

The Golden Fish Keeps a Promise

Read the following story and then answer the questions.

Upon a certain island in the middle of the sea lived a fisherman and his wife. They were so poor they often went without bread when the fishing did not go well. One day when the man had been fishing for many hours without any luck, he hooked a small golden fish with eyes as bright as diamonds. "Let me go, kind fisherman," the little creature cried. "I would not even make a single mouthful for your dinner." The man was so moved by the beauty of the golden fish that he let him go.

Before he swam away, the fish promised that he would come back if the fisherman ever needed help. The fisherman laughed, for he could not think how a little fish could help him, other than providing a bit of food.



He went home and told his wife about his adventure. "What!" she cried. "You let him go? We have not a scrap of food in the house, and I suppose that now we must starve." The fisherman's wife continued to fuss at him until, finally, he decided to go and put the little fish to the test.

He hurried down to the seashore and stood at the edge of the waves. "Golden Fish, Golden Fish! Come and help me, please," he called. The last word was not out of his mouth when the little fish popped its head up out of the water. "You see I have kept my promise," said the fish. "How can I help you, my friend?" And when the fisherman made his request, the fish simply said, "Don't worry about that. There will be plenty of food when you get home." And strangely enough, when the fisherman arrived home, there was a basket of bread on the table, and cheese and fruit as well.

1. **Characters:** Who is this story mostly about?

- A) The fisherman, his wife, and the golden fish
- B) The fisherman, his son, and a shark
- C) The golden fish, a king, and a princess

2. **Setting (place):** Where does this story mostly take place?

- A) In a forest near a river
- B) In a village near the mountains
- C) On an island and at the seashore

3. **Setting (time):** When does this story mostly take place?

- A) In the future, when people travel to space
- B) In the past, during the fisherman's daily fishing routine
- C) At night, during a big storm

4. **Theme:** What lesson can we learn from the fisherman's kindness to the golden fish?

- A) Always keep everything you catch.
- B) Small animals cannot help people.
- C) Kindness can bring good things back to you.

5. **Plot:** What happened second in the story?

- A) The fisherman hooked a small golden fish with eyes as bright as diamonds.
- B) The fish promised the fisherman that he would come back if the fisherman ever needed help.