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Introduction

Twenty different texts from a variety of genres are included in this reading comprehension resource. These may include humour, fantasy, myth/legend, folktale, mystery, adventure, suspense, fairy tale, play, fable, science fiction, poetry, and informational/nonfiction texts, such as a timetable, letter, report, procedure, poster, map, program, book cover and cartoon.

Three levels of questions are used to indicate the reader's comprehension of each text.

One or more particular comprehension strategies have been chosen for practice with each text.

Each unit is five pages long and consists of the following resources and strategies:

- teacher information: includes the answer key and extension suggestions
- text page: text is presented on one full page
- activity page 1: covers literal and inferential questions
- activity page 2: covers applied questions
- applying strategies: focuses on a chosen comprehension strategy/strategies

Teacher Information

The screenshot shows the 'Teacher Information' page for Unit 1, 'The Clever Judge'. It includes a 'READING FOCUS' section with three bullet points: 'Analyse and extract information from a folktale to answer literal, inferential and applied questions', 'Predict the responses of characters in a folktale', and 'Make connections with events in a folktale and their own life'. Below this is an 'ANSWER KEY' section with 'Literal (Page 11)' and 'Inferential (Page 11)' questions and answers. The 'Applied (Page 12)' section lists three questions with varying answers. An 'EXTENSIONS' section at the bottom suggests collections of folktales from around the world, including 'Folk Tales and Fables' by Robert Eggen and Barbara Hayes, 'Rich Man, Poor Man, Beggarman, Thief: Folk Tales from Around the World' by Marcus Crouch, and 'The Young Oxford Book of Folk Tales' by Kevin Crossley-Holland.

Text Page

The screenshot shows the 'Text Page' for Unit 1, 'THE CLEVER JUDGE'. It includes a 'Name' field, a 'Read the folktale and answer the questions on the following pages.' instruction, and a small illustration of a judge. The text of the folktale is provided, starting with 'There once lived a Judge who was famous for his wisdom and justice. People travelled long distances to visit the judge and ask him to settle their disagreements. One day, Samuel and Joseph arrived at the courtroom to see the judge. "Dear judge, please help me," pleaded Samuel. "I left the village last full moon and asked Joseph here to take care of my gold while I was away. Now that I have returned, Joseph is denying that I ever left any gold with him." "Were there any witnesses when you handed this man your gold?" the judge asked the pair. "We were in the heart of the forest and stood by a tall oak tree," remembered Samuel. "Yes! The oak tree witnessed our transaction!" The judge smiled. "Well, Samuel, go to the tall oak and ask it to appear before me in this courtroom. Joseph, you will stay here." Samuel quickly left the courtroom and headed for the forest. The judge and Joseph waited. After some time, the judge looked over at the silent man sitting in his courtroom. "Do you think he has reached the oak by this time?" asked the judge. "No, not yet," was Joseph's answer. After more time had passed, the judge turned to Joseph and asked again, "Do you think he has reached the oak by this time?" "Yes," Joseph responded. "He will have reached the oak by now." Some time later, Samuel returned, looking defeated and saddened. "I did just as you said, Judge. I demanded that the oak appear before you in the court, but it refused!" "Never mind," said the judge, "for the oak appeared before me and has proven your honesty." Joseph stood up hastily. "But there has been no oak tree in this courtroom today!" he protested. Then, Joseph," explained the judge, "were able to tell me how long it would take for Samuel to arrive at the oak tree, so you have been to that very spot before. Now return the gold to its rightful owner, and add the pieces more for trying to cheat him!"

- **Reading Focus** states the comprehension skill emphasis for the unit.
- **Genre** is clearly indicated.
- **Answer Key** is provided. For certain questions, answers will vary, but suggested answers are given.
- **Extension Activities** suggest other authors or book titles. Other literacy activities relating to the text are suggested.
- The title of the text is provided.
- Statement is included in regard to the genre.
- Text is presented on a full page.

Introduction (cont.)

Activity Page 1

Name _____ Activities

THE CLEVER JUDGE

Right There Find the answers directly in the text.

- Put these events in order from 1 to 4.
 - Samuel went to the forest to speak to the oak tree.
 - Joseph and Samuel arrived at the courthouse.
 - Samuel asked Joseph to take care of his gold.
 - The judge demanded that Joseph return the gold.
- Why did people travel long distances to see the judge?

Inferential Think about what the text says.

- Why do you think Joseph denied being given the gold to take care of?

- Write four words to describe how you think Samuel felt when Joseph would not return his gold.

• _____	• _____
• _____	• _____
- "Never mind," said the judge, "for the oak appeared before me..."
Did the oak tree actually appear in the courtroom? Yes No
Explain how the clever judge tricked Joseph.

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Activity Page 2

Name _____ Activities

THE CLEVER JUDGE

On Your Own Use what you know about the text and your own experience.

- If the oak tree had appeared in the courtroom, what do you think it would have said?

- What is your opinion of the judge's ruling on Joseph having to pay Samuel five more pieces of gold for trying to cheat him? Give reasons to support your opinion.

- Every decision has a consequence, whether positive or negative. Write about a decision you made and what the consequence turned out to be.

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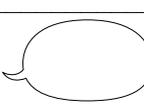
- **Literal** questions provide opportunities to practise locating answers in the text.
- **Applied** questions provide opportunities to practise applying prior knowledge.
- **Inferential** questions provide opportunities to practise finding evidence in the text.

Applying Strategies

Name _____ Applying Strategies

THE CLEVER JUDGE

Predicting After reading the text on page 12, complete the following activities, and make a prediction about how a character will respond.

- Write a question you could ask each of the characters in the folktale.
 - The Judge: _____
 - Joseph: _____
 - Samuel: _____
 - Oak tree: _____
- Choose one character from above, and imagine you are that character answering the question. Write the answer in the speech bubble and draw the face of the character you have chosen next to the speech bubble.

- In order to settle a disagreement with a friend, Samuel travelled to see the fair and wise judge. Did the story remind you of a time when you needed a dispute settled? Write about it below.
This story reminds me of a time when...

Making Connections

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- Comprehension strategy focus is clearly labelled.
- Activities provide opportunities to utilise the particular strategy.

Unit I

The Clever Judge

Teacher Information

Genre: Folktale

READING FOCUS

- Analyses and extracts information from a folktale to answer literal, inferential and applied questions
- Predicts the responses of characters in a folktale
- Makes connections with events in a folktale and their own life

ANSWER KEY

Literal (Page 13)

1. a. 3 b. 2 c. 1 d. 4
2. People travelled long distances to see the judge because he was fair, just and wise. They want the judge to settle their disagreements.

Inferential (Page 13)

1. Joseph denied being given the gold to take care of because he wanted to keep the gold for himself.
2. Answers will vary. Possible answer(s): betrayed, angry, confused, sad, hurt, mad, deceived.
3. No

The clever judge tricked Joseph by asking him when he thought Samuel would reach the oak tree. Joseph was able to tell the judge how long it would take for Samuel to arrive at the oak tree, which revealed to the judge that Joseph had been to that very same spot before.

Applied (Page 14)

- 1–3. Answers will vary.

Applying Strategies (Page 15)

1. a–d. Answers will vary.
2. Drawings and answers will vary.
3. Answers will vary.

EXTENSIONS

- Collections of folktales from around the world can be found in the following books:
 - *Folk Tales and Fables* series by Robert Ingpen and Barbara Hayes
 - *Rich Man, Poor Man, Beggarman, Thief: Folk Tales from Around the World* by Marcus Crouch
 - *The Young Oxford Book of Folk Tales* by Kevin Crossley-Holland

Name _____

Read the folktale and answer the questions on the following pages.

There once lived a judge who was famous for his wisdom and justice. People travelled long distances to visit the judge and ask him to settle their disagreements.

One day, Samuel and Joseph arrived at the courtroom to see the judge.

“Fair judge, please help me,” pleaded Samuel. “I left the village last full moon and asked Joseph here to take care of my gold while I was away. Now that I have returned, Joseph is denying that I ever left any gold with him.”

“Were there any witnesses when you handed this man your gold?” the judge asked the pair.

“We were in the heart of the forest and stood by a tall oak tree,” remembered Samuel. “Yes! The oak tree witnessed our transaction!”

The judge smiled. “Well, Samuel, go to the tall oak and ask it to appear before me in this courtroom. Joseph, you will stay here.”

Samuel quickly left the courtroom and headed for the forest. The judge and Joseph waited.

After some time, the judge looked over at the silent man sitting in his courtroom.

“Do you think he has reached the oak by this time?” asked the judge.

“No, not yet,” was Joseph’s answer.

After more time had passed, the judge turned to Joseph and asked again, “Do you think he has reached the tree by this time?”

“Yes,” Joseph responded. “He will have reached the oak by now.”

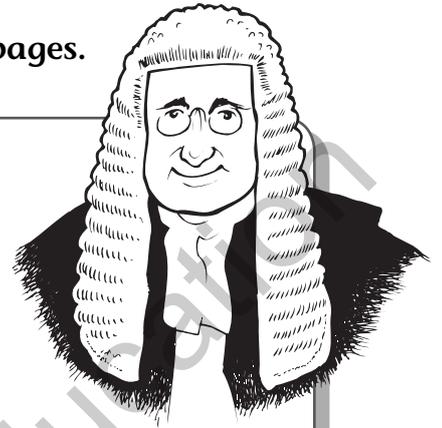
Some time later, Samuel returned, looking defeated and saddened.

“I did just as you said, judge. I demanded that the oak appear before you in the court, but it refused!”

“Never mind,” said the judge, “for the oak appeared before me and has proven your honesty.” Joseph stood up hastily.

“But there has been no oak tree in this courtroom today!” he protested.

“You, Joseph,” explained the judge, “were able to tell me how long it would take for Samuel to arrive at the oak tree, so you have been to that very spot before. Now return the gold to its rightful owner, and add five pieces more for trying to cheat him!”



WHAT'S ON?**Right There**

Find the answers directly in the text.

1. Read each sentence. Choose **Yes** or **No**.

- a. The nightly news is on every day. Yes No
- b. *Crazy Squares* is on twice. Yes No
- c. Shows that tell you how to do things are on at 3.00. Yes No
- d. Children can watch cartoons when they get home from school. Yes No
- e. Adults can watch a movie while they eat lunch. Yes No
- f. Viewers who like sports can watch a show about sports every day. Yes No

2. What two times of the day can a person catch up on the latest news?

_____ and _____

Inferential

Think about what the text says.

1. Write the names of three shows that are on at night specifically for adults to watch.

- _____
- _____
- _____

2. Write the names of two shows that would be very popular with children.

- _____
- _____

3. Why are programs that show how to do things usually on at 2.30?

WHAT'S ON?

On Your Own

Use what you know about the text and your own experience.

1. Write the name of five shows you watch at home. Next to each name write down what category you think the show belongs to.

Show	Category
• _____	_____
• _____	_____
• _____	_____
• _____	_____
• _____	_____

2. Using the list above, write down the day(s) and time(s) your shows are on.

Show	Day(s)	Time(s)
• _____	_____	_____
• _____	_____	_____
• _____	_____	_____
• _____	_____	_____
• _____	_____	_____

3. Looking at the timetable on page 17, list the shows that you may be interested in viewing.



WHAT'S ON?

Predicting

Use the television program timetable on page 17 to make predictions about some shows.

- Use your background knowledge about shows you may have seen on television or books you have read to predict what the following shows may be about:

<i>Blue Cove</i>	<i>Super Sleuth Sam</i>
<i>Crazy Squares</i>	<i>The Reading Club</i>

- Complete the table to summarise some information from the television program timetable.

Summarising

Name/type	Number of times aired on weekdays	Suitable audience	Length of show
Daytime movies			
<i>Cops on the Beat</i>			
Nightly news			
Midday news			
<i>Super Sleuth Sam</i>			
<i>Life in the Wild</i>			
<i>Cartoon Corner</i>			
Weekend sports			