

# 2

## Life at Hawthorn School

### Get Set!

Write **B** next to the words related to boarding schools. Write **B + D** next to the words related to both boarding schools and day schools.

- a. dormitory **B**
- b. away from home **B**
- c. timetable **B + D**
- d. living with classmates **B**
- e. discipline **B + D**
- f. rules and regulations **B + D**

*This is an excerpt from Heidi Grows Up. Heidi, who lives with her grandfather in the mountains, is sent to a boarding school. Does she become comfortable there and make friends?*

### SECTION 1

Listen to your teacher read this section.

The sun, shining through the windows, awakened Heidi. A busy day followed, filled with both pleasant and unpleasant happenings.

Heidi met the French teacher, Mademoiselle Raymond, who was very tall and thin and nearsighted. She wore a high collar, a high knot of hair on the top of her head, and

**Mademoiselle** In French, a title to refer to an unmarried woman; pronounced "madmwazei"

**nearsighted** able to see only what is near; short-sighted



there was a row of buttons that paraded down her back like many small beetles. She stooped down to look at Heidi and murmured, "I am very strict, especially about dictation. Your friend Clara learned well, very well indeed."

Heidi began to be afraid she could not live up to Clara, of whom everyone in the school had such a good opinion. She felt even more convinced of this when she talked to Fraulein Feld.

"Good morning, Heidi! I hope we shall be a happy family and that you are going to be as lovable as your friend Clara."

She said this to make Heidi understand the importance of good behaviour, but privately, Fraulein Feld felt a very real sympathy for this simple fourteen-year-old country girl with her two long braids and plain cotton dress. How would her classmates receive her? All of them were girls of families that were more or less well-to-do.

That first morning Heidi made fifty-two errors in the dictation about which Mademoiselle Raymond was so very strict.

**Write True or False.**

1. Heidi woke up before sunrise.
2. It was a very pleasant day for Heidi.
3. Heidi was afraid of Clara.
4. Fraulein Feld was worried for Heidi.
5. Heidi's classmates were from rich families.
6. Heidi pleased all her teachers.
7. Mademoiselle Larbey was very kind.
8. Eileen had not arrived yet.

She did not understand one of Fraulein's orders in the gym class and she made a spot on the tablecloth at lunch.

Mademoiselle Larbey, the Headmistress, gave her a very severe look. "We are not living in a village," she said. "You must learn to eat properly."

"Excuse me, Mademoiselle," said Heidi.

"It was an accident."

"Do not answer back when I correct you," said the Headmistress.

Heidi, who had not meant to be rude, sat silent and confused. *but what she said offended the Headmistress. This hurt Heidi...*

Mademoiselle Larbey resumed, "This afternoon you will take a walk with Miss Smith. At four-thirty, when Eileen arrives, I shall meet you at the school. Be especially kind to Eileen, girls. Her father has just died in Buenos Aires, where he was the Consul General, and her mother is ill."

**paraded** here, were arranged in a straight row  
**live up to** be as good as  
**Fraulein** in German, a title to refer to an unmarried woman; pronounced 'froyline'  
**Consul General** an official representing a country's government in another country

- F
- F
- F
- T
- T
- F
- F
- T



## SECTION 2

Read this section on your own.

After the walk, Heidi went to her room and found Eileen, the new pupil, in a flurry of dresses, hats, slippers, books, gloves and suitcases.

"How do you do, Eileen? I am Heidi, your roommate."

"How do you do?" Eileen replied stiffly, not bothering to raise her head.

"May I help you with your things?" Heidi offered, remembering that the Headmistress had asked the girls to be especially kind to her.

"No, thank you. I would much rather have this room to myself. Couldn't you ask to be changed?" Eileen demanded.

"I'm afraid not," Heidi told her.

"The other girls have been here longer than I.

They already have roommates."

"How annoying!" And Eileen turned her back unsociably, as she continued her unpacking.

On the balcony, Heidi found Jamy, Lise, Anne and Eva.

"Eileen is here," she announced.

"Yes? What is she like?" asked Lise.

"Tall, thin, with very black hair and green eyes," said Heidi.

"Is she nice?" asked Jamy.

"Go in and see for yourselves and then tell me what you think of her," Heidi responded.

The four girls disappeared through the long doors leading into the room.

"Hello, Eileen," they said.

in a flurry of here, surrounded by  
stiffly in an unfriendly way



"Oh, hello! Why am I in the same room with that little peasant girl?" the new girl **stormed**.

"But that's Heidi!" protested Lise.

"Who is Heidi?" demanded Eileen.

"Clara's friend," spoke up Eva.

"The granddaughter of Uncle Alm up in the mountains," added Anne.

"She plays the violin beautifully," said Jamy.

"Then she is an artist . . . a peasant and an artist . . . how dreadful! Why couldn't I have a room with you?" asked Eileen, turning towards Anne.

"Impossible! Since I came three days ago, I've **been afflicted with** the companionship of Lise here. We argue all day long," she

stormed here, spoke angrily

been afflicted with suffered

I wouldn't leave her for the world I will never leave her.

went on with a laugh, "but I wouldn't leave her for the world!"

"What a pity! And you?" asked Eileen, turning to Eva.

"Me?" asked Eva. "I'm very happy rooming with Jamy. I'm big and she's little, so we balance each other perfectly. Anyway, Heidi is very nice and we all like her."

She doesn't please me," said Eileen.

"That's just too bad," concluded Lise.

(But she left the room with a merry twinkle in her eyes. Heidi had been attacked and they all had an opportunity to defend her.)

Read the section again in pairs and answer these questions.

1. What was Eileen doing when Heidi met her? *Eileen was unpacking when Heidi met her*
2. Was Eileen friendly or unfriendly? Identify the sentences that tell you so. *not friendly*
3. List the things the girls told Eileen about Heidi. *played violin beautifully, she was nice & they liked her*

### SECTION 3

Read this section on your own.

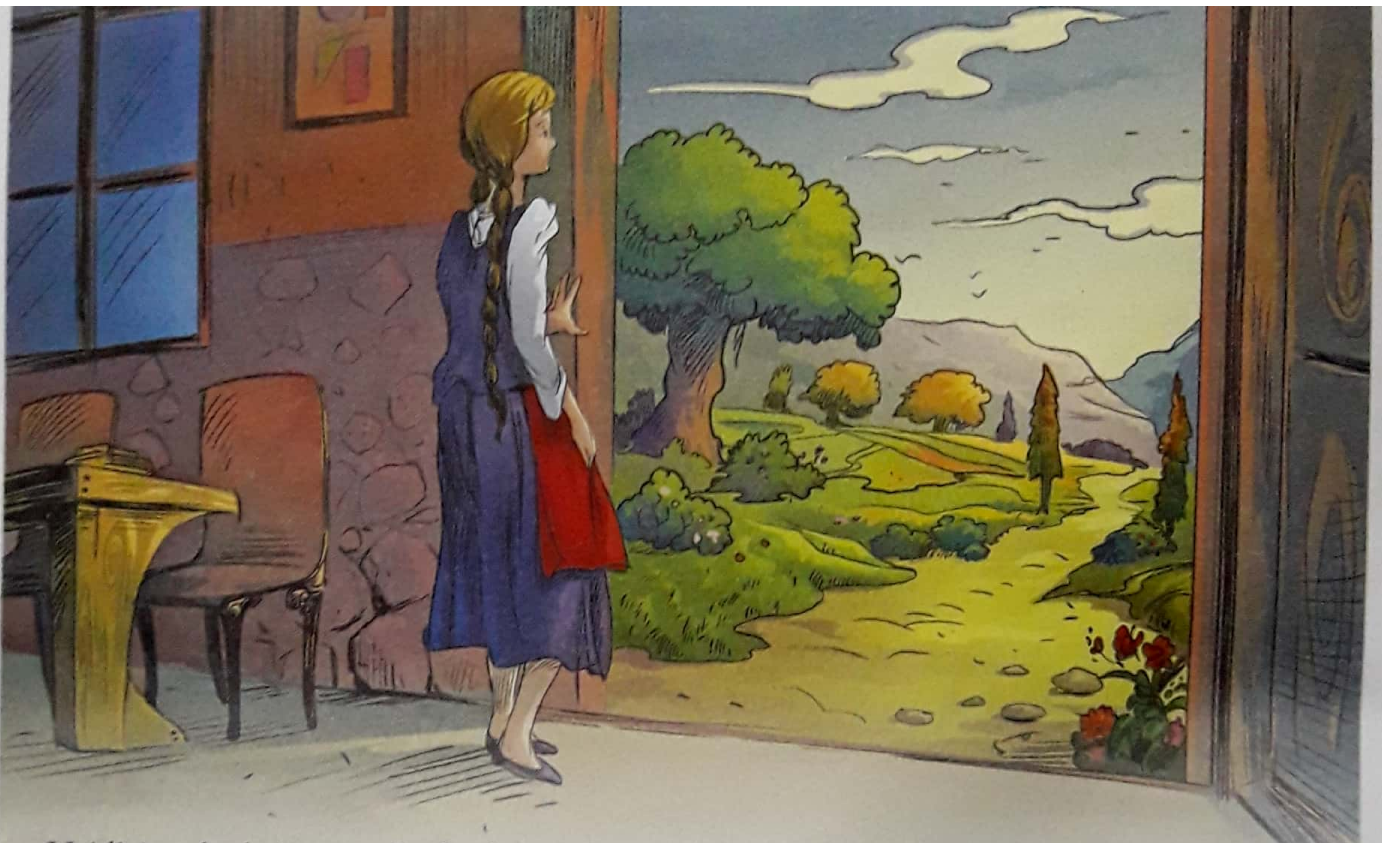
On one side of the classroom where the new students gathered to hear the solemn reading of the rules, a large door opened onto a beautifully-kept garden. While they were waiting for Mademoiselle Larbey to come, Heidi slipped out to look at the little clusters of primroses in the short grass, the fat buds on the horse-chestnut trees which were just beginning to open and show bits of wrinkled leaves,

and a little woolly cloud floating overhead, which seemed to have drifted over the mountains. It looked like Schneehoepli, the little white orphan goat that had been Heidi's favourite in the pastures.

"Heidi! Here she comes!" warned one of the girls.

solemn very serious

Schneehoepli pronounced 'shnyehoyplee'



Heidi just had time to slip back into her place when Mademoiselle Larbey marched in. The Headmistress began to read in a solemn voice. She read on and on for two long pages.

All the students were much impressed and looked at one another in silence after the Headmistress had left the room. <sup>L. Bold</sup> But Lise, more mischievous than the rest, spoke like Mademoiselle Larbey, "Above all, it is

forbidden to take these rules too seriously."

The girls were all laughing when Mademoiselle Raymond came into the room. She hushed them with a lifted finger.

"Go to work now," she said. "You, Lise, to the piano. Heidi, Monsieur Rochat is here to give you your first lesson on the violin. Eileen, you may go and tidy your room. Anne and Eva will have a lesson in English, and the rest of you will study with me."

### **RULES OF HAWTHORN SCHOOL**

1. Politeness is the rule at all times.
2. At half-past nine all lights are to be out.
3. You are forbidden to play the piano when the windows are open.
4. You are not permitted to hang pictures or photographs on the wall.
5. You are forbidden
6. You must not
7. Students must
8. Young girls must not

do on your own

**Tick the correct options.**

- The word 'solemn' describes the
  - reading.
  - rules.
  - Headmistress.
- The horse-chestnut trees
  - were about to flower.
  - had already flowered.
  - would never flower.
- The cloud is compared to
  - wool.
  - a goat.
  - both wool and a goat.
- The Headmistress walked
  - purposefully.
  - angrily.
  - slowly.

**READ AND UNDERSTAND**

**Worksheet**

**A. Who said these lines? Write the names next to the sentences.**

- "I am very strict, especially about dictation." Mademoiselle Raymond
- "I hope we shall be a happy family." Fraulein Feld
- "You must learn to eat properly." Mademoiselle Larbey / <sup>the</sup> Headmistress
- "I would much rather have this room to myself." Eileen
- "It is forbidden to take these rules too seriously." Lise

LOCATING DETAILS

do on your own

**B. Tick the correct options.**

- Heidi was worried because she
  - was not sure if she would be as good as Clara. \_\_\_\_\_
  - did not learn as well as Clara. \_\_\_\_\_
  - could not please any of her teachers. \_\_\_\_\_
- Mademoiselle Larbey was cross with Heidi because she
  - made many errors in the dictation and in the gym class. \_\_\_\_\_
  - was not from a rich family like the other girls in the school. \_\_\_\_\_
  - made a spot on the tablecloth and said that it was an accident. \_\_\_\_\_
- Eileen asked Heidi to change her room because she
  - had too many things. \_\_\_\_\_
  - wanted another roommate. \_\_\_\_\_
  - was new in school. \_\_\_\_\_
- All the students were quite impressed because
  - the Headmistress read two pages without stopping. \_\_\_\_\_
  - there were many strict rules in Hawthorn School. \_\_\_\_\_
  - Mademoiselle Larbey had a very serious voice. \_\_\_\_\_
- When Mademoiselle Raymond walked into the room, the girls were laughing because
  - Heidi was standing outside the classroom. \_\_\_\_\_
  - Lise was imitating Mademoiselle Larbey. \_\_\_\_\_
  - the rules of the school were quite funny. \_\_\_\_\_

CAUSE AND EFFECT

**C. Answer these questions with reference to the context.**

1. Fraulein Feld felt a very real sympathy for this simple fourteen-year-old country girl.
  - a. Who was this girl?
  - b. How did this girl look?
  - c. Why was Fraulein Feld concerned?
2. "May I help you with your things?"
  - a. Who said this and to whom?
  - b. Why did the speaker offer help?
  - c. What was the answer to this question?
3. "Go in and see for yourselves and then tell me what you think of her."
  - a. Who is being referred to?
  - b. To whom was this said?
  - c. Did the speaker reveal anything about the girl?
4. "Heidi! Here she comes!" warned one of the girls.
  - a. What was the girl warning Heidi about?
  - b. What was Heidi doing at that time?
  - c. What did Heidi do when she heard this?

**D. Answer these questions.**

1. Why did Heidi sit down 'silent and confused'?
2. Why did Lise have 'a merry twinkle in her eyes'?

**Think and Answer**

- ✓ E. Did Heidi love nature and being outdoors? Discuss in class. Support your answer with examples from the story.

c Reference to the context

2 a) Heidi

b This girl was simple, had two long braids and wore a plain cotton dress.

c Fraulein was worried about how Heidi's classmates would treat her, because they were rich and Heidi was not.

2 a) Heidi said this to Eileen

b Heidi offered to help Eileen because she remembered that the Headmistress had asked all the girls to be especially kind to Eileen.

c "No, thank you. I would much rather have this room to myself. Couldn't you ask to be changed?"

3 a) Eileen

b This was said to Tammy, Lise, Anne and Eva.

c No, Heidi did not reveal much about Eileen.

4 a) The girl was warning Heidi about the arrival of

Mademoiselle Larbey, the Headmistress

- b Heidi was in the garden outside the classroom
- c Heidi quickly slipped back into her place.

D Answer these questions

1. Heidi had not meant to be rude and had apologized but the Headmistress was offended. This puzzled and hurt Heidi.
2. Eileen had said unpleasant things about Heidi and the girls had defended Heidi.

E Think & Answer (Do an book)

Yes, Heidi loved nature and being outdoors. Heidi enjoyed looking at the garden in school, a cloud in the sky reminded her of her favorite goat back home in the mountains.

# The Dragon Rock

## Get Set!

Match the two columns.

- |  |                      |
|--|----------------------|
| 1. a children's story in which magical things happen                 | 5 a. folk tale       |
| 2. a traditional story about animals that teaches a moral lesson     | 6 b. myth            |
| 3. stories about events in the future or imaginary scientific events | 4 c. legend          |
| 4. an ancient story that narrates natural or historical events       | 2 d. fable           |
| 5. a traditional story of a particular area or country               | 1 e. fairy tale      |
| 6. a story from ancient times about real or imaginary people         | 3 f. science fiction |



SCAN HERE\*



*The people in a valley believe that a large rock that looks like a sleeping dragon will help them in times of trouble. What happens when the valley has a very hot and dry summer?*

## SECTION 1

Read this section on your own.

This story begins with Once Upon A Time, because the best stories do, of course.

So, Once Upon A Time, and imagine if you can <sup>(it was)</sup> a steep valley cluttered with giant, spiky green pine trees and thick, green grass. Wildflowers spread their sweet heady perfume along the gentle breeze and bees hum musically to themselves as they cheerily collect flower pollen.

People are very happy here and they work hard, keeping their houses spick and span and their children's faces clean.

in a haze of feeling very sleepy and not thinking clearly  
slumber

This particular summer had been very hot and dry, making the lean farm dogs <sup>made</sup> sleepy and still. Farmers whistled lazily to themselves and would stand and stare into the distance, trying to remember what it was that they were supposed to be doing. By two o'clock in the afternoon, the village would be in a <sup>very sleepy</sup> haze of slumber, with grandmas nodding off over their knitting and farmers snoozing in the haystacks.

It was very, very hot.

No matter how hot the day, however, the children would always play in the gentle, rolling meadows. With wide-brimmed hats, they chattered and chattered like sparrows, as they frolicked in their favourite spot.

Now, their favourite spot is very important to this story because in this particular spot is a large, long, scaly rock that looks amazingly similar to a sleeping dragon.

The children knew it was a dragon. The grown-ups knew it was a dragon. The dogs and cats and birds knew it was a dragon. But nobody was scared because it never, ever moved.

The boys and girls would clamber all over it, poking sticks at it and hanging wet boots on its ears but it didn't mind in the least. The men would sometimes chop firewood on its zigzagged tail because it was just the right height and the Ladies Weaving Group often

rolling meadows sloping fields of grass

frolicked played happily and with a lot of energy

scaly here, dry, rough and hard

spun sheep fleece made wool from sheep hair

spun sheep fleece on its spikes.)

Often on a cool night, when the stars twinkled brightly in a velvet sky and the children were peacefully asleep, the grown-ups would settle for the evening with a mug of steaming cocoa in a soft-cushioned armchair. Then the stories about How The Dragon Got There began. Nobody knew for sure. There were many different versions depending on which family told the tale, but the one thing that everybody agreed on was this:

*In times of trouble  
The Dragon will wake  
And free the village  
By making a lake*

This little poem was etched into everybody's minds.



Answer these questions.

1. How is the valley described?
2. What are the various things people did on the dragon rock?
3. Did everyone agree about the origin of the dragon rock? Why do you think so?

SECTION 2

Read this section on your own. While you read,

- a. underline the changes that happened in the village during the summer.
- b. mark within brackets the behaviour of the people.
- c. circle the actions of the children.

The days went by slowly, quietly and most importantly, without any rain. There had been no rain in the valley for as long as the children could remember. The wells were starting to bring up muddy brown water and clothes had to be washed in yesterday's dishwater. The lawns had faded to a crisp biscuit colour and the flowers drooped their beautiful heads. Even the trees seemed to hang their branches like weary arms. The valley turned browner and drier and thirstier, every hot, baking day.

The village folk grew worried and would murmur to each other when passing with much shaking of heads and tut-tuts. They would look upwards searching for rain clouds in the clear, blue sky, but none ever came.

It was now too hot for the children to play out in the direct sun and they would gather under the shade of the trees,

**tut-tuts** sounds made by touching the top of the mouth with the tongue, to show that you are annoyed  
**brittle** hard and easily broken

digging holes in the dust  
and snapping brittle twigs.

"The Dragon will help us soon," said one child.

"He must do something," agreed another.

"I'm sure he will."

They all nodded in agreement.

A week went by with no change, the people struggling along as best as they could. Some were getting cross at the Dragon and would cast angry, sideways looks at it when passing. The villagers were becoming skinny and sullen.

Meanwhile, the children had a plan. Quickly and quietly, they moved invisibly around the village, picking and plucking the fading flowers. With outstretched arms and bouquets up to their chins, they rustled over to where the giant rock lay, as still as ever.

The boys and girls placed bunches of flowers around the Dragon in a big circle. They scattered petals around its head and over its nose, then danced around and around it, skipping and chanting the rhyme that they all knew so well.

*In times of trouble  
The Dragon will wake  
And free the village  
By making a lake*

The searing heat made them dizzy and fuzzy and finally they all fell in a sprawling heap at the bottom of the mound. They looked up at the rock.

Nothing happened.

A dry wind lazily picked up some flower heads and swirled them around. The air was thick with pollen and perfume.

*Finally the*  
A stony grey nostril twitched.

"I saw something," cried the youngest boy.

They stared intently.

searing here, severe  
swivelled turned  
periscope a long tube with mirrors fitted in it, used to see over the top of something



*then*  
An ear swivelled like a periscope.  
The ground began to rumble.

"Look out! Run! Run!"

The children scampered in all directions, shrieking and squealing, arms pumping with excitement.

The rumbling grew and grew.

The Dragon raised its sleepy head.

It got onto its front feet and sat like a dog.

It stood up and stretched, arching its scaly back like a sleek tabby cat. It blinked and looked around with big, kind, long-lashed eyes. And then its nostrils twitched and quivered again.



Now, work in pairs and discuss what you think will happen next.

### SECTION 3

Listen to your teacher read this section.

The older folk were alerted by the screams and shrieks. The ladies held up their long skirts to run and the men rolled up their sleeves and soon the whole village stood together in a tight huddle at the foot of the hill, staring up at the large beast with mouths held open.

"AHHHHH AAHHHHHHHHH!!!"

The noise erupted from the Dragon.

"AHHHHH AAHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH!!!"

The families gripped each other tighter and shut their eyes.

"AHHHHH CHOOOOOOOOO!!!"

The sneeze blasted from the Dragon like a rocket, throwing it back fifty paces, causing a whirlwind of dust and dirt.

"AHHHHH CHOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO!!!"

The second blast split open the dry earth,

torrent a strong, fast flow of water  
not a jot not at all

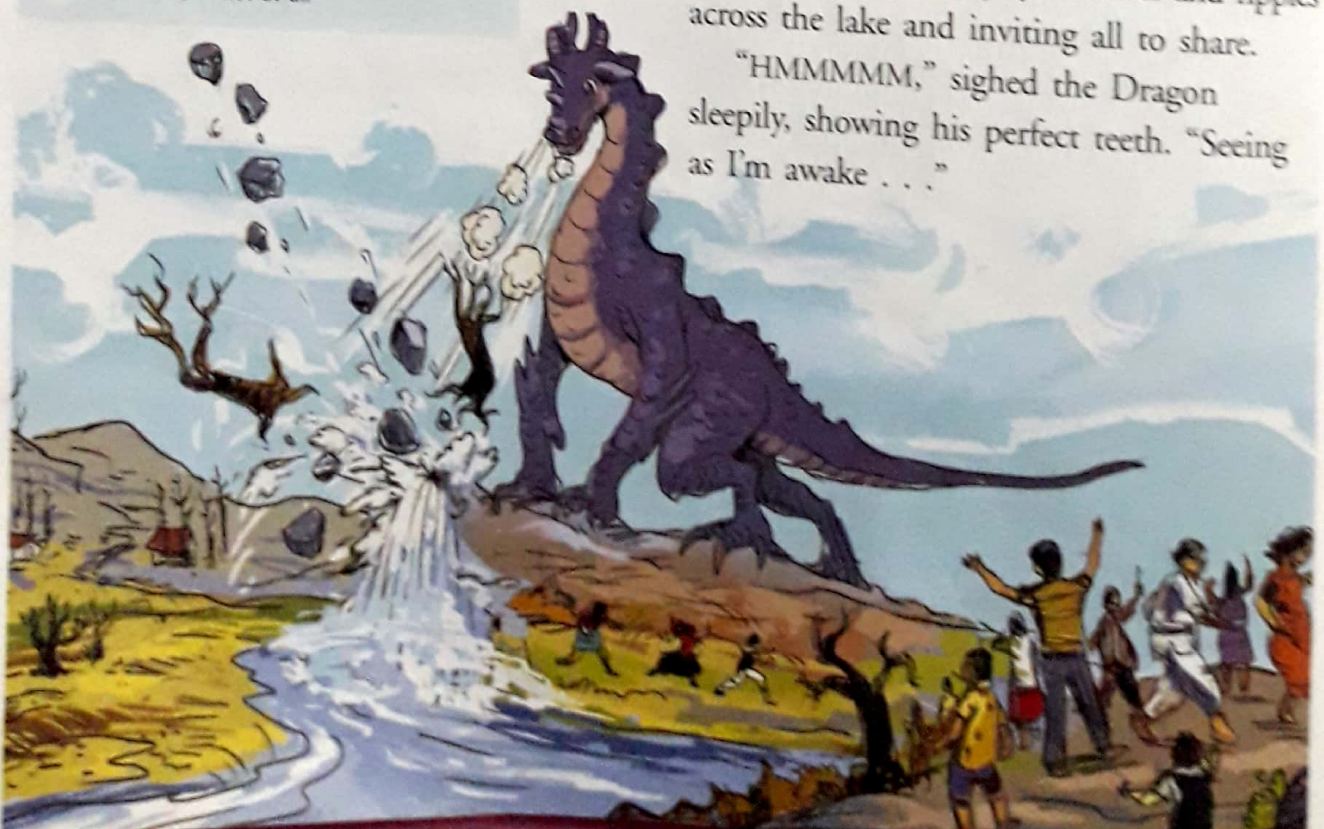
sending explosions of soil and tree roots high into the sky, and something else too . . .

The people heard the sound but couldn't recognize it at first for it had been such a long time since their ears had heard such tinkling melody. As their eyes widened in wonder, their smiles turned into grins and then yahoos and hoorays. Water – cold, clear, spring water – oozed, then trickled, then roared along the valley floor.

The torrent knocked over a farmer's haystack, but he didn't care. The river carried away the schoolteacher's bike shed but she cared not a jot. Ladies howled with laughter and men hooted and whistled and threw their caps up in the air.

What used to be a dirty, brown dust bowl now gleamed and glistened in the sunlight, sending playful waves and ripples across the lake and inviting all to share.

"HMMMMM," sighed the Dragon sleepily, showing his perfect teeth. "Seeing as I'm awake . . ."



And he lumbered forward with surprising grace and style and disappeared into the cool dark water with a small wave of a claw and a flick of his tail.

They never saw him again.

After the families had restored and rebuilt the village, they erected a bandstand and a monument in the spot where the Dragon used to lie. Every year to mark the occasion, they would bring garlands of flowers and herbs and arrange them in a big circle. The children would have the day off for 'Water Dragon Day'. Wearing

**lumbered** moved in a slow, heavy way  
**bandstand** a platform with a roof and no walls where musicians can perform  
**mark the occasion** remember and celebrate the event

the dragon masks that they had been working on all week, they would skip and clap and sing.

*The Dragon helped us  
 As we said he would do  
 Hooray for the Dragon  
 Achoo, Achoo, ACHOOOO!*

And that is the end of the story.

*Ellena Ashley*

**Work in groups of four.**

- Describe how the dragon came alive.
- Discuss how the people reacted to the dragon coming alive.
- ~~Act out the event in class.~~

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**READ AND UNDERSTAND**

**Worksheet**

*do on your own*

**A. Write True or False.**

- The village was a happy and beautiful place.
- The heat and summer affected the children first.
- Everyone believed the story about the dragon.
- The heat and summer did not affect the grown-ups at all.
- The grown-ups believed in the dragon more than the children did.
- The dragon rock and the dragon were both useful to the villagers.

T  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 F  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 T  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**B. Tick the correct options.**

- One particular summer, the villagers were dull and sleepy because
  - they were always very lazy.
  - the heat made them tired.
  - the dragon was still asleep.
- The valley turned browner and drier and thirstier because
  - the wells were starting to bring up muddy-brown water.
  - there were no rains and there was a shortage of water.
  - the lawns had faded to a crisp biscuit colour.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_



IDENTIFYING DETAILS

CAUSE AND EFFECT

3. People's eyes widened in wonder and they cheered loudly because
  - a. the dragon got up and sneezed. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. there was a powerful whirlwind. \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. they had water after a long time. \_\_\_\_\_
4. The dragon's sneeze destroyed the village yet the people were happy because
  - a. they had never seen a sneezing dragon before. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. the children loved the kind and friendly dragon. \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. it brought clear spring water to the village. \_\_\_\_\_

**C. Answer these questions with reference to the context.**

1. He must do something.
  - a. Who said these words?
  - b. Who does 'he' refer to?
2. The families gripped each other tighter and shut their eyes.
  - a. When did this happen?
  - b. Why did the people do this?
3. The people heard the sound but couldn't recognize it at first . . .
  - a. What sound did they hear?
  - b. Why couldn't they recognize it?
4. Every year to mark the occasion, they would . . .
  - a. What was the occasion?
  - b. What was the occasion now called?

**D. Answer these questions.**

1. Why was no one scared of the dragon rock?
2. How did the heat affect the people, animals and plants?
3. Why were some people angry with the dragon rock?
4. What was the children's plan? How did they carry it out?



# The Dragon rock

c Reference to the context

1(a) One of the children in the valley said this.

b 'He' refers to the dragon/dragon rock.

2(a) This happened soon after the dragon rock came alive and the dragon was about to sneeze.

b The people were scared and not sure of what was going to happen.

3(a) The people heard 'a tinkling melody', the sound of flowing water.

b They couldn't recognize it at first because they hadn't heard the sound for a very long time.

4(a) The occasion was the day the dragon brought water to the village

b after a very long, hot, dry and hard summer.

b The occasion was now called 'Water Dragon Day'.

D Ans were the following.

1 No one was scared of the

Page \_\_\_\_\_

dragon rock because the dragon  
never moved.

2. In the beginning, the heat  
made the dogs sleepy and still.  
It made the farmers lazy and  
lethargic. It made everyone  
very tired and sleepy in  
the afternoon - grandmothers  
would doze off while knitting  
and farmers would fall  
asleep in the middle of the  
work on hay stacks.

3. Some people were angry with  
the dragon rock because it did  
not help them the way they  
believed it would - by bringing  
them water.

4. The children's plan was to make  
the dragon help the villagers. They  
collected dry flowers from  
around the village and scattered  
them around the dragon rock,  
its head and on its nose. They  
sang the song 'In times of trouble,  
the dragon will wake, and free

the village, by making a  
lake' and danced around  
the dragon rock.