The Golden Fishes

A retold Asian folk tale

Once upon a time, an old man set out to the sea in a small fishing boat. He was hoping to catch a fat fish for his supper. Before many minutes had passed, there was a tug on his line. He pulled it in, and to his amazement saw a beautiful fish with golden scales.

"What a beauty!" he exclaimed. "I will surely be able to sell this fish for a lot of money."

"No, no, old man!" begged the fish. "I have a much better idea. Deep in the ocean is a golden fishing line. I will dive down and tie it to your line. It is worth much more than I am."

The old man's eyes glittered at the thought of owing the golden line. "Very well," he replied. "But be quick!"

The golden fish was soon back. "The golden line is now tied to your fishing line," it said, "so please free me."

"Oh no, you silly fish!" said the old man, "I want you and the golden fishing line!"

With that, he pulled up his line and took the golden fish off it. 'Splash' it went, straight into a bucket of water. Then, the old man greedily pulled in the golden fishing line. It seemed to have no end. He pulled and pulled, chuckling as he did so, as he thought all of richest that were now his.

He did not know that his boat was sinking lower and lower into the water. The weight of the fish and the line was too much for it. The all of sudden, the boat and the old man sank to bottom of the ocean. The happy golden fish swam out of the bucket and back to its home in the sea.

A. *Choose the correct answer and write its letter in the brackets.*

1. When the old man caught the golden fish, he felt…………………………………………………………………………

   a. sad

   b. surprised

c. worried

d. annoyed

2. The old man

was…………………………………………………………

a. fair

b. honest

c. greedy

d. wise

B. **_Answer these questions in complete sentences._**

1. What do you think would have happened if the old man had listened to the fish?

2. Did being greedy help the old man?

3. How do you think the fish felt when the boat sank? Why did it feel this way?