



The Lynx



His deep blue eyes were special. They were not normal eyes. They were the eyes of an ambimorph, a human who could morph into an animal. Felix knew he was special from a young age and his distinctive blue eyes gave him away. His ability to morph into a lynx came at the age of 3. His parents were not surprised as they were both ambimorphs. The lynx was one of the most striking and beautiful species of feline in the world. Felix loved morphing and running through the woods by his house. "Stay away from humans," his mother would call.

Humans were the enemy. They wanted to harness the power of ambimorphs and use their ability to for their own heinous plans. The wind caressed his soft fur as he ran along the river's edge. The vibrant atmosphere of the forest was all he longed for. Felix ran through the woods every day. All of a sudden, he heard a rustle in the bushes. The sound of chirping birds was replaced with silence. He felt like a millions eyes were staring at him, and his senses heightened in anticipation. "Run!" called his father's voice...

1. What do you think was happening at the end? How do you know?

2. Can you predict what will happen next in the story?

3. What do you think happened to his parents?

4. If Felix was captured, what do you think would happen to him?

5. What do you think 'heinous' means?





Diamonds



Sally's mission was clear. Get the diamonds and sell them for millions. Her long, strawberry blonde hair was deceiving. It gave the impression of innocence. Sally's short frame made it easy to maneuver in and out of tight spaces.

Intelligent and crafty, Sally made her way through the mansion. Her eyes shifted around quickly, but her mind was calm. She had been in this situation hundreds of times and never been caught. Sally approached the safe with great anticipation.

"These diamonds are mine," she whispered with glee. It took her less than 30 seconds to open the safe. Like stars, the diamonds sparkled. They were everything that Sally had imagined. As she reached for her prize, a door voice rang through the room...

"I see you," it echoed. Sally didn't flinch. She stood staring at the diamonds.

"Hmmm," Sally muttered, "You think you see me." The lights flicked off and on.

Sally was gone and so were the diamonds. The room was suddenly flooded with police, flabbergasted at by what had just happened. Their trap had failed...



1. What do you think was happening at the mansion?

2. Why didn't people think that Sally could be a diamond thief?

3. What does 'deceive' mean?

4. How do you think Sally felt when she heard the voice? Explain your answer.

5. What do you think 'flabbergasted' means?





The Great Escape



Bars to the left and bars to the right. Lexi looked down at the floor in despair. "Freedom..." she whispered painfully to herself. To be able to walk free from her prison was all she wanted. Her time inside had felt like an eternity, and she was sick of it. Lexi began scribbling plans on a ripped piece of paper. She was planning a great escape that included a makeshift lock pick, a sprint across the lawn and an almighty jump across the wall.

Her eyes scanned the outside of the bars to make sure the area was clear. The sun beamed inside of the bars as if to indicate that it was time. Her heart raced at a million miles an hour. She tried to grip her hand made pick lock but sweat ran across her hands, and she fumbled it between her fingers. Lexi managed to get the pick into the lock and wrangle it around. Within seconds, the door flung open, and gust of wind swept her off her feet. She got to her feet and began sprinting across the lawn to the big wall.

"Lexi...where are you going? Get back to your playpen and tidy up your toys."

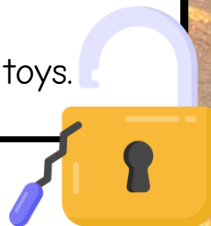
1. Who was Lexi and what was she doing?

2. What was her 'prison'?

3. Can you infer the meaning of 'despair'?

4. How did the author give the impression that she was in prison?

5. What type of figurative language is 'her heart raced at a million miles an hour'?





The Baker



There was one baker in the village. He was the greatest baker that the village had ever seen. He followed in his father's footsteps, who followed in his father's footsteps. Creating the best recipes had been in their family for generations.

One day, the king of the village, who ruled with an iron fist, took the baker as a prisoner. Frightened and shocked, the poor baker had no choice. The king wanted the baker all to himself. "You will bake me delicious goodies every day for the rest of your life!" he declared. And with that, the baker was trapped inside the walls of the castle.

Everyday, he baked the most delicious things for the greedy king. Breads, slices, cakes, muffins, cookies all came out of his steaming hot oven and were served with the sweetest toppings. The king was living a life of luxury whilst the peasant baker suffered under his oppressive rule. However, the baker was crafty. After years of serving the king, he decided to add a special ingredient into his morning muffins...poison...and with that, the king lay flat on his fat belly, dead.



1. Can you summarise the story?

2. Is the story written in first person or third person?

3. Can you infer the meaning of 'oppressive'?

4. How did the author describe the king? Give evidence from the text.

5. What does it mean to 'rule with an iron fist'?





True Love



It was her green eyes and long brown hair that got me. At eleven years old, I was in love for the first time. My dad had always cautioned, "don't get married, son, stay single forever." I had no time for cynical opinions, I was on a mission to make her fall in love with me. She was short and had the cutest walk. It was a little waddle, like a penguin. Her perfume was strong but not too strong. For some reason, her smell reminded me of my grandfather. It was strangely cute.

On my way home, I decided to follow her. Not in a creepy way. Just staring at her from twenty feet away...Okay, it was creepy, but I didn't care, I was in love. As we reached the corner of my street, a black van pulled up in front of her. 'That's odd,' I thought. I peered a little closer and saw the strangest thing...

She looked around and pulled the back of her hair over the top of her head as if she was undressing her entire body. 'She' was wearing a suit! Out of the 'pretty girl' suit, jumped a short man with black hair. He scratched his crack, waddled a few feet and jumped in the van. My first love was a smelly, old man...



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1. What do you think was happening at the end? How do you know?

Felix was being surrounded by humans. The birds stopped chirping, there was a rustle in the bushes and he could sense it. Also, he father called out to run.

2. Can you predict what will happen next in the story?

Answers will vary – Felix could escape and rescue his parents.

3. What do you think happened to his parents?

Answers will vary – They were captured at their home. His father was captured when he called out to Felix in the forest.

4. If Felix was captured, what do you think would happen to him?

The humans would use Felix and his family to do their missions.

5. What do you think 'heinous' means?

Heinous means evil.





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"Lexi...where are you going? Get back to your playpen and tidy up your toys."

1. Who was Lexi and what was she doing?

She was a baby inside of a playpen. She was trying to escape but her mother or father got her before she ran away.

2. What was her 'prison'?

Her prison was her playpen.

3. Can you infer the meaning of 'despair'?

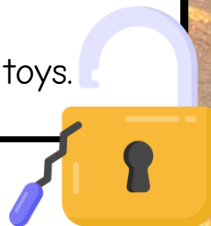
Despair means to have no hope.

4. How did the author give the impression that she was in prison?

They said that there was bars all around her and that she felt in despair. It also mentioned that she wanted to walk free and came up with a plan to escape.

5. What type of figurative language is 'her heart raced at a million miles an hour'?

It is a hyperbole.





The Baker



There was one baker in the village. He was the greatest baker that the village had ever seen. He followed in his father's footsteps, who followed in his father's footsteps. Creating the best recipes had been in their family for generations.

One day, the king of the village, who ruled with an iron fist, took the baker as a prisoner. Frightened and shocked, the poor baker had no choice. The king wanted the baker all to himself. "You will bake me delicious goodies every day for the rest of your life!" he declared. And with that, the baker was trapped inside the walls of the castle.

Everyday, he baked the most delicious things for the greedy king. Breads, slices, cakes, muffins, cookies all came out of his steaming hot oven and were served with the sweetest toppings. The king was living a life of luxury whilst the peasant baker suffered under his oppressive rule. However, the baker was crafty. After years of serving the king, he decided to add a special ingredient into his morning muffins...poison...and with that the king lay flat on his fat belly, dead.



1. Can you summarise the story?

The story is about an amazing baker, the best in his village. He was taken by the greedy king and poisoned him in order to escape.

2. Is the story written in first person or third person?

The story is written in third person.

3. Can you infer the meaning of 'oppressive'?

Oppressive means to be treated in a cruel way.

4. How did the author describe the king? Give evidence from the text.

He was an evil king who was greedy. We know this because the author said he ruled with an iron fist and wanted the baker all to himself – greedy.

5. What does it mean to 'rule with an iron fist'?

It means to rule in a very strict way.





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1. What do you think was happening at the mansion?

Sally was at the mansion to steal diamonds, but it was a trap, set up by the police. The police trap didn't work and Sally got away.

2. Why didn't people think that Sally could be a diamond thief?

Sally had strawberry blonde hair and was short. This made her look innocent.

3. What does 'deceive' mean?

Deceive means to trick or fool someone.

4. How do you think Sally felt when she heard the voice? Explain your answer.

She felt calm. I can tell because she stood staring at the diamonds and responded with confidence.

5. What do you think 'flabbergasted' means?

Flabbergasted means to be greatly surprised or astonished.





True Love



It was her green eyes and long brown hair that got me. At eleven years old, I was in love for the first time. My dad had always cautioned, "don't get married, son, stay single forever." I had no time for cynical opinions, I was on a mission to make her fall in love with me. She was short and had the cutest walk. It was a little waddle, like a penguin. Her perfume was strong but not too strong. For some reason, her smell reminded me of my grandfather. It was strangely cute.

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1. Can you summarise the story?

The story is about a boy who falls in love with a 'girl'. He describes her in the story but finds out that the girl is actually a man in a suit.

2. Is the story written in first person or third person?

The story is written in first person.

3. Can you infer the meaning of 'cynical'?

Cynical means negative or sceptical.

4. How did he describe the 'girl' he was in love with?

He said that she had green eyes and long brown hair. She was short and had a cute walk. Her smell was strong but cute.

5. What happened in the end?

The man pulled off the 'pretty girl' suit and jumped in the black van.

