

Sample Items

Grade 6

READING



Original CRCT

Grade 6 Passage & Items READING

The Brothers Grimm

Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm were born in Hanau, Germany. They lived in the late 1700s and early 1800s. Together, they created a collection of some of the most famous folktales and fairy tales around.

They began collecting folktales in Europe that had been passed down throughout the years from generation to generation. They listened to storytellers and wrote their tales down. Only a few of the tales had ever been written down. Although folktales were originally meant for children, they were often shared with adults. The brothers were very careful to keep the stories as close to the original as possible. If they found more than one version of the story, they combined all of them into one story, keeping detailed notes on what they had done. In 1812, the brothers published their first volume. In 1815, they published their second volume, which contained over 200 stories. The final edition of this second volume of folktales is known worldwide today. It became the best-known book ever written in the German language. Their stories, called *Grimm's Fairy Tales*, include such famous tales as "Cinderella" and "Hansel and Gretel."

Below is a retelling of a lesser-known Grimm's story, titled "A Riddling Tale."

Once upon a time, three women were turned into flowers. All three flowers looked exactly the same. They would live as flowers during the daytime, but at night, one of the women was allowed to become human again and return home to her husband. Once a new day began, she was changed back to a flower.

One night, she told her husband, "If you can find me and pick me while I am a flower, I can stay human. Then I can live here with you forever."

That morning, at sunrise, the woman had to leave again to become a flower. Her husband went to the field and found the three flowers. He picked a flower, and brought his wife home, where they lived happily ever after.

Now, the question is; how did the husband know which flower to pick that morning? "It is simple," he explained. "Since flowers gather dewdrops overnight, I knew which was my wife. Since she came home to see me at night, she was the one without any dew."

The Grimm's tales often have a surprising or clever ending, as in this story. Sometimes the characters in the story may even teach readers a lesson. Certainly, the stories collected by the Brothers Grimm will always be fun to read for all ages.

- 1. Which phrase BEST describes most of the Grimm's tales?
 - * A. old stories passed down through the years
 - B. created by the brothers themselves
 - C. based on famous stories of real people
 - D. full of complicated riddles
- 2. Which BEST explains why the Grimm brothers decided to keep the folktales as close to the original as possible?
 - A. The stories translated more easily without changes.
 - * B. They wanted the meanings of the stories to stay the same.
 - C. The original storytellers did not allow changes.
 - D. They were worried someone would be upset with story changes.

3. What is the meaning of the word *edition* as it is used in the sentence?

The final <u>edition</u> of this second volume of folktales is known worldwide today.

- A. chapter
- B. copy
- * C. version
 - D. draft
- 4. Which phrase BEST describes the appearance of the three flowers at the beginning of the story?
 - A. They all become human at night.
 - B. They all are covered with dew.
 - * C. They all look exactly the same.
 - D. They all look like women.
- 5. Which is the BEST answer to the riddle in the story?
 - * A. The wife was the flower without any dew.
 - B. The wife came home to see her husband.
 - C. The three flowers turned human at night.
 - D. The husband picked one of the flowers.



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That morning, at sunrise, the woman had to leave again to become a flower. Her husband went to the field and found the three flowers. He picked a flower, and brought his wife home, where they lived happily ever after.

Now, the question is; how did the husband know which flower to pick that morning?

"It is simple," he explained. "Since flowers gather dewdrops overnight, I knew which was my wife. Since she came home to see me at night, she was the one without any dew."

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- 2. Why did the Grimm brothers decide to keep the folktales as close to the original as possible?
 - A. The stories translated more easily without changes.
 - B. They wanted the meanings of the stories to stay the same.
 - C. The original storytellers did not allow changes.
 - D. They were worried someone would be upset with story changes.

3. What is the meaning of the word *edition* in the sentence?

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- A. chapter
- B. copy
- C. version
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- 4. Which phrase BEST describes the three flowers at the beginning of the story?
 - A. They all become human at night.
 - B. They all are covered with dew.
 - C. They all look exactly the same.
 - D. They all look like women.

- 5. Which is the BEST answer to the question in the story?
 - A. The wife was the flower without any dew.
 - B. The wife came home to see her husband.
 - C. The three flowers turned human at night.
 - D. The husband picked one of the flowers.

| Item Sequence | Georgia Performance Standard | KEY |
|---------------|---|-----|
| 1 | Domain: Information and Media Literacy ELA6R1. The student demonstrates comprehension and shows evidence of a warranted and responsible explanation of a variety of literary and informational texts. For informational texts, the student reads and comprehends in order to develop understanding and expertise and produces evidence of reading that: d. Identifies and analyzes main ideas, supporting ideas, and supporting details. | Α |
| 2 | Domain: Information and Media Literacy ELA6R1. The student demonstrates comprehension and shows evidence of a warranted and responsible explanation of a variety of literary and informational texts. For informational texts, the student reads and comprehends in order to develop understanding and expertise and produces evidence of reading that: d. Identifies and analyzes main ideas, supporting ideas, and supporting details. | В |
| 3 | Domain: Reading Skills and Vocabulary Acquisition ELA6R2. The student understands and acquires new vocabulary and uses it correctly in reading and writing. The student: a. Determines the meaning of unfamiliar words by using word, sentence, and paragraph clues. | С |
| 4 | Domain: Literary Comprehension ELA6R1. The student demonstrates comprehension and shows evidence of a warranted and responsible explanation of a variety of literary and informational texts. For literary texts, the student identifies the characteristics of various genres and produces evidence of reading that: b. Identifies and analyzes the author's use of dialogue and description. | С |

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|---------------|--|-----|
| 5 | Domain: Literary Comprehension ELA6R1. The student demonstrates comprehension and shows evidence of a warranted and responsible explanation of a variety of literary and informational texts. For literary texts, the student identifies the characteristics of various genres and produces evidence of reading that: e. Identifies and analyzes the elements of setting, characterization, plot, and the resolution of the conflict of a story or play: i. Internal/external conflicts. | А |

| Item Sequence | Commentary | |
|---------------|---|--|
| Passage | You will see that this passage has been edited. While the essence of the story has been preserved, the reading load for the student has been reduced from 417 words to 398. Less familiar words were replaced with more common ones. | |
| All | The font size was increased both in the passage and in the items. The line spacing was increased between paragraphs within a passage and also between items. | |
| 1 | No changes have been made. | |
| 2 | The question has been restructured to begin with the word why. This was done to focus the student on the brothers' motivation. | |
| 3 | The number of words in the question stem has been reduced. The sentence in the text box has been changed based on edits to the original passage. | |
| 4 | The number of words in the question stem has been reduced. | |
| 5 | The word riddle was changed to the word question to match the language used in the passage. | |