



A wise old man lived nearby. So the horses decided to visit him and get some advice. The old man listened to the horses. Then he said. 'I know! It might not work, but it's worth a try.' The old man got up and went into his little house. A few minutes later, he came out holding two buckets. Each bucket was full of paint – one of black paint, the other of white! He picked up a paintbrush and started to paint the horses. 'One black, one white ...,' he sang to himself and covered the horses with the paint.

****The horses wanted _____ from the wise old man.**

Soon, both horses looked completely different. They were both covered in black and white stripes. 'Nobody will recognise you now,' he said. 'But you need a new name. What about zebra?' The new zebras went back to the stable. No one recognised them, so no one asked them to do any work. They relaxed in the green grass just as they had wished. That evening, they saw the other horses coming back to the stable. They looked tired and sad. It made the zebras feel sad too. One of the horses saw the zebras and asked, 'Who are you?' The zebras told their friends about the old man. 'We must go and visit the old man, too,' said the horses. And off they went.

****The horses were painted with black and white paint, so nobody _____ them.**

The old man wanted to help the horses and started painting them. One by one, each new zebra ran off to join the other zebras. But it took a long time to paint the horses and some of them started getting impatient. They kicked and complained. They kicked so much that they knocked over the buckets and the paint spilled everywhere, until there was none left. So the old man couldn't make any more new zebras. The zebras won't be working anymore. But the horses won't be relaxing like their patient zebra friends. They will be working for the rest of their lives. So, this is why we can see both horses and zebras today — and why it's important to be patient!

****Impatient could mean _____.**

****The paint was spilled everywhere because the horses _____ the buckets.**

**** The moral of the story is _____.**