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 _____.

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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

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(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:

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(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?

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(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

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