silly cat!" he shouted.

A few minutes later, a friend of Nasruddin came along the street. He saw Nasruddin on his knees under a streetlight. "Hello, Nasruddin. What are you doing?" he asked. Nasruddin looked up. "Oh, hello," he replied. "I'm looking for my key. A cat jumped off that wall and I dropped it." He pointed to the wall.

The friend was confused and he asked, "Did you drop it near that wall?" "Yes, I did," Nasruddin replied. "Then why are you looking here?" asked his friend. Nasruddin looked at him in surprise.

What did Nasruddin say next? Read and choose.

1. "It's very dark over there!"
2. "It's very dark here!"

Think. Then look at the bottom of the next page.

"Listen. It's the sound of the money for the smell of the food."



Ah! You silly cat!

a wall



a streetlight

Hello, Nasruddin. What are you doing?

Oh, hello. I'm looking for my key. A cat jumped off that wall and I dropped it.

Did you drop it near that wall?

Yes, I did.

Then why are you looking here?

Nasruddin and the Party

A rich man invited Nasruddin to a party at his house. The rich man said, "Please come to dinner at seven tonight." Nasruddin said, "Thank you. I'd love to come." The rich man said, "All the important people from the town will be there, so wear your best coat."

Nasruddin worked all day in his garden. Suddenly, he remembered the invitation to dinner. "Oh, dear," he thought. "Look at the time. It's seven already!"

Nasruddin ran to the rich man's house in his work clothes. The rich man was angry when he saw Nasruddin. "I told you to wear your best coat!" he said. "Please go home and get changed."

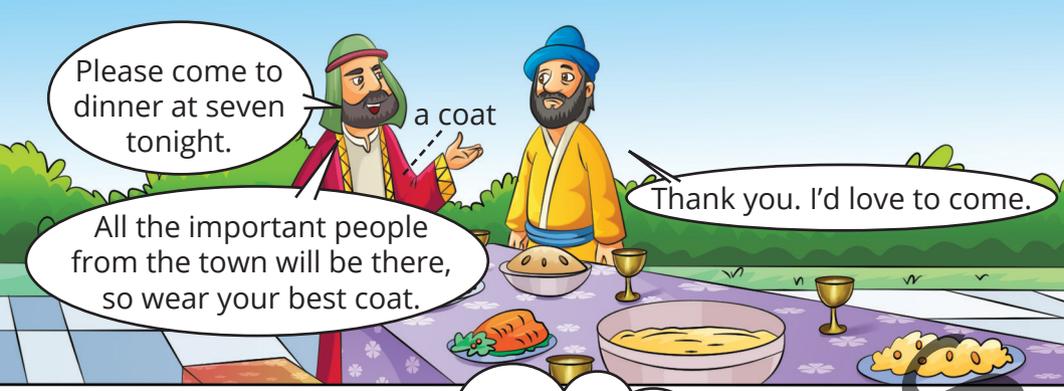
Nasruddin went home and put on his best coat. He went back to the rich man's house and sat down at a long table. A waiter brought him a big bowl of soup. "Here you are, sir," he said. Nasruddin thanked the waiter, took off his coat and put it in the soup. The rich man was confused and angry. He said, "What are you doing, Nasruddin?"

What did Nasruddin say next? Read and choose.

1. "You invited my coat to dinner, not me."
2. "You didn't invite me to dinner."

Look at the bottom of the next page. Check.

"It's very dark over there!"

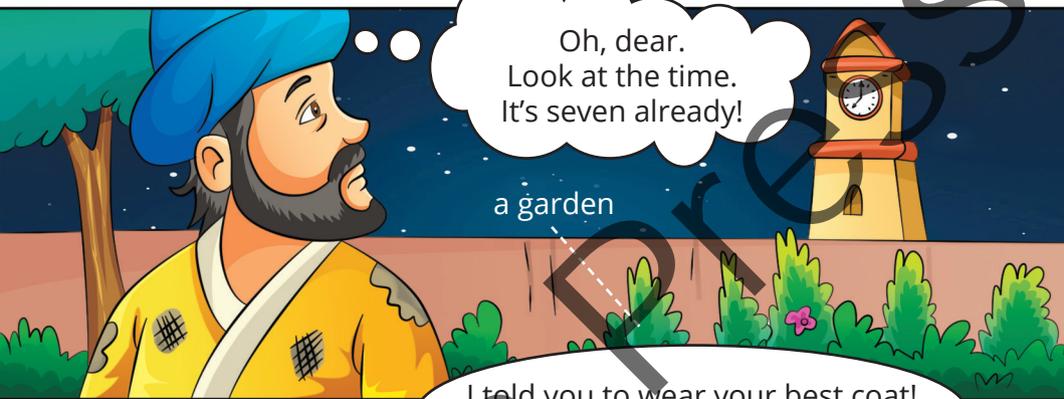


Please come to dinner at seven tonight.

a coat

Thank you. I'd love to come.

All the important people from the town will be there, so wear your best coat.



Oh, dear.
Look at the time.
It's seven already!

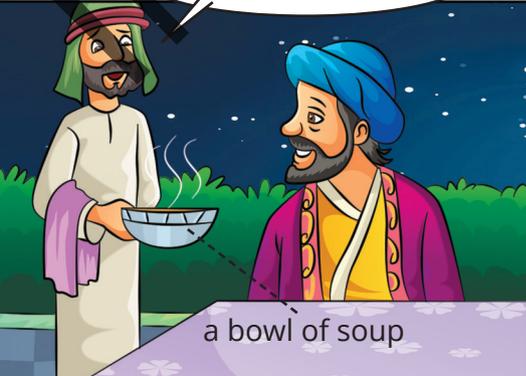
a garden



I told you to wear your best coat!
Please go home and get changed.

Here you are, sir.

What are you doing, Nasruddin?



a bowl of soup

Nasruddin and the Tiger Hunt

One day, Nasruddin saw some friends in the street.
They had guns.

"Where are you going?" he asked them.

"We're going on a tiger hunt," a woman replied.

"How exciting!" Nasruddin said. "Can I come?"

The friends looked worried. A man said, "You're not very good with guns."

Nasruddin said, "Please! I'll be careful."

Finally, the woman said, "OK. You can have this gun."

She gave Nasruddin a child's gun with a cork, but Nasruddin was happy.

One man got a piece of cardboard and wrote on it,
"I AM NOT A TIGER."

He hung it around his neck. Then he walked in front of Nasruddin.
The men laughed but Nasruddin shot him.

The man was not hurt but he was confused.

"What are you doing, Nasruddin? Didn't you see the sign?"

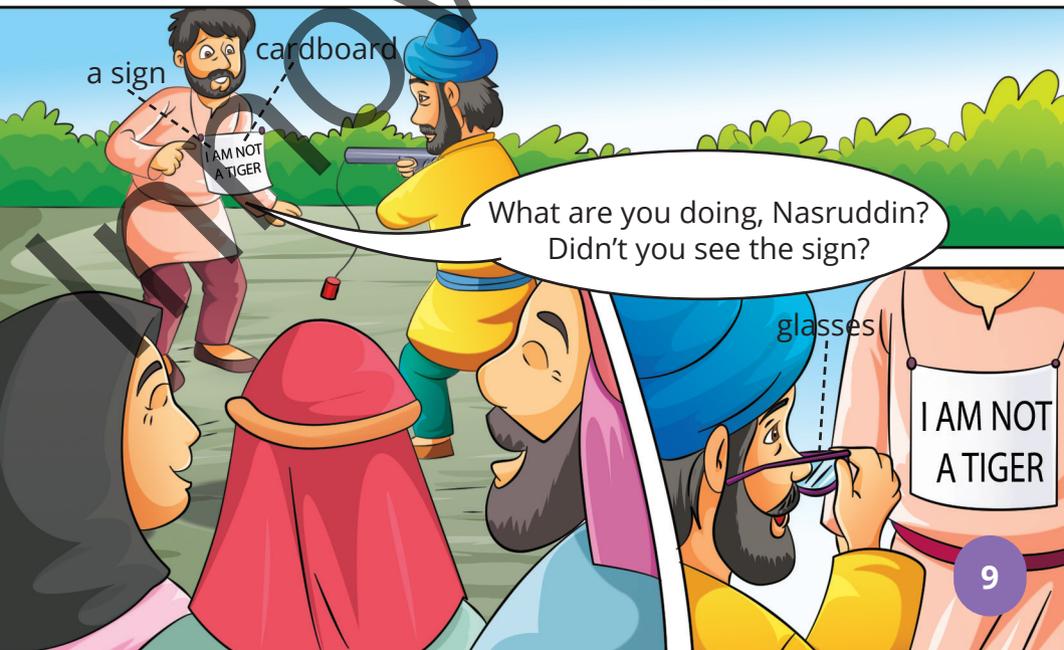
Nasruddin put on his glasses and looked closely at the sign.

What did Nasruddin say next? Read and choose.

1. "Sorry. I didn't see the sign."
2. "Sorry. I didn't see the word NOT."

Look at the bottom of the next page. Check.

"You invited my coat to dinner, not me."



Nasruddin and the Pot

Nasruddin wanted to make a big meal.
He went to his neighbour and asked,
“Can I borrow your big pot for one day?”
The neighbour said, “OK, but I must have it back tomorrow.”

The neighbour went to Nasruddin’s house the next day.
“Can I have my pot back?” she asked.
Nasruddin did not want to give the pot back.
He thought, “I like the pot. I want to keep it.”
Nasruddin said, “Can I keep it for one more day?”
The neighbour was a little annoyed but she said,
“OK. Just one more day.”
She started to leave.

“Wait!” Nasruddin said. “Your pot had a baby last night.”
He gave the woman a small pot.
The woman thought, “What a stupid man!” but she took it.

The next day, the woman went to Nasruddin’s house again.
She said, “Can I have my pot now?”
Nasruddin looked very sad.
“I’m sorry,” he said. “Your pot died last night.”
She said with a laugh, “Pots don’t die!”

What did Nasruddin say next? Read and choose.

1. “Pots die and they have babies, too.”
2. “Pots don’t have babies either, but you didn’t say that yesterday.”

Look at the bottom of the next page. Check.

“Sorry. I didn’t see the word NOT.”



Can I borrow your big pot for one day?

a pot

OK, but I must have it back tomorrow.

Can I have my pot back?

I like the pot.
I want to keep it.

Can I keep it for one more day?

OK. Just one more day.

Wait! Your pot had a baby last night.

What a stupid man!

Can I have my pot now?

I'm sorry.
Your pot died last night.

Pots don't die!

Nasruddin and the Speech

Nasruddin arrived in a new town. He looked very important in his expensive clothes.

"He looks very important," people said to each other. Nasruddin climbed up the steps of the town hall.

A crowd of people gathered round to listen to him.

"What am I going to say?" he asked the people.

"We don't know," they said.

"Then you're stupid," he said. "I don't speak to stupid people."

The next day, Nasruddin climbed up the steps again.

"What am I going to say?" he asked the people again.

They looked at each other.

After a few moments, they said, "We know! We know!"

"Then you're clever," he said. "I don't need to tell clever people."

On the third day, the people were very confused.

"What am I going to say?" Nasruddin asked again.

Half of the people said, "We know!"

Half of them said, "We don't know!"

What did Nasruddin say next? Read and choose.

1. "The clever ones can tell the stupid ones."
2. "The stupid ones can tell the clever ones."

Look at the bottom of the next page. Check.

"Pots don't have babies either, but you didn't say that yesterday."

the town hall

He looks very important.

a speech

steps

What am I going to say?

We don't know.

a crowd

Then you're stupid.
I don't speak to stupid people.

What am I going to say?

We know! We know!

Then you're clever.
I don't need to tell clever people.

What am I going to say?

We know!

We don't know!

Nasruddin and the Roof

There was a hole in Nasruddin's roof, so he climbed up a ladder. He thought, "I must mend my roof."

A friend called Ali walked past his house and saw Nasruddin on the roof.

"Come down, Nasruddin," he shouted.

"Why?" asked Nasruddin.

"Come down and I'll tell you," said Ali.

So Nasruddin climbed down the ladder to talk to his friend.

"Well?" he asked. "What do you want? I'm mending my roof."

"Can you lend me some money?" asked Ali.

"How much do you want?" asked Nasruddin.

"Ten," said Ali. "I'll pay you back tomorrow."

Nasruddin turned and started to climb the ladder again.

"Come up, Ali," he said.

"Why?" Ali asked.

"Come up and I'll tell you," said Nasruddin.

Ali climbed up the ladder and got onto the roof.

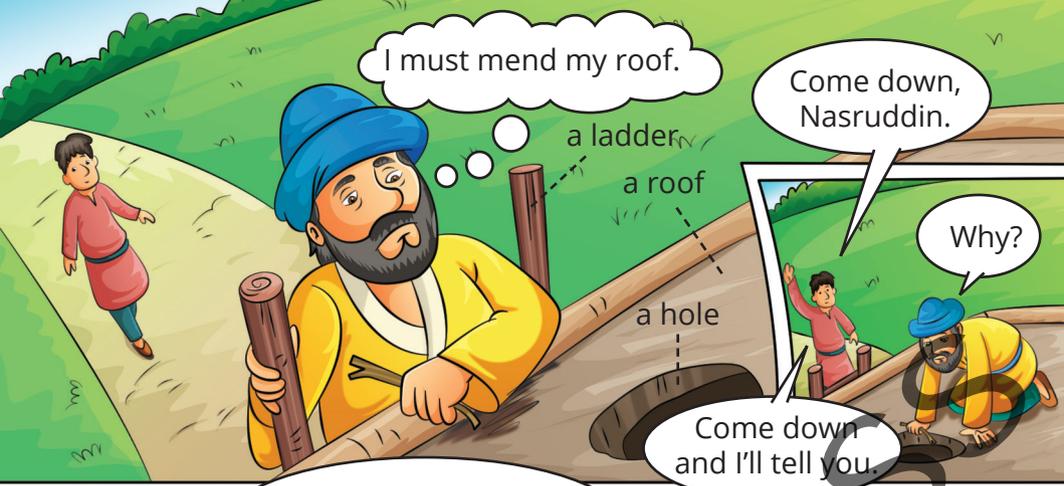
"Well?" he asked. "Can you lend me some money?"

What did Nasruddin say next? Read and choose.

1. "Yes. Here you are."
2. "No. Now get off my roof!"

Look at page 18. Check.

"The clever ones can tell the stupid ones."



I must mend my roof.

Come down, Nasruddin.

Why?

Come down and I'll tell you.



Well? What do you want? I'm mending my roof.

Can you lend me some money?

How much do you want?

Ten. I'll pay you back tomorrow.



Come up, Ali.

Why?

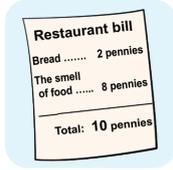
Come up and I'll tell you.

Well? Can you lend me some money?

Picture dictionary



a waiter



a bill



a key



a streetlight



drop / dropped



a dinner party



soup



a coat



a tiger



glasses



cardboard



a pot



a roof



a sound



a smell

Exercises

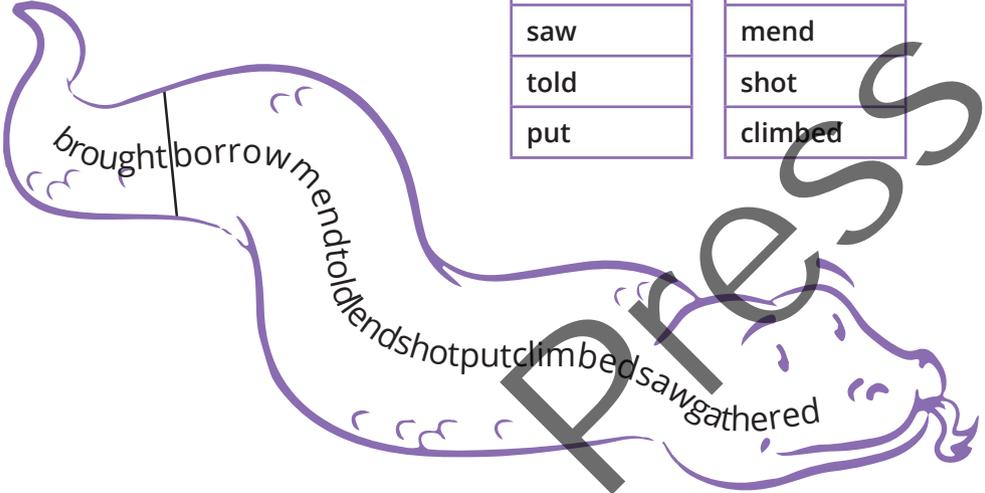
Vocabulary 1

Read the words.

Find the words in the snake.

lend
brought
saw
told
put

borrow
gathered
mend
shot
climbed



Vocabulary 2

Find pairs of words. Draw lines.

wonderful

rich

angry

careful

stupid

narrow

huge

expensive

old

weak

careless

wide

tiny

terrible

cheap

strong

young

poor

happy

clever

Tales of Nasruddin

Vocabulary 3

Write the numbers.

	a waiter
	a bill
	a pot
	a key
	a coat
	a sign

1



2



3



4



5



6

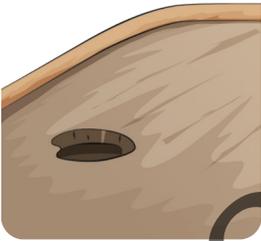


"No. Now get off my roof!"

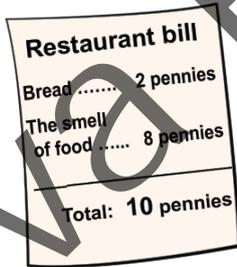
Tales of Nasruddin

	a roof
	a sound
	a smell
	an ear
	cardboard
	glasses

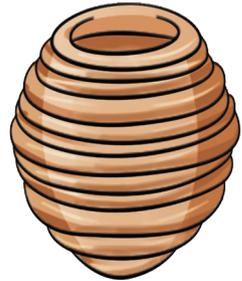
7



8



9



10



11



12



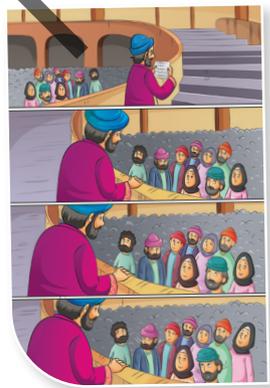
Tales of Nasruddin

Comprehension

Find the best sentence for each story.

1. The Coins		Nasruddin borrowed something and did not give it back.
2. The Key		Nasruddin did not think an invitation was for him.
3. The Party		Nasruddin did not lend money to a friend.
4. The Tiger Hunt		Nasruddin lost something in a dark place and looked for it under a streetlight.
5. The Pot	1	Nasruddin paid for a smell with a sound.
6. The Speech		Nasruddin read a sign wrongly.
7. The Roof		Nasruddin spoke three times but did not say anything.

Tales of Nasruddin



Tales of Nasruddin

Grammar

Tell some of the stories.

Tick (✓) the best way to complete each sentence.

1. Nasruddin saw a restaurant. The smell of ...

wonderful food.

food was wonderful.

2. The waiter said, "What ...

do you like?"

would you like?"

3. Nasruddin said, ...

"I have a slice of bread."

"I'll have a slice of bread."

4. A friend saw Nasruddin ...

under a streetlight.

behind a streetlight.

5. Nasruddin said, ...

"I look for my key."

"I'm looking for my key."

6. The friend said, "... near that wall?"

Did you drop it

You did drop it

7. A rich man invited Nasruddin to a party and he said, ...

"I'd love to come."

"I love to come."

8. The rich man was angry ...

when he saw Nasruddin.

if he saw Nasruddin.

9. He said, "I told you ...

wear your best coat."

to wear your best coat."

10. Nasruddin asked some friends in the street, "Where ...

do you go?"

are you going?"

Tales of Nasruddin

A poem

Nasruddin is clever sometimes.
Sometimes he is not.



He used a sound to pay for a smell,
And he kept a woman's pot.



He got his friend up to his roof,
And then he told him, "No!"



He went to a big party,
And gave soup to his coat.



But he also lost his key in the dark,
And looked for it in the light.



And he shot a man on a tiger hunt.
He didn't read the sign right.



Finally, he didn't speak,
Not once, not twice, no, never!



Perhaps he didn't have a speech,
So perhaps he's very clever!

Tales of Nasruddin

Answer key

Vocabulary 1

brought | borrow | mend | told | lend | shot | put | climbed | saw | gathered

Vocabulary 2

wonderful	terrible
rich	poor
angry	happy
careful	careless
stupid	clever
narrow	wide
huge	tiny
expensive	cheap
old	young
weak	strong

Vocabulary 3

a waiter 4; a bill 8; a pot 9; a key 2; a coat 6; a sign 3; a roof 7; a sound 10; a smell 5; an ear 12; cardboard 11; glasses 1.

Comprehension

1. Nasruddin paid for a smell with a sound.
2. Nasruddin lost something in a dark place and looked for it under a streetlight.
3. Nasruddin did not think an invitation was for him.
4. Nasruddin read a sign wrongly.
5. Nasruddin borrowed something and did not give it back.
6. Nasruddin spoke three times but did not say anything.
7. Nasruddin did not lend money to a friend.

Grammar

- 1 food was wonderful
- 2 would you like?"
- 3 "I'll have a slice of bread."
- 4 under a streetlight.
- 5 "I'm looking for my key."
- 6 "Did you drop it
- 7 "I'd love to come."
- 8 when he saw Nasruddin.
- 9 to wear your best coat."
- 10 are you going?"

For Teachers and Parents

Aim

To develop the **skill of reading** to **non-native speaker young learners**.

Encouraging learning

Classic tales retold with **engaging full-page illustrations**.

A hook at the end of every page: **'What happened next?'** encourages young learners to predict, then check for themselves.

The stories are **fun** and often have a **moral** to discuss in the children's first language after reading.

Illustrations with speech and thought bubbles

Detailed **full-colour illustrations** support every page of prose text. **New nouns** are captioned. The illustrations and bubbles mean that children can understand a lot of the story before they read, or while they read, the prose text.

Audio file

The audio is available for **free** at www.innovapress.com/readers or through the **QR code**.

Exercises and poems

Vocabulary, comprehension and grammar exercises for each story, and **poems**, too!

Level of prose text

Grade 1: **100L – 200L**, 50 – 150 words
Grade 2: **200L – 300L**, 100 – 250 words
Grade 3: **200L – 300L**, 250 – 350 words
Grade 4: **300L – 400L**, 300 – 450 words
Grade 5: **400L – 600L**, 400 – 900 words

Young learners with a slightly lower Lexile level will be able to understand the stories in each case because of the support from the illustrations.

Reading skills in Grade 5

Skill 1: Understanding sentences

Medium-length sentences with basic English sentence patterns are introduced systematically.

Each sentence is on its own line in the prose text in the early stories so children can see the structure clearly, and begin to internalise basic sentence patterns in English. Then the sentences merge into paragraphs in later stories.

The patterns in Grades 5 are:

- all the patterns in Grades 1 to 4 plus
- S V O O, e.g., *Nasraddin gave the man two pennies.*
- adverb and adjective, e.g., *much closer*
- *there is/are/was/were ...*
- *too vs not enough*
- S V *that* S V ..., e.g., *I think that you can carry heavy things all day.*
- closed and open questions in the present simple and past simple
- a small range of modals

Skill 2: Understanding relationships between sentences and paragraphs

Links between sentences – e.g. indefinite to definite article, noun to pronoun – are reinforced from earlier grades, and *this* and *that* are introduced.

Subskill 3: Predicting next events in a continuing story

The 'What happened next?' feature on each page makes this essential subskill fun, and enables a teacher or parent to check how much the young learner has understood about the story and the possible continuation sentences.

Guide for Teachers and Parents

Comprehensive methodology notes

online which include alternative routes through the story, group and individual activities and extension activities for children who finish quickly.

Grade 5

Innova readers are designed by ELT experts in the UK specifically for children whose first language is not English.

- **Classic tales** enable young learners to develop the skill of reading.
- **A controlled syllabus progression** for vocabulary and sentence structure ensures easy comprehension and consolidation of what is learned.
- **An interactive element** at the end of every page challenges young learners to predict “What happened next?”.
- **An audio version** is available free at innovapress.com/readers or by scanning the QR code below.
- **Exercises and poems** check vocabulary, comprehension and grammar, and help young learners appreciate English poetry.

