Cloze Passage

Fill in each blank with the word given in the box.

remove	impossible	mark	big
thought	idea	heavy	carry

Long ago, the emperor of China was given an elephant as a present. He wanted to know how 1. _____ the elephant was, so he asked the wise men in his court to weigh it. However, the elephant was larger than any weighing scale in the kingdom. It seemed like an 2. _____ task!

After thinking about the problem for some time, a little boy came up with a good 3. _____. He told the emperor's soldiers to put the elephant in a boat. Then he painted a white line on the side of the boat to 4. _____ where it touched the water. The elephant was taken out and the boy asked the soldiers to place big stones in the boat.

When the water reached the white line, the boy told the soldiers to _____ the stones from the boat and weigh them. He added up the weight of the stones and gave the total amount to the wise men. With the help of the clever little boy, the wise men were able to tell the emperor the weight of the elephant.

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noticed	family	behaved	disliked
known	themes	generation	characters

Long ago, in ancient Greece, there lived a slave called Aesop. He was liked by the people because he told them amusing tales.

Aesop was an observant man who 1. _____ people's faults. However, he did not want to these people angry by telling them. Instead, he wove these faults into stories, often using animals as 2. _____ in his stories instead of people.

Like people, the animals in Aesop's stories could speak and think. They also 3. _____ in the same way as some people did. Some were greedy, dishonest, selfish, while others were just silly. These stories became 4. _____ as Aesop's Fables. Each one had a lesson in it.

People share the stories with their children, who share them with their own children. This way, Aesop's stories are passed from one 5. _____ to another. Some of Aesop's most well-known stories are The Ant and the Grasshopper, The Lion and the Mouse and The Boy who Cried Wolf. Have you read any of these stories?

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