

## Chapter 15: Ali Cogia and the Thousand Pieces of Gold

### Fill in the blanks

1. Ali Cogia was a merchant from \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Ali Cogia saved \_\_\_\_\_ pieces of gold over the years.
3. He hid his gold in a \_\_\_\_\_ filled with olives.
4. The jar was sealed with a \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Ali Cogia entrusted the jar to his \_\_\_\_\_ friend.
6. The merchant friend had a shop and a \_\_\_\_\_ behind it.
7. Ali Cogia left to join a \_\_\_\_\_ caravan.
8. He was away for \_\_\_\_\_ years.
9. One evening, the merchant's wife wanted some \_\_\_\_\_ with their meal.
10. The merchant broke the \_\_\_\_\_ of Ali Cogia's jar.
11. When opened, the olives were \_\_\_\_\_ and moldy.
12. The merchant found \_\_\_\_\_ pieces in the jar.
13. He replaced the old olives with \_\_\_\_\_ olives.
14. When Ali Cogia returned, he found his \_\_\_\_\_ missing.
15. The merchant claimed Ali Cogia only left \_\_\_\_\_ in the jar.
16. The first judge ruled in favour of the \_\_\_\_\_.
17. Ali Cogia wrote a letter to the \_\_\_\_\_ for justice.
18. The Caliph often walked around Baghdad in \_\_\_\_\_.

19. Children were playing the case in the \_\_\_\_\_ near the market.
20. The boy judge asked to see the imaginary \_\_\_\_\_.
21. The pretend olive merchants said the olives were \_\_\_\_\_.
22. The boy judge concluded the olives couldn't be \_\_\_\_\_ years old.
23. The Caliph ordered the real \_\_\_\_\_ to attend court.
24. Two actual \_\_\_\_\_ merchants were summoned.
25. In court, the boy judge had the real olives \_\_\_\_\_.
26. The fresh olives proved the merchant had \_\_\_\_\_ the jar.
27. The merchant finally \_\_\_\_\_ to his crime.
28. The Caliph sentenced the merchant to \_\_\_\_\_.
29. The boy judge received \_\_\_\_\_ pieces of gold as reward.
30. The original judge was told to never judge in \_\_\_\_\_.

### Multiple choice questions

1. What was Ali Cogia's primary reason for leaving his jar with the merchant?
  - (a) He feared thieves in his own home

- (b) He wanted to test his friend's honesty
- (c) He was giving the merchant a gift
- (d) He needed temporary storage while traveling

2. Why did the merchant's initial defence seem plausible to the first judge?

- (a) The merchant produced fake documents
- (b) Ali Cogia had only mentioned olives, not gold
- (c) The merchant bribed the judge
- (d) The jar appeared undisturbed

3. The children's play revealed the truth because:

- (a) They accidentally found the real gold
- (b) One child confessed to seeing the theft
- (c) Their game demonstrated logical inconsistency
- (d) They re-enacted the crime exactly

4. What was the most significant evidence in the boy judge's real court case?

- (a) The merchant's nervous behaviour
- (b) The testimony of olive merchants
- (c) The broken seal on the jar
- (d) The Caliph's intuition

5. The Caliph's night-time walks demonstrate his:

- (a) Distrust of his officials
- (b) Desire for entertainment
- (c) Commitment to first-hand justice
- (d) Loneliness as a ruler

6. The merchant's wife opposed opening the jar because:

- (a) She valued keeping promises
- (b) She knew about the gold
- (c) She disliked olives
- (d) She suspected her husband would steal

7. The boy judge's methodology in solving the case demonstrates:

- (a) His understanding of food preservation principles
- (b) His ability to recreate crime scenarios through play
- (c) His knowledge that olive quality degrades over time
- (d) All of the above

8. The original judge's failure highlights:

- (a) Class bias favouring wealthy merchants
- (b) Lack of proper investigative procedures
- (c) Over reliance on witness appearances
- (d) All of the above

9. What lesson does the Caliph emphasize through his final actions?

- (a) Wealth corrupts people
- (b) Wisdom can come from unexpected sources
- (c) Children make better judges
- (d) All merchants are dishonest

10. The central theme of the story is:

- (a) The importance of careful investigation
- (b) The dangers of travel
- (c) The value of gold
- (d) The corruption of judges