

## Lesson 12 The Lion's Whiskers

### Warm Up

Have you ever done something very dangerous for someone you love a lot, like your parents? Have you ever heard of someone doing something very special for their close ones?



### Reading Time

Once upon a time, a long time ago, there lived a young husband and wife in a small village in Africa. For some time now, the husband had not been happy with his marriage. He began to come home late from working in the fields. His wife thought he was the most wonderful man. But she was unhappy, too. His behaviour was making her miserable.



- miserable: (here) sad

Finally, she went to the oldest man in her village, the village elder. The elder was sad to hear her marriage was not a happy one. He had married them only two years before. At the time, he was sure that the marriage would be a good one.

"I think I can help you," the elder said slowly. "I can prepare a secret potion that will change your husband into a loving man."



"Prepare this magic potion at once!" the young wife cried out excitedly.

"I could make it," he said sadly. "But I am missing an important ingredient. I am too old to get this ingredient for you.

You must bring it to me."

"What do you need?" the young wife asked eagerly. "I'll bring it today."

"I need a single whisker taken from a living lion to make the potion work."

Her eyes widened in alarm. She bit her bottom lip. She straightened her shoulders. "I'll get it for you," she nodded.

The next morning, the young wife carried a huge piece of raw meat and lay it down by the river where lions sometimes came to drink. She hid behind a tree and waited. After waiting for many hours, a lion ambled down to the river to have a drink.



• ambled: came

He sniffed at the raw meat. In three bites, the meat was gone. He raised his mighty head. He knew she was there. The young wife held her breath. The mighty lion moved slowly back into the forest and disappeared.



The next day, the young wife came again. This time, the lion appeared quite quickly. This continued for many days. Days became weeks. Each day, the woman crept from her hiding place behind the tree, moving closer and closer to the lion.

At the end of four weeks, she moved quietly next to the lion and sat silently while he ate. Her hand shaking, she reached slowly out and pulled a whisker from his chin. Holding her prize firmly in one hand, she sat frozen until the lion had disappeared back into the forest.

She ran to the elder, waving her whisker. "I have it," she shouted, "I have it!"

The elder was in shock when he heard her story. "You do not need magic to change your husband back into the loving man he once was. You are brave enough to pull a whisker from the chin of a living lion. It took cleverness and bravery to do what you have done. Can you not use that same patience and courage with your husband?"

"But the potion," the young wife said eagerly.

"perhaps," the elder told her. "But it would not last. Trust me, my child. Show your husband each day that you love him. Share his problems. Make him feel welcome. Make him feel wanted and needed. Give him time to change and see what happens." The young wife went home and followed the elder's advice. Slowly, her husband began to return from the fields with the other men of the village. He began to look glad to see her. Within a year, their life was a happy one.

*Adapted from an African folktale*



## Reading Comprehension

A. Tick the correct option.

- The woman's husband was \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. angry with her  b. ill   
c. away in another village
- The woman sought the help of \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. a witch  b. a village elder   
c. a wizard
- The missing ingredient for the magic potion was \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. lion's tail  b. lion's skin   
c. hair from a lion's mane
- The woman took \_\_\_\_\_ for the lion everyday.  
a. ice creams  b. fresh fruits  c. raw meat
- The village elder was impressed by the woman's \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. bravery  b. cleverness  c. both

B. Fill in the blanks with words or phrases from the story.

1. The village elder offered to make a potion for the lady.
2. The missing ingredient was lion's whisker
3. The lady was surprised on hearing it.
4. Every day she would go to the forest with raw meat.
5. The village elder said that the lady was clever and brave.

C. Answer the following questions.

1. Why did the woman go to the village elder?

2. What did the village elder suggest?

3. How did the lady win over the lion?

4. What did she want from the lion?

5. Was she able to get it?

6. What did the village elder tell her in the end?



### Hots Questions

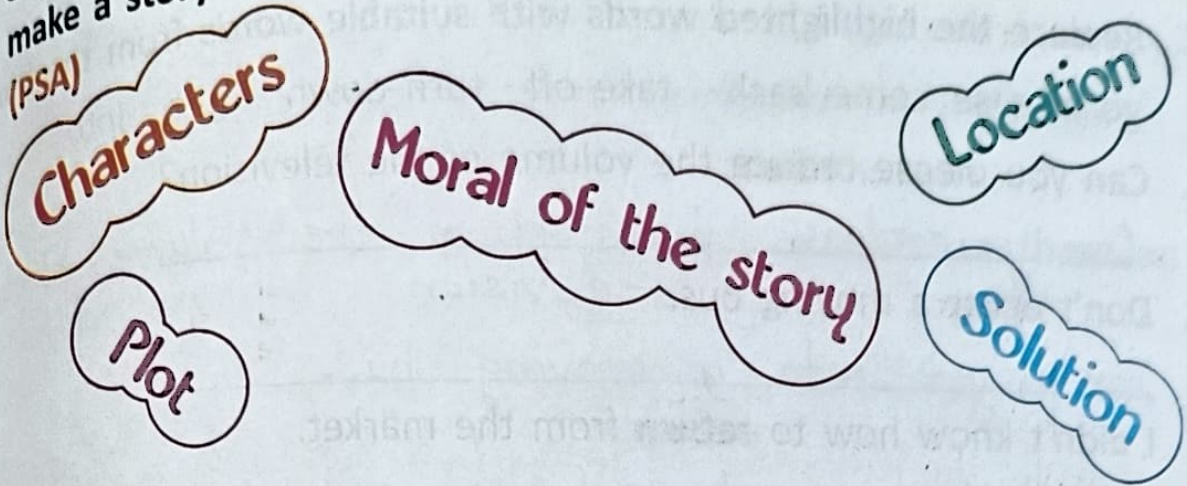
- a. Do you think the village elder was right? Can you make relationships work by showing love and patience?
- b. Why did the lion allow the woman to take a hair from his whiskers?



## Writing Time

D. A story web tells us about a story. It tells us when the incidents happened. Where they happened and the characters of the story. It also tells us about the moral of the story.

Copy the following story web in your notebook and fill it up to make a story web of The Lion's Whiskers.



### E. Punctuation

Rewrite the sentences with proper punctuation.

1. it was a warm beautiful sunny. day

It was a warm, beautiful, sunny day.

2. salim is a smart intelligent helpful boy

Salim is a smart, intelligent, helpful boy.

3. govind amit and gita will join us for dinner tonight

Govind, Amit and Gita will join us for dinner tonight.

4. we played badminton frizbee cricket and rope at the picnic

We played badminton, frizbee, cricket and rope at the picnic.

5. my mother bought vegetables pulses fruits and milk from the market  
My mother bought vegetables, pulses, fruits and milk from the market.



## Vocabulary Wise

- F. Replace the highlighted words with suitable words from the box.  
go on ease ~~come back~~ ~~take off~~ ~~turn down~~ get into

1. Can you please **reduce** the volume of the television?  
Can you please turn down the volume of the television.
2. Don't **enter** a moving bus. television.  
Don't get into a moving bus.
3. I didn't know how to **return** from the market.  
I didn't know how to come back from the market.
4. Why don't you **remove** your coat? market.  
Why don't you take off your coat?
5. Please **continue** speaking.  
Please go on speaking.
6. You can sit and **relax** yourself.  
You can sit and ease yourself.

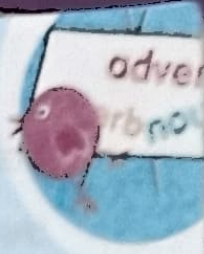
- G. Given below are the simple definitions of a few words. Guess the objects they define.

1. An instrument used to write in black, that is easily erasable.
2. A thing used to click pictures.
3. A chart showing days, weeks and months.
4. A place used to keep cows.
5. A sweet juice obtained from a beehive.
6. A heating plate used to iron clothes.

Pencil  
Camera  
Calendar  
Cowshed  
Honey  
Iron



# Language Skills



H. Read the sentences given below:

The bird sang **sweetly**.  
Riya wrote **neatly**.

The words (sweetly) and (neatly) tell us how the actions— sang and wrote took place. They are called (adverbs) adverbs are made by adding **-ly** to some words.

Make adverbs with the following words. They tell us 'how' an action took place.

slow slowly  
long longly  
honest honestly  
rough roughly

quick quickly  
kind kindly  
quiet quietly  
smart smartly

I. Use the most appropriate adverbs from the box below to complete the sentences.

- An ant walks slowly (slowly/quickly)
- We should write neatly (roughly/neatly)
- The children were working carefully (carefully/loudly)
- The child was singing softly (softly/politely)
- The deer ran swiftly (slowly/swiftly)
- The doorbell rang loudly (loudly/hurriedly)

J. Some adverbs tell us when something happened. They are **when** adverbs. Use the given when adverbs in sentences of your own.

yesterday I met my friend yesterday.

today I am doing my homework today.

now I am feeling sleepy now.

then Finish your homework and then play outside.

later I will call you later.

K. The adverbs that tell us where something happened are **adverbs of place**.

For example : outside, there, near, etc.

Fill in the blanks with the correct adverbs of place.

away      there      here      outside      everywhere      near

1. The birds flew away.
2. Come and sit there.
3. Don't make noise here.
4. My parents are waiting for me outside.
5. Sit near the window.
6. The sun spreads its light everywhere.

L. Fill in the blanks with the most suitable conjunction: **and or but**

1. The iron nail is small but heavy.
2. Which shake do you want, banana or mango?
3. The crocodile has sharp and pointed teeth.
4. The table was delicate but weak.
5. The book is thick but interesting.
6. Would you like to sit inside or outside?
7. Is it sunny outside or is it raining?
8. I wanted to take my mother and father for the movie.
9. The sky is cloudy and grey.
10. Ritu was afraid but she decided to speak on stage.