

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.**

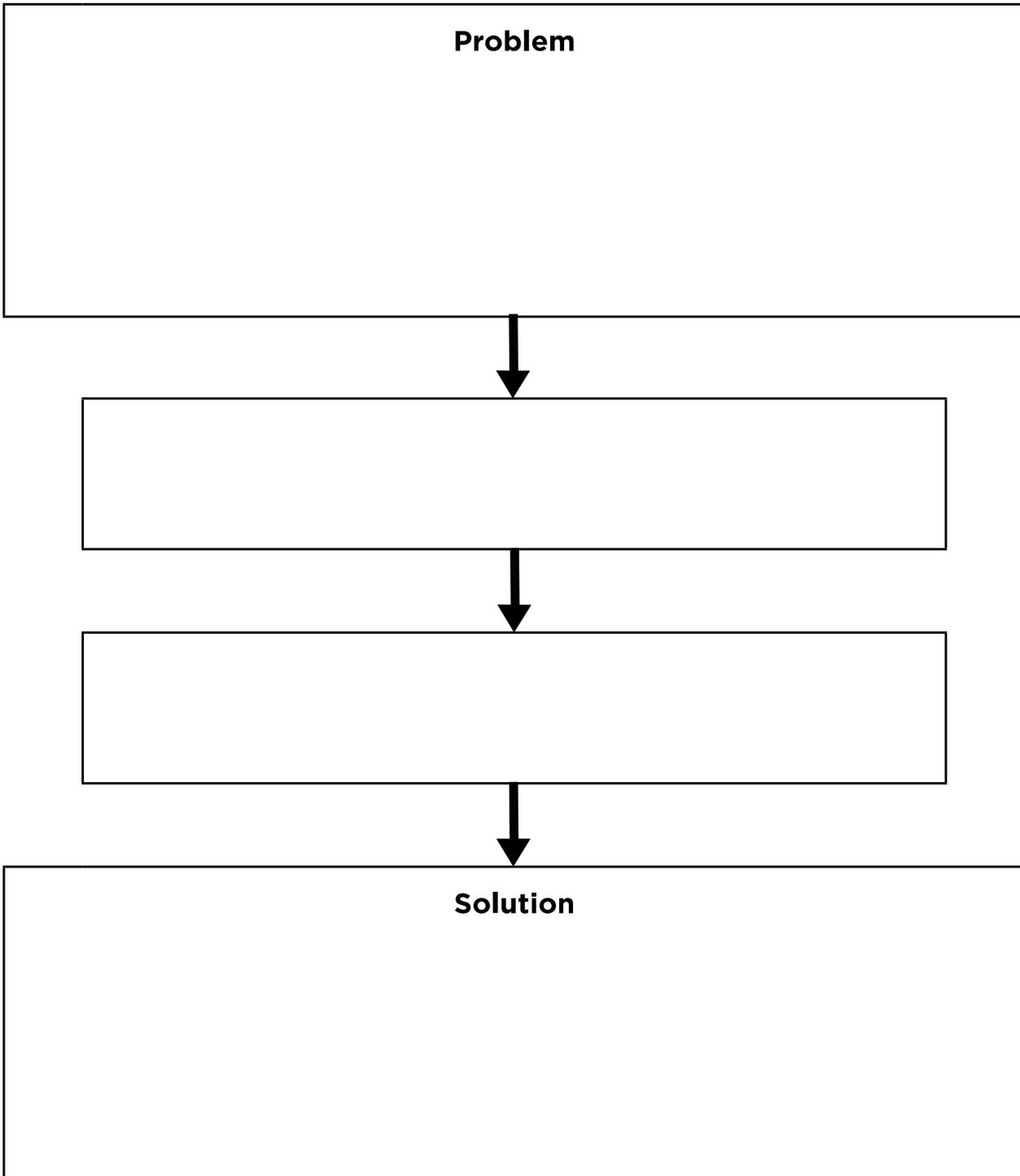
Mom was in \_\_\_\_\_ when she saw the state of the living room, unable to understand what had happened. She looked around with \_\_\_\_\_ at the broken lamp, the stains on the \_\_\_\_\_, one-of-a-kind carpet, and the footprints on the sofa.

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

Finally, under Mom's \_\_\_\_\_ 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.**



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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  
13 where he lived. He wanted to live next to the river. He was so  
14 mean that he told all the other animals that the land belonged to  
15 him. Baboon stated he was the only one allowed to drink from  
16 the river.

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

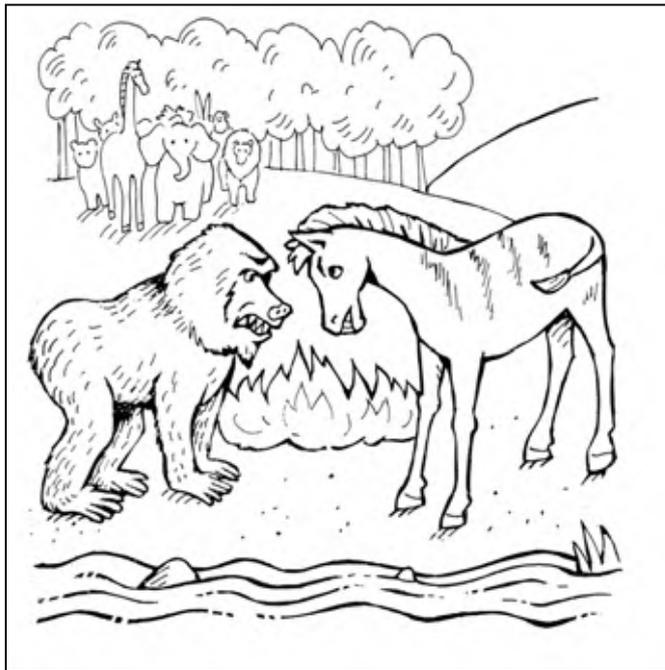
22 Zebra was young and brave. He was fearless and handsome in  
23 his pure white coat. In the old days, zebras had all white coats.  
24 Zebra said to the other animals, "I am not afraid of Baboon. I  
25 will tell him we are going to drink from the river." The next day,  
26 Zebra met with Baboon,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

29 They agreed that the loser of the fight would have to leave the  
30 jungle and river. He would have to live on the barren hill. The  
31 empty hill was not a place anyone wanted to live. They would  
32 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.**

**1. What is the problem in this story?**

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**2. What solution does Zebra come up with?**

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**3. What are the results of this solution?**

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**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?**

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**2. What problem does Fox face?**

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**3. How does Fox solve his problem?**

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

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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.**

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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.**

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

**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**

1. is not      \_\_\_\_\_
2. we will      \_\_\_\_\_
3. can not      \_\_\_\_\_
4. I am      \_\_\_\_\_
5. did not      \_\_\_\_\_
6. he is      \_\_\_\_\_

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.

<b>Topic sentence</b>	→	In “How Zebras Got Their Stripes,” the author uses how Zebra solves a problem to explain why zebras have stripes.
<b>Evidence</b>	→	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.
<b>Concluding statement</b>	→	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: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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.**

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