

Name _____

disbelief

dismay

fabulous

features

offered

splendid

unique

watchful

Use the context clues in each sentence to help you decide which vocabulary word fits best. Write the word in the blank.

Mom was in _____ **disbelief** _____ when she saw the state of the living room, unable to understand what had happened. She looked around with _____ **dismay** _____ at the broken lamp, the stains on the _____ **unique** _____, one-of-a-kind carpet, and the footprints on the sofa.

My brother and I _____ **offered** _____ her some stories about what had happened. We described the _____ **features** _____ of the animal that had done the damage. "Um, it had a _____ **splendid** _____, beautiful coat like a Golden Retriever and a _____ **fabulous** _____, curled tail like a snake! It was the most incredible thing we had ever seen!"

Finally, under Mom's _____ **watchful** _____ eye, we cleaned up. There was no creature, just us, playing outdoor games in the living room.

Name _____

Read the selection. Complete the problem and solution graphic organizer.

A vertical flowchart graphic organizer. It starts with a large rectangular box at the top labeled "Problem". A downward-pointing arrow connects this box to a smaller, empty rectangular box. Another downward-pointing arrow connects this second box to a third, empty rectangular box. A final downward-pointing arrow connects the third box to a large rectangular box at the bottom labeled "Solution".

Problem

Solution

Name _____

Read the passage. Use the visualize strategy to help you understand what you are reading.

How Zebras Got Their Stripes

11 This story happened a long time ago in Africa. One day,
12 Baboon, who was very fierce, decided to leave the jungle tree
22 where he lived. He wanted to live next to the river. He was so
36 mean that he told all the other animals that the land belonged to
49 him. Baboon stated he was the only one allowed to drink from
61 the river.

63 The animals were upset. They were sad because they needed
73 water to survive. But all of them were afraid of Baboon. He had a
87 big head with thick eyebrows and long teeth. He showed his teeth
99 every chance he got to scare the other animals. They didn't know
111 what to do.

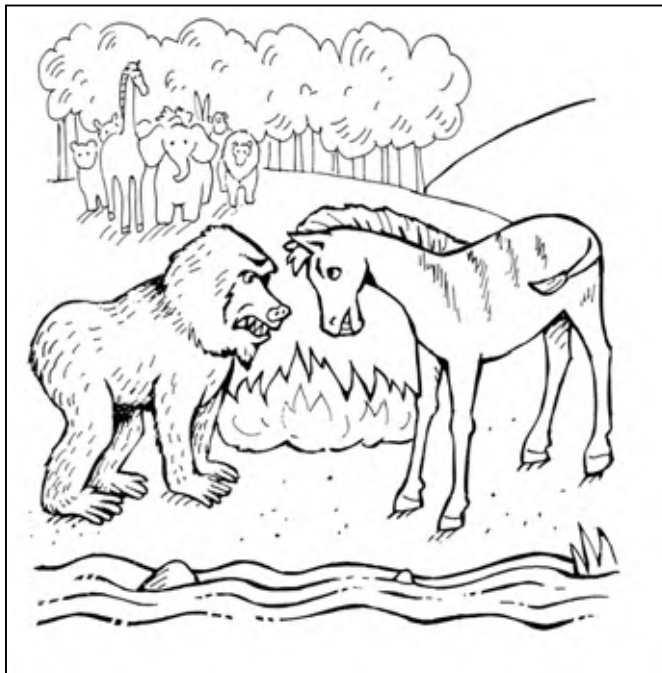
114 Zebra was young and brave. He was fearless and handsome in
125 his pure white coat. In the old days, zebras had all white coats.
138 Zebra said to the other animals, "I am not afraid of Baboon. I
151 will tell him we are going to drink from the river." The next day,
165 Zebra met with Baboon, but Baboon refused to talk to Zebra.
176 So Zebra challenged Baboon to a fight. Baboon laughed. It had
187 been a long time since he had lost a fight.

197 They agreed that the loser of the fight would have to leave the
210 jungle and river. He would have to live on the barren hill. The
223 empty hill was not a place anyone wanted to live. They would
235 meet the next morning in Baboon's yard next to the river.

Name _____

The next day, Zebra came to Baboon's yard. Baboon had built a bonfire. Zebra's white coat glowed in the sun. It looked like Zebra was lit from inside his body. All the animals came to watch the fight. They knew that it would be difficult to beat Baboon.

Baboon and Zebra were both strong and used all of their skills. They knew what they were good at. Zebra used his powerful legs to run at Baboon. But Baboon was very swift. He used his quickness to jump out of Zebra's way. Before Zebra could stop, he was suddenly close to the bonfire. He was so close that the heat from the fire began to burn him.



Zebra turned around and kicked Baboon over the river and onto the empty hill. He wasn't injured, but his pride was hurt. He knew he had lost. The animals could drink from the river.

Zebra won, but he was left with marks. The fire had burned long black stripes on his white coat. From that day on, all zebras had black stripes and were proud of them. They were a symbol that Zebra had fought and won to keep water free for all animals.

Name _____

A. Reread the passage and answer the questions.**Possible responses provided.****1. What is the problem in this story?****Baboon is mean and won't let other animals drink from the river.****2. What solution does Zebra come up with?****He decides to fight Baboon. They have a fight to see who will leave the jungle and river.****3. What are the results of this solution?****Zebra has black stripes burned onto his coat. Baboon has to leave the jungle and live on a barren hill. Zebra wins the fight and lets the animals use the river.****B. Work with a partner. Read the passage aloud. Pay attention to expression. Stop after one minute. Fill out the chart.**

	Words Read	—	Number of Errors	=	Words Correct Score
First Read		—		=	
Second Read		—		=	

Name _____

How Bear Lost His Tail

Long ago, Bear had a long, shiny tail. He was proud of his tail and bragged, “No other tail in the forest can compare with mine!”

Fox got tired of Bear’s bragging. One winter day, Fox went to a frozen lake and sat by a hole in the ice. When he heard Bear coming, Fox said loudly to himself, “My tail just isn’t shiny enough to catch that juicy fish under the ice.” Then he hid behind a tree.

“My shiny tail could catch that fish!” Bear thought, licking his lips. He dipped his tail into the icy water. While waiting, Bear fell asleep.

Fox watched Bear sleep. Then Fox crept up behind him and shouted as loud as he could, “Wake up, Bear! The fish is biting your tail!” Bear woke with such a start that his frozen tail snapped clean off.

Answer the questions about the text.

1. How do you know this text is a folktale?

It uses an animal story to teach a lesson about values.

2. What problem does Fox face?

Possible response: Fox is annoyed by Bear’s pride and bragging.

3. How does Fox solve his problem?

Possible response: Fox tricks Bear into using his tail for ice fishing.

4. What do you think the lesson of this text is?

Possible response: If you brag about having something, you might lose it.

Name _____

Read the sentences from the passage. Circle the synonyms in the sentences that help you define each word in bold. Then in your own words, write the definition of the word on the line.

Possible responses provided.

1. The animals were **upset**. They were sad because they needed water to survive.

unhappy

2. Zebra was young and **brave**. He was fearless and handsome in his pure white coat.

having no fear

3. He would have to live on the **barren** hill. The empty hill was not a place anyone wanted to live.

with nothing on it

4. But Baboon was very **swift**. He used his quickness to jump out of Zebra's way.

fast

5. He wasn't **injured**, but his pride was hurt. He knew he had lost. The animals could drink from the river.

wounded

Name _____

A. Read each sentence and underline the word with an *r*-controlled vowel sound. Write the word on the line and circle the vowel + *r* combination that makes the sound.

- Today is the third day of my vacation. third
- At camp we will learn to row a canoe. learn
- Will you help me serve lunch today? serve
- It hurt to find out that the team lost again. hurt
- I plan to move the fern to a sunny window. fern

B. Read each pair of words below. Then write the contraction from the box that matches each pair.

didn't

can't

I'm

he's

isn't

we'll

- is not isn't
- we will we'll
- can not can't
- I am I'm
- did not didn't
- he is he's

Name _____

Evidence is details and examples from a text that support a writer's ideas. The student who wrote the paragraph below found text evidence that shows how the author uses steps Zebra takes to solve a problem and to explain how something happened.

Topic sentence	→	In "How Zebras Got Their Stripes," the author uses how Zebra solves a problem to explain why zebras have stripes.
Evidence	→	At the beginning of the story, the animals were upset because Baboon said they couldn't drink from the river. This is a problem because animals need water to live. I read that Zebra and Baboon agreed to fight. Zebra fell into Baboon's fire. When he jumped out, he was covered with marks. Zebra won and the problem was solved. But now, all zebras have stripes.
Concluding statement	→	The author explains why zebras have stripes by using what Zebra says and does to solve a problem.

Write about a folktale you have read. Find text evidence to show how the author uses how the character solves a problem to explain something.

Write a topic sentence: _____

Cite evidence from the text: **Answers will vary but should discuss the author's use of what the characters do and say to solve a problem and explain something. Answers should include a topic sentence, evidence from the text, and a concluding statement.**

End with a concluding statement: _____

Name _____

A. Read the draft model. Use the questions that follow the draft to help you think about what sentence types you can add to make the story more interesting.

Draft Model

I like butterflies. My favorites are monarch butterflies. They lay their eggs on milkweed plants. I think everyone should plant some milkweed in their yard today. I wonder who else likes butterflies too.

1. How could you rewrite the first sentence to make it exclamatory?
2. How could you rewrite the fourth sentence to make it imperative?
3. How could you rewrite the last sentence to make it interrogative?

B. Now revise the draft by using different types of sentences to make the story about monarch butterflies more interesting to read and easier to understand.

Answers will vary but should include four different sentence types:

declarative, exclamatory, imperative, and interrogative.