

LESSON 7

Fantasy and Realistic Story

The stories you read are not all the same. A **realistic story** tells about things that could happen in real life. A **fantasy** is a story about things that could **not** happen in real life. In a fantasy, you might read about animals who talk or characters who live in make-believe places.

Read the two stories. Circle the answer that tells what kind of story each one is.



Kenji was excited. He was going pick out some new sneakers today. The first pair Kenji saw were his favorite color. They were bright orange. They were just right.

realistic story

fantasy

"Where do you think we're going?" Kenji's left sneaker said to his right. "I don't know," said the right sneaker, "but I hope Kenji likes basketball."

realistic story

fantasy

Tip

You can tell if a story is realistic or a fantasy. Ask yourself, "Could the things that happen in the story happen in real life?"

STRATEGY: Distinguishing Between Fantasy and Realism

29



Read the story about a special hat. Think about if the story is realistic or a fantasy.

The Red Hat

The days were short and the winds blew strong. Tati's mother took some red yarn. Then she began knitting. She knitted a cozy hat for Tati.

The next day Tati put on the hat. "Be careful," warned her mother. "The wind might blow the hat off your head." Tati went outside to play.

The wind blew and blew. Tati felt her hat get bigger and bigger, like a balloon. She felt her feet leave the ground. She was flying!

Tati sailed over the town. She saw her friends playing in the snow. They looked as small as potato bugs. She saw a horse pulling a sleigh. It looked as small as a toy.

Soon Tati got lonely. "How will I ever get home?" she asked a blackbird. "I'll help you," said the blackbird. He pecked at her hat until the air began to seep out of it. Tati floated to the ground, right in front of her own cottage.



Checking Comprehension

Write the answer to each question on the lines.

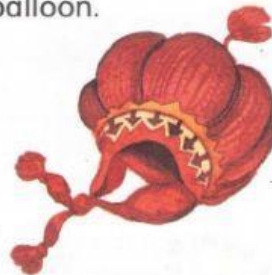
1. If the blackbird had not helped her, what do you think Tati could have done?

2. Would you like a hat like Tati's? Why or why not?

Practicing Comprehension Skills

Read each story event. Write **R** next to things that could really happen. Write **F** next to things that are a fantasy.

3. _____ Tati's mother knitted a cozy red hat.
4. _____ The wind blew up the hat like a balloon.
5. _____ Tati went outside to play.
6. _____ Tati flew through the sky.
7. _____ A horse was pulling a sleigh.
8. _____ A blackbird said, "I'll help you."



Circle the answer that finishes the sentence.

9. The story about the red hat is
a realistic story. a fantasy.

STRATEGY: Distinguishing Between Fantasy and Realism

31

Write the answer to each question on the lines.

10. How can you tell what kind of story "The Red Hat" is?

11. How do you know that the blackbird is make-believe?

12. What was the first clue that the story was make-believe?

Practicing Vocabulary

Write the word from the box that matches each clue.

13. made with yarn

14. carriage that goes in snow

15. small house

16. not weak

17. warm and comfortable

cottage

cozy

knitted

sleigh

strong



Writing a Fantasy

On another sheet of paper, write a story about something that is not real. You might write about animals that talk or a make-believe place.

