Think About It!

**Close-Reading Questions:** Read the play *The Tortoise and the Hare* in the March/April 2017 issue of *Storyworks Jr*. Then go back and reread sections of the play to answer the questions below.

1. In Scene 1, what can you guess Aesop’s story will be about? How did you make your guess?

   __________________________________________

   __________________________________________

   __________________________________________

   __________________________________________

   __________________________________________

   __________________________________________

2. In Scene 2, why does Porcupine suggest that Hare run backward for the whole race?

   __________________________________________

   __________________________________________

   __________________________________________

   __________________________________________

   __________________________________________

   __________________________________________

   __________________________________________
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3. Reread the last five lines of Scene 3. What do you learn about Tortoise?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

4. What does Hare do in Scene 4? Why does he do this?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Continued on next page >
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5. How do the other animals explain how Tortoise won the race?

________________________________________________________________________

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________________________________________________________________________
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Critical-Thinking Question (a big question about the whole story):

6. How does Tortoise win the race? What does this tell you about the moral of the fable?

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__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
Directions: We’ve given you the definitions of three challenging words from *The Tortoise and the Hare* in the March/April 2017 issue. Look for them as you read. Then pick out three more words that are new to you. Write their definitions, using clues from the sentence the word is in, or a dictionary, to help you.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WORD</th>
<th>PAGE NO.</th>
<th>IT MEANS . . .</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. groggy</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>sleepy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. dawdled</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>wasted time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. wavered</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>hesitated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MY OWN WORDS:**

4. 

5. 

6. 

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The Tortoise and the Hare Quiz

Directions: Read the play The Tortoise and the Hare in the March/April 2017 issue. Then fill in the bubble next to the best answer for each question.

1. Which word describes Hare in the beginning of the play?
   A unsure
   B confident
   C sad
   D angry

2. Why do the other animals think the race is unfair?
   A because Tortoise is smarter than Hare
   B because they know Hare will fall asleep
   C because Hare is much faster than Tortoise
   D because the course has water and Tortoise can’t swim

3. What does sprints mean in the sentence “Before Tortoise even has a chance to lift her foot, Hare sprints out of sight.”
   A runs very fast
   B skips
   C hops
   D swims

4. Why does Hare stop to eat some clover?
   A He is tired.
   B He hasn’t eaten clover in a long time.
   C He wants to pick some to share with Tortoise.
   D He thinks there’s no way he can lose.

5. Why does Hare lose the race?
   A He falls asleep and Tortoise passes him.
   B Tortoise cheats by letting the other animals push her.
   C Hare gets hurt along the way.
   D Hare gets lost.

6. How does Hare feel at the end of the play?
   A proud
   B happy
   C embarrassed
   D hungry

Short Answer

Directions: On a separate sheet of paper, answer the question below in a short, well-written paragraph. Be sure to use details from the play.

Why does Aesop call on Niko to guess the moral at the end of the play? What do you think Niko’s answer will be?
The Tortoise and the Hare Quiz

Directions: Read the play *The Tortoise and the Hare*. Then fill in the bubble next to the best answer for each question.

1. What does *celebrated* mean in the sentence “They welcome Aesop, the celebrated storyteller”?  
   - A clever  
   - B funny  
   - C famed  
   - D strange

2. Read this line from Scene 2: “I’m as slow as moss growing on a tree.” Which literary device is used in this line?  
   - A simile  
   - B metaphor  
   - C irony  
   - D alliteration

3. Which character traits does Tortoise show when she challenges Hare to a race?  
   - A determination and confidence  
   - B boastfulness and pride  
   - C foolishness and carelessness  
   - D anger and lack of control

4. How does Hare end up so far behind Tortoise?  
   - A He is slower than Tortoise.  
   - B He decides to run backward the whole way to make the race more fair.  
   - C A family of deer keeps Hare distracted for hours.  
   - D He stops to eat clover and takes a long nap in the shade.

5. Which quote from the text best expresses the play’s main idea?  
   - A “Well, Hare, I think you can be beaten.”  
   - B “I just need to put one foot in front of the other until I get there.”  
   - C “Tortoise, let us help. We can push you along.”  
   - D “The animals gather to cheer Tortoise on.”

6. When Hare slinks away at the end of the race, you can infer that he feels ______.  
   - A happy  
   - B ashamed  
   - C shy  
   - D worried

Constructed Response

Directions: On a separate piece of paper, write your answer to each question in a well-organized paragraph. Make sure you support your answers with information and details from the play.

7. What evidence in the play shows that Tortoise is determined? Use three examples from the text in your answer.
Directions: At the end of the play, what do you think Niko says is the moral of the story? Fill in the speech bubble below.

REMEMBER! The moral of a story is the lesson you learn from reading it.

Directions: At the end of the play, what do you think Niko says is the moral of the story? Fill in the speech bubble below.

How did you learn the moral of the story? Fill in the speech bubbles from Tortoise and Hare.

I won the race because

__________________

I lost the race because

__________________
**Play Reading Kit**

Use this kit to help you build important reading skills as you explore the play *The Tortoise and the Hare.*

**Inference**

**REMEMBER!** Making inferences means putting together clues to figure out things the author means but doesn’t say.

**Directions:** The chart below lists clues from the March/April 2017 play *The Tortoise and the Hare* on the left and inferences you can make from them on the right. Fill in the lines in the boxes with clues or inferences from the story.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clues</th>
<th>Inferences</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **1** Here are some quotes about Hare from the beginning of the play:  
   “Hare runs in circles around the other animals.”  
   “When you run, it’s as if the wind was chasing you.” | **What can you infer about Hare?**  
   ____________________________________________  
   ____________________________________________  
   ____________________________________________  
   ____________________________________________ |
| **2** Write down two lines from the play that support the inference on the right. | **The other animals want Tortoise to win the race.**  
   ____________________________________________  
   ____________________________________________  
   ____________________________________________  
   ____________________________________________ |
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clues</th>
<th>Inferences</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **3** Write down a quote from the play that supports the inference on the right.  
__________________________  
__________________________  
__________________________  
__________________________  
__________________________ | Hare thinks that he will definitely win the race.  
| **4** Write down two lines from the play that support the inference on the right.  
__________________________  
__________________________  
__________________________  
__________________________  
__________________________ | Even though she is slow, Tortoise thinks she can win the race.  

Play Reading Kit

Use this kit to help you build important reading skills as you explore the play *The Tortoise and the Hare*.

**Summarying**

REMEMBER! A summary is a short retelling of the most important parts of a story. It should include information that someone would need to know to understand the play, without small details or your own opinion.

**Directions:** Complete the summary below, using the hints we’ve given to help you.

**Summary of The Tortoise and the Hare**

“The Tortoise and the Hare” is about

Begin with a topic sentence that tells what the play is mainly about.

At the beginning of the play, Hare

What does Hare ask at the beginning of the play?

Since nobody wants to race Hare, Tortoise

What does Tortoise suggest to Hare?

Hare is sure he’ll win the race, so he

What does Hare do throughout the race?

While Hare is napping,

What does Tortoise do throughout the race?

In the end,

Who wins the race? How?