

Aesop: Put the Events in Order

Aesop was a Greek writer who wrote stories called fables. A fable is a story that gives a lesson at the end. Here is one of Aesop's fables.

The Lion and the Mouse

A Lion lay asleep in the forest, his great head resting on his paws. A timid little Mouse came upon him unexpectedly, and in her fright and haste to get away, ran across the Lion's nose. Roused from his nap, the Lion laid his huge paw angrily on the tiny creature to kill her.

"Spare me!" begged the poor Mouse. "Please let me go and some day I will surely repay you."

The Lion was much amused to think that a Mouse could ever help him. But he was generous and finally let the Mouse go.

Some days later, while stalking his prey in the forest, the Lion was caught in the toils of a hunter's net. Unable to free himself, he filled the forest with his angry roaring. The Mouse knew the voice and quickly found the Lion struggling in the net. Running to one of the great ropes that bound him, she gnawed it until it parted, and soon the Lion was free.

"You laughed when I said I would repay you," said the Mouse. "Now you see that even a Mouse can help a Lion."

Lesson: A kindness is never wasted.

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 Mouse found the Lion in the net.
- B. _____ The Lion roared with anger.
- C. _____ The Mouse promises to help the Lion someday if he will let her go.
- D. _____ The Lion was asleep.
- E. _____ The Lion laid his paw on the Mouse.
- F. _____ The Mouse chewed the net to free the Lion.
- G. _____ The Lion went hunting and got caught in a net.
- H. _____ The Lion let the Mouse go.
- I. _____ The Mouse ran across the Lion's nose.
- J. _____ The Lion woke up.

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- B. 5 The Lion roared with anger.
- C. 8 The Mouse promises to help the Lion someday if he will let her go.
- D. 1 The Lion was asleep.
- E. 4 The Lion laid his paw on the Mouse.
- F. 10 The Mouse chewed the net to free the Lion.
- G. 7 The Lion went hunting and got caught in a net.
- H. 6 The Lion let the Mouse go.
- I. 2 The Mouse ran across the Lion's nose.
- J. 3 The Lion woke up.