

THE WITCH OF WALL STREET - WORLD'S GREATEST MISER

Hetty Robinson _____ (learn) all about money when she _____ (be) very young. As a child, she _____ (read) the financial pages of the newspaper to her **wealthy** father. Her father _____ (die) when Hetty _____ (be) 30 years old and she _____ (inherit) \$1 million. When she herself _____ (die) in 1916, she _____ (leave) a **fortune** of almost \$100 million to her two children.



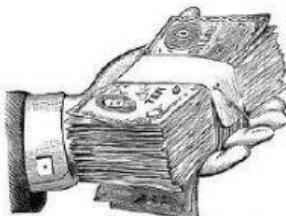
Hetty Robinson



the New York stock exchange, 1935

Hetty _____ (make) her money on the New York stock exchange. She _____ (be) a financial genius. She _____ (make) money so easily that people _____ (call) her the Witch of Wall Street. But although she (be) one of the richest women in the world, she _____ (be) very **mean**. She _____ (count) every cent and she _____ (spend) as little as possible. She _____ (not own) a house **because** she _____ (not want) to pay property taxes. So she and her children _____ (live) in cheap hotels.

She _____ (spend) **almost** nothing on clothes, and _____ (wear) the same long black dress every day. She _____ (wash) it herself, but to save soap she only _____ (wash) the bottom of the dress, where it _____ (touch) the ground. Other people _____ (have) their **own** offices, but Hatty _____ (use) a desk in the bank where she _____ (keep) all her money, because it _____ (not cost) anything. She _____ (sit) in the bank and _____ (eat) her sandwiches while she _____ (buy) and _____ (sell) stocks and shares. If the bank _____ (complain), she just moved all her money to another bank.





Ned Green

Hetty's family _____ (pay) the price for her meanness. When she _____ (be) 33, she _____ (marry) a millionaire, Edward Green and they _____ (have) two children. Green, however, _____ (lose) all his money, so Hatty _____ (leave) him. When her son, Ned, _____ (injure) his knee, Hetty _____ (not want) to pay for a doctor, so she _____ (take) him to a free hospital for poor people. **Unfortunately**, the doctor _____ (know) that Hetty _____ (be) rich and he _____ (ask) for money. Hetty _____ (refuse) and _____ (take) the boy away. His leg _____ (not get) better and two years later doctors _____ (remove) it. Once, she _____ (lose) a two-cent stamp and _____ (spend) the night

But eventually Ned _____ (get) his revenge. At the age of 81 Hetty _____ (have) an **argument** with a shop assistant about the price of a bottle of milk. She _____ (become) so angry that she _____ (have) a stroke and _____ (die). So Hetty's meanness **finally** _____ (kill) her. Ned _____ (inherit) half his mother's fortune, and he _____ (spend) it all on parties, holidays and expensive jewellery. He even _____ (buy) a chamber pot covered with diamonds. Her daughter _____ (build) a hospital with her money.

Are the following statements TRUE OR FALSE:

1. Hetty came from a rich family.
2. She spent the money she inherited from her father.
3. She made \$7.5 million from investments
4. She married a man with two children.
5. Hetty saved money by buying cheap food.
6. She was an honest businesswoman.
7. Ned Green led a life of luxury.
8. Hetty died in an accident.

NCDO CASTAGNOLA