

1. **Read** and enjoy!

A Note about Witches

In fairy-tales, witches always wear silly black hats, silly black cloaks, and they ride on broomsticks. But this is not a fairy-tale. This is about REAL WITCHES.

The most important thing you should know about REAL WITCHES is this. Listen very carefully. Never forget what is coming next. REAL WITCHES dress in ordinary clothes and look very much like ordinary women. They live in ordinary houses and they have ORDINARY JOBS. That is why they are so hard to catch.

A REAL WITCH hates children. A REAL WITCH gets the same pleasure from killing a child as you get from eating an ice-cream. A witch chooses a victim very carefully. Then the witch follows the child. She walks softly. She moves quietly. She gets closer and closer. Then at last, when everything is ready... phwisst! ... She attacks! And the child disappears.

A witch, you must understand, never gets caught. Don't forget that she has magic in her fingers. These magic powers are very frightening. Luckily, there are not a great number of REAL WITCHES in the world today. No country in the world is completely free from WITCHES.

A witch is always a woman. I do not wish to speak badly about women. Most women are lovely. But the fact remains that all witches are women. There is no such thing as a male witch. Nothing is as dangerous as a REAL WITCH.

A REAL WITCH is the most dangerous enemy of children. What makes her doubly dangerous is the fact that she doesn't look dangerous. You can never be quite sure if it is a witch you are looking at or just a kind lady. They all look like nice ladies.

For all you know, a witch might be living next door to you right now. Or she might be the woman with the bright eyes who sat opposite you on the bus this morning. She might be the secretary at your school, your teacher or even your Auntie Anne. *This is not impossible.*

Adapted from Roald Dahl's *The Witches*

Now that you have read Roald Dahl's beliefs about witches. What is your personal opinion? Write three sentences.

Answer the following questions fully according to Roald Dahl's point of view:

A. What do **witches in fairy-tales** always wear?

B. What do **REAL WITCHES** usually wear?

C. Who does a **REAL WITCH** hate?

D. Why do you think a witch never gets caught?

E. Why is a **REAL WITCH** the most dangerous enemy of children?

F. **Read** the following statements and **choose** the correct word to complete them.

a. catching

1. A witch gets pleasure from **b. killing** her victim.

c. following

a. few

2. There are **b. many** witches in the world today.

c. no

a. child.

3. A witch is always a **b. man.**

c. woman.

a. baby.

4. A witch's victim is always a **b. child.**

c. grown – up.

