

King Midas and the Golden Touch

Long ago, in ancient Greece, there lived a prosperous king named Midas. He was well known for his enormous wealth and his obsession with gold and precious treasures. Although he already possessed more riches than he could ever spend, he was never satisfied and constantly desired more. One day, King Midas helped a magical creature named Silenus, a companion of the god Dionysus. Impressed by Midas's kindness, Dionysus offered to grant him one wish.

King Midas carefully considered his desire before making his request. Finally, he asked Dionysus for the ability to turn everything he touched into gold. Dionysus cautioned him that such a gift might bring unexpected consequences, but Midas remained confident that his wish would make him happier. His request was eventually granted. At first, Midas was delighted with his extraordinary ability. A simple branch became a magnificent piece of gold when he touched it, and even an ordinary stone was transformed into a valuable treasure.

However, Midas soon realized that his extraordinary gift was actually a terrible curse. When he attempted to eat his meal, the food immediately turned into gold. The same thing happened when he tried to drink water. His excitement gradually disappeared as he understood the seriousness of his situation. The enormous wealth he had always desired could no longer provide him with what he truly needed. Instead, his greed had left him helpless and miserable.

Desperate to escape the consequences of his decision, Midas begged Dionysus to reverse the golden touch. He admitted that his excessive desire for wealth had been a terrible mistake and expressed deep remorse for his actions. Seeing that Midas had genuinely learned from his experience, Dionysus decided to give him another chance. He instructed Midas to wash himself in the river Pactolus. Midas immediately followed the instruction, and the magical power finally disappeared.

After returning to his kingdom, Midas was no longer obsessed with material wealth. He became more appreciative of the simple things in life, such as food, water, nature, and the people around him. He finally understood that riches could not guarantee happiness or satisfaction. From that experience, Midas learned an important lesson: excessive greed can lead to misery, while gratitude can bring genuine happiness.

1. Where did the story of King Midas and the Golden Touch originate from?
2. Identify the main characters in the story and explain the role of each character.
3. Which characters do you like the most? Why did you choose him/her? Give your reasons based on the story.
4. A. In paragraph 3, the text states:

“The enormous wealth he had always desired could no longer provide him with what he truly needed.”

What does this statement mean? Explain in your own words.

B. Based on paragraph 3, what can you infer about King Midas's feelings after receiving the golden touch? Explain your answer.

5. A. What was the climax of the story? Explain briefly/in short
B. How did the story end? Explain what happened to King Midas and what he learned from his experience.

Passive Voice

Identify the tense of each sentence and then change the sentence into the passive voice.

1. The committee had prepared the certificates before the ceremony began.

Tense: _____

Passive:

2. The students are discussing the environmental problem in the classroom.

Tense: _____

Passive:

3. The school will organize an English competition for all students next month.

Tense: _____

Passive:

4. The librarian arranges the books according to their categories every morning.

Tense: _____

Passive:

5. The workers were repairing the school building when the heavy rain started.

Tense: _____

Passive:

6. The students have completed their English assignments before the deadline.

Tense: _____

Passive:

7. The English teacher explained the new lesson to the students yesterday.

Tense: _____

Passive:

8. The school has invited several parents to attend the meeting.

Tense: _____

Passive:

9. The students will submit their final projects at the end of this week.

Tense: _____

Passive:

10. The English teacher was checking the students' assignments when the principal entered the classroom.

Tense: _____

Passive: