



Activity 3

Choose the correct words to complete this first half of the story. Circle your answer. Then, listen and check.

The Legend of N'daung Snake

Once upon a time, on the slopes of a mountain in Jambi province, there lived a ¹ **pour/poor** mother and her three daughters. For their living the mother and the youngest daughter had to work hard all day long, while the first and second daughters were lazy and did nothing.

One day, mother got such a severe pain that she could not move from bed. Then, the daughters called a shaman. "Sir, please help us heal our mother," said the daughters. The shaman said, "Based on my insight, your mom must be treated by a special ² **flour/flower** that grows at the top of the mountain. Then, it must be boiled in a magical pot kept in a dark deep cave guarded by a large mighty serpent named N'daung." "But, according to the ³ **tale/tail**, no one could ever go back home save as the snake would swallow them whole," warned the Shaman. Hearing that, no one dared to go, ⁴ **accept/except** for the youngest daughter.

"I will go to the top of the mountain to get them from the snake," said the youngest daughter bravely. "Oh, we all will pray for you, sister," uttered the first and the second daughters in relief. "You really have a pure ⁵ **soul/sole**. Go and get them, girl. But, you have to be really careful. I will take care of your mother here," said the shaman. Without waiting any longer, the youngest daughter went to the mountain. After three days of walking, she finally reached the mountain peak. "Ah, that's the ⁶ **flour/ flower**. I have to go really quick," said the youngest daughter. It was just in front of the cave door. When she grabbed it and was about to put it inside her bag, she heard a very loud snake hiss. Of course, she was scared to death.

"Hiss... You are so brave to come to this place. Did you just ⁷ **steel/steal** something from my place? You'll surely be a perfect breakfast. You have a nice ⁸ **scent/cent**, so appetizing!" hissed the snake horribly. "O magic snake, please, pardon me. I certainly don't dare to bother you, but my mom is seriously ill. I am here to beg for only one flower and borrow your magic pot to treat my mom," the youngest daughter fell on her knees while crying.



Picture 1.6. Snake

Unexpectedly, the snake started to shed tears, "What a nice girl. You risk yourself coming here to treat your mom." "That's right, o snake. I love her so much and I am begging for your help," she still could not stop her tears. "Alright, I will let you bring the flower and lend you my magic pot with only one condition. You have to promise to return here as your mother gets better and stay here in this cave with me," said N'daung snake. Because she loves her mother, the youngest daughter nodded in an agreement, "Thank you, o magic snake. I will certainly return to fulfill my promise." The youngest daughter then went back home, gave the flower and the magic pot to the shaman, and immediately went back to the mountain. Even though deep in her heart, she did not really want to go back.

Just then, the youngest daughter returned to the top of the mountain in the middle of the night. To her surprise, she did not meet N'daung snake but a well-built man. "Don't be surprised. I am Prince Abdul Rahman Alamsyah. I was cursed by my uncle and became a snake. Every night I will return to my true form as a human and return to be a snake as the sun rises," said the prince. Meanwhile, when the mother heard the story of the youngest daughter, she wanted to see her. She asked her other children to go to the top of the mountain.

In the middle of the night, the three of them could finally reach the top of the mountain. How surprised they were to see the youngest daughter with a very handsome man. The youngest daughter was



Activity 4

Answer the questions about "The Legend of N'daung Snake."
Compare and discuss your answer with your friends.

1. Which of the following most accurately describes the legend?
 - a. The sincerity of a girl could save her family and a cursed snake.
 - b. N'daung snake was cursed and later saved by the girl.
 - c. The jealousy of the first and second daughters that led them to destruction.
 - d. The selfless kindness of N'daung snake saved the poor mother's life.
 - e. The story of a poor mother's struggle for her three daughters in conquering N'daung snake.
2. The characterization of N'daung snake shows tendency to ...
 - a. be emotional and introverted.
 - b. hide the secret of the curse possessed.
 - c. look fierce behind the kindness of his heart.
 - d. ask for something in return for everything he did.
 - e. intimidate and rebuke anyone who approached him.

3. The legend shows that the youngest daughter struggled with...
 - a. her reluctance to take the medical ingredients from N'daung snake.
 - b. the pressure from her two sisters to sacrifice herself for her mother's life.
 - c. the desire to save her mother's life from the N'daung snake.
 - d. her heart's desire not to return to N'daung snake.
 - e. the savagery and danger of N'daung snake.
4. Which sentence describes the moral values that can be learned from the main character?
 - a. Never lose hope.
 - b. Dare to keep trying.
 - c. Always trying to be better.
 - d. Success requires effort and courage.
 - e. If there is a will there must be a way.
5. Decide whether the sentences are true (T) or false (F).

1. Without hesitation the youngest daughter took a mission to find a cure for her mother's recovery.	
2. N'daung snake felt touched by the youngest daughter's story and was willing to help without any conditions.	
3. The youngest daughter returned back to the peak of the mountain along with the first and second daughters as well as their mother.	
4. The young daughter could finally reveal that the snake was actually a cursed prince.	
5. With the help from the first and second daughters, the curse was finally broken.	