

Unit 6

Folk Tales



C. READING



IX Read the passage. Answer the questions below.

Fairy tales are very good for children because of some reasons. Firstly, they boost a child's imagination and cultural literacy. A child's imagination is a powerful and unique thing. It's not only used to make up stories and games, it's a key factor in their creative thoughts and can define the type of education, career and life they have. Fairy tales often include different cultures and ways of doing things. They teach children about cultural differences in the world outside. Then, they gift children a curiosity to learn new things and experience new places.

Secondly, fairy tales teach children right from wrong. It's always in a fairytale's DNA to have a strong moral lesson, a fight between good & evil, love and loss, and these lessons rub off on our children. Fairy tales teach children that good persons will always win and, while this may not be true in aspects of the real world, the lesson is simple and important. Be the hero, not the villain. Learn to hope for better.

1. How many main advantages of fairy tales are mentioned in the passage?

.....

2. What does the writer say about children's imagination?

.....

3. According to the writer, what do fairy tales often include?

.....

4. What do fairy tales teach children?

.....

5. What does a fairy tale always have?

.....

X Read the passage.

1

Fill in the blank with a suitable word.

Jacob Grimm (1) born in January 1785 and his brother was born in February 1786 in Germany. Their father was a lawyer, and they (2) six more brothers and one sister. In 1802, Jacob (3) to university to study law at the University of Marburg. As always, his little brother followed him, and entered law school (4) 1803. During their university years they began to collect folk and fairy tales. Folklore is stories that have been passed down from parents to children, by (5) of mouth, but at that time many had not been published in books. The Grimms were especially interested (6) stories that included Germany and German culture. Jacob and Wilhelm published their first book of fairy tales – “Children’s and Household Tales” – in 1812. There (7) 86 folktales. Readers were so happy to see the stories they had been (8) as children all collected together. Therefore, the book was a success. In the next volume of “Grimm’s Fairy Tales”, the brothers added 70 more stories. It went on growing like this for six more editions. Finally, the book contained over 200 (9)! It is probably the best-known work of German literature. Even if you don’t know the Brothers Grimm, you definitely (10) a Grimm fairy tale.

2

Decide if the statements are true (T) or false (F)

1. The little brother was only 1 year younger than the big one.
2. In the Grimms’ time, many fairy tales had been published in books.
3. The Grimms didn’t care much about his country and its culture.
4. The first book was published about 10 years after they went to university.
5. The Grimms’ books are possibly the most famous in German literature.