

# Through the Looking-Glass

*Lewis Carroll wrote Through the Looking-Glass in 1871. It continues the story of the English girl Alice that Carroll first wrote about in Alice's Adventures in Wonderland.*

*In the passage below, Alice has gone through a looking-glass, or mirror, into another wonderland. She is in a garden where she has discovered flowers that can talk.*

## Chapter II. The Garden of Live Flowers

Alice didn't like being criticized, so she began asking questions. "Aren't you sometimes frightened at being planted out here, with nobody to take care of you?"

"There's the tree in the middle," said the Rose: "what else is it good for?"

"But what could it do, if any danger came?" Alice asked.

"It says 'Bough-wough!'" cried a Daisy: "that's why its branches are called boughs!"

"Didn't you know THAT?" cried another Daisy, and here they all began shouting together, till the air seemed quite full of little shrill voices. "Silence, every one of you!" cried the Tiger-lily, waving itself passionately from side to side, and trembling with excitement. "They know I can't get at them!" it panted, bending its quivering head towards Alice, "or they wouldn't dare to do it!"

"Never mind!" Alice said in a soothing tone, and stooping down to the daisies, who were just beginning again, she whispered, "If you don't hold your tongues, I'll pick you!"

There was silence in a moment, and several of the pink daisies turned white.

"That's right!" said the Tiger-lily. "The daisies are worst of all. When one speaks, they all begin together, and it's enough to make one wither to hear the way they go on!"

"How is it you can all talk so nicely?" Alice said, hoping to get it into a better temper by a compliment. "I've been in many gardens before, but none of the flowers could talk."

"Put your hand down, and feel the ground," said the Tiger-lily. "Then you'll know why."

Alice did so. "It's very hard," she said, "but I don't see what that has to do with it."

"In most gardens," the Tiger-lily said, "they make the beds too soft—so that the flowers are always asleep."

This sounded a very good reason, and Alice was quite pleased to know it. "I never thought of that before!" she said.

"It's MY opinion that you never think AT ALL," the Rose said in a rather severe tone.

"I never saw anybody that looked stupider," a Violet said, so suddenly, that Alice quite jumped; for it hadn't spoken before.

"Hold YOUR tongue!" cried the Tiger-lily. "As if YOU ever saw anybody! You keep your head under the leaves, and snore away there, till you know no more what's going on in the world, than if you were a bud!"

"Are there any more people in the garden besides me?" Alice said, not choosing to notice the Rose's last remark.

"There's one other flower in the garden that can move about like you," said the Rose. "I wonder how you do it—" ("You're always wondering," said the Tiger-lily), "but she's more bushy than you are."

"Is she like me?" Alice asked eagerly, for the thought crossed her mind, "There's another little girl in the garden, somewhere!"

"Well, she has the same awkward shape as you," the Rose said, "but she's redder—and her petals are shorter, I think."

"Her petals are done up close, almost like a dahlia," the Tiger-lily interrupted: "not tumbled about anyhow, like yours."

"But that's not YOUR fault," the Rose added kindly: "you're beginning to fade, you know—and then one can't help one's petals getting a little untidy."

Alice didn't like this idea at all: so, to change the subject, she asked "Does she ever come out here?"

"I daresay you'll see her soon," said the Rose. "She's one of the thorny kind."



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Through the Looking-Glass: Do You Understand?

### Part I. Short Answer

Answer each question below.

1. Who protects the flowers?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Why did some of the daisies turn white?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Why could these flowers talk, and flowers in other gardens can't talk?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Who told Alice she looked stupid?

\_\_\_\_\_

5. What do the flowers mean when they talk about Alice's petals?

\_\_\_\_\_

### Part II. Order of Events

Place the following actions in the story in the correct order by writing 1 in front of the first thing that happened, 2 in front of the second thing that happened, and so on.

A. \_\_\_\_\_ The Tiger-Lily told Alice to feel the ground.

B. \_\_\_\_\_ The daisies all talked at once.

C. \_\_\_\_\_ The Rose tells Alice there's another person in the garden.

D. \_\_\_\_\_ Alice asks who protects the flowers

E. \_\_\_\_\_ The Rose tells Alice that she's beginning to fade.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Vocabulary in Through the Looking-Glass

## I. Vocabulary Match

Match each word in Column A with its meaning in Column B

### Column A

1. \_\_\_\_\_ boughs
2. \_\_\_\_\_ shrill
3. \_\_\_\_\_ quivering
4. \_\_\_\_\_ soothing
5. \_\_\_\_\_ wither
6. \_\_\_\_\_ remark
7. \_\_\_\_\_ awkward
8. \_\_\_\_\_ daresay

### Column B

- A. dry up or shrivel
- B. shaking
- C. clumsy or not graceful
- D. comment or announcement
- E. large branch on a tree
- F. calming
- G. think or suppose
- H. high sound or voice

**Part II. What Does It Mean?** Below are some unusual phrases from the passage. Circle the letter of the correct meaning of the underlined phrase.

1. “Bough-wough!”

A. bowing      B. bow-wow      C. boo-hoo

2. “hold your tongues”

A. whistle      B. talk to each other      C. be quiet

3. “the way they go on”

A. continuously talk; chatter constantly      B. say mean things; insult      C. sing badly

4. “a better temper”

A. stronger anger      B. more pleasant mood      C. stonger; healthier

5. “for the thought crossed her mind”

A. came to her      B. was scary to her      C. made her angry

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Through the Looking-Glass: Find the Supporting Evidence

Below is one of the main ideas of the passage. Write three quotations from the passage that support this main idea.

While the flowers might  
be pretty, they were  
not very nice.

The diagram consists of a central rectangular box at the top containing the text 'While the flowers might be pretty, they were not very nice.' Three lines extend from the bottom corners of this box to the top of three large, empty circles arranged in a triangular pattern below it. The circles are intended for students to write supporting evidence from the passage.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Through the Looking-Glass: What Would You Ask?

Alice is surprised that she is able to speak with the flowers in the garden. She finds out some surprising things about the flowers, and they showed that they all had interesting personalities. If you were able to speak with a plant, what plant would it be? What you want to know about it? What questions would you ask? What kind of personality do you think this plant would have?

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Through the Looking-Glass Word Search

Circle each word from the list in the puzzle. The words can go in any direction.



# Through the Looking-Glass

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*In the passage below, Alice has gone through a looking-glass, or mirror, into another wonderland. She is in a garden where she has discovered flowers that can talk.*

## Chapter II. The Garden of Live Flowers

Alice didn't like being criticized, so she began asking questions. "Aren't you sometimes frightened at being planted out here, with nobody to take care of you?"

"There's the tree in the middle," said the Rose: "what else is it good for?"

"But what could it do, if any danger came?" Alice asked.

"It says 'Bough-wough!'" cried a Daisy: "that's why its branches are called boughs!"

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"How is it you can all talk so nicely?" Alice said, hoping to get it into a better temper by a compliment. "I've been in many gardens before, but none of the flowers could talk."

"Put your hand down, and feel the ground," said the Tiger-lily. "Then you'll know why."

Alice did so. "It's very hard," she said, "but I don't see what that has to do with it."

"In most gardens," the Tiger-lily said, "they make the beds too soft—so that the flowers are always asleep."

This sounded a very good reason, and Alice was quite pleased to know it. "I never thought of that before!" she said.

"It's MY opinion that you never think AT ALL," the Rose said in a rather severe tone.

"I never saw anybody that looked stupider," a Violet said, so suddenly, that Alice quite jumped; for it hadn't spoken before.

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"There's one other flower in the garden that can move about like you," said the Rose. "I wonder how you do it—" ("You're always wondering," said the Tiger-lily), "but she's more bushy than you are."

"Is she like me?" Alice asked eagerly, for the thought crossed her mind, "There's another little girl in the garden, somewhere!"

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"Her petals are done up close, almost like a dahlia," the Tiger-lily interrupted: "not tumbled about anyhow, like yours."

"But that's not YOUR fault," the Rose added kindly: "you're beginning to fade, you know—and then one can't help one's petals getting a little untidy."

Alice didn't like this idea at all: so, to change the subject, she asked "Does she ever come out here?"

"I daresay you'll see her soon," said the Rose. "She's one of the thorny kind."



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ **KEY**

## Through the Looking-Glass: Do You Understand?

Student's answers will vary. Examples of correct answers:

### Part I. Short Answer

Answer each question below.

1. Who protects the flowers?

**The tree in the middle**

2. Why did some of the daisies turn white?

**Alice told them she would pick them if they weren't quiet.**

3. Why could these flowers talk, and flowers in other gardens can't talk?

**The ground is soft in other gardens, and the flowers are always asleep.**

4. Who told Alice she looked stupid?

**a Violet**

5. What do the flowers mean when they talk about Alice's petals?

**Her hair**

### Part II. Order of Events

Place the following actions in the story in the correct order by writing 1 in front of the first thing that happened, 2 in front of the second thing that happened, and so on.

A. **3** The Tiger-Lily told Alice to feel the ground.

B. **2** The daisies all talked at once.

C. **4** The Rose tells Alice there's another person in the garden.

D. **1** Alice asks who protects the flowers

E. **5** The Rose tells Alice that she's beginning to fade.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ **KEY**

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- A. whistle    B. talk to each other    **C. be quiet**

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- A. continuously talk; chatter constantly**    B. say mean things; insult    C. sing badly

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- A. stronger anger    **B. more pleasant mood**    C. stonger; healthier

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Student's answers will vary. Example of correct answers:

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"Hold YOUR tongue!' cried  
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