

**Match words 1-11 with the definitions (a-k)**

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| 1. water color | a. a type of paint that is mixed with water to create a transparent and fluid medium for painting |
| 2. viewing point | b. an ancient nomadic people who lived in the Eurasian steppes during the Iron Age |
| 3. look | c. to perceive something using your eyes; to understand or comprehend something |
| 4. crypt | d. past tense of "choose," meaning to make a decision between two or more options |
| 5. dagestani | e. a deep, narrow valley with steep sides, often carved by a river |
| 6. see | f. relating to Dagestan, a republic in Russia known for its diverse ethnic groups and languages |
| 7. the Scythian's | g. relating to Israel, a country located in the Middle East |
| 8. chose | h. unfinished or unresolved details or tasks |
| 9. canyon | i. a room or chamber used for burial purposes, often underground |
| 10. israeli | j. to direct your gaze towards something or someone; to have a particular appearance or expression |
| 11. loose ends | k. a place where you can see a specific sight or view, often from an elevated position |

Read the text

Once upon a time, in a small Dagestani village, lived an artist named Ali. He loved to paint watercolors of the stunning canyons that surrounded his village. One day, he decided to take a trip to Israel to see how different the landscapes were there, hoping to find some new inspiration for his paintings.

While exploring the rugged terrain, Ali stumbled upon a group of tourists who were admiring the view from a viewing point. As he joined them, he heard a man speaking about the Scythians, an ancient nomadic tribe that once roamed the region.

Ali couldn't help but look out over the canyon and imagine the Scythians galloping across the landscape, hunting and gathering. He felt a sudden urge to capture this moment in his watercolors.

He chose a spot nearby, where he could see the canyon and the distant mountains beyond. As he set up his easel, he noticed an Israeli couple standing close by. They introduced themselves and told him they were also artists, and that they had come to Israel to paint.

As they chatted, Ali began to notice some loose ends in their story. They seemed hesitant to share too much about their background, and they seemed oddly interested in the crypt that lay beneath the viewing point.

Despite his misgivings, Ali continued to paint, letting the watercolors flow onto the canvas and bring the canyon to life. When he finished, he realized that he had captured not just the beauty of the landscape, but the mystery and intrigue of the Israeli couple as well.

He packed up his things and headed back to his village, feeling both exhilarated and a little bit unnerved by the experience. He knew that he had found a new source of inspiration, but he also knew that there were still many unanswered questions about the Israeli couple and their interest in the crypt.

Nevertheless, Ali felt that he had discovered a new purpose in life. He continued to paint, using the watercolors to capture the beauty and complexity of the world around him, always with one eye looking out for the next great mystery to uncover.

Why do you think the couple was so interested in the crypt? Write a passage using the target vocabulary.

