

THE COWARDLY LION

Note: The transactional processes suggested in CISCE curriculum are highlighted in grey.

Learning Outcomes

- To recognise the genre (Play)
- To comprehend the text as a part of a larger story
- To trace the traits of the characters and their roles in the play
- To be able to narrate events in a sequential manner

Pre-reading



This focusses on *assessment for learning*. Students are introduced to some describing words and in turn are introduced to the concept of characterisation. They learn to analyse the nature-traits of the characters in the play while they read.

Let students read the words and talk about the words that describe them and how they would wish to be.

Next, brainstorm with the class on the *Wizard of Oz* stories that they would have read or the movie that they may have watched. Let those who know share their ideas with the rest of the class.

Give a gist of the story to help students understand the text better:

Note: Dorothy is a young girl who lives with her Uncle and Aunt and her little dog on a farm in

the Kansas prairies. One day, Dorothy and Toto, the dog, are caught up in a cyclone that carries away her farmhouse into the magical Land of Oz. The only way Dorothy can return home is to go to the Emerald City and ask the powerful Wizard of Oz to help her. As Dorothy begins her journey, the Good Witch of the North kisses her on the forehead, granting her magical protection from harm.

On her way, Dorothy frees the Scarecrow from the pole on which he is hanging, applies oil from a can to the rusted connections of the Tin Woodman, and meets the Cowardly Lion.

The lesson 'Cowardly Lion' is about this encounter with the lion.

(Reference: Wikipedia)

READING

Students read to comprehend, predict sequence and summarise the sequenced events

Play the audio in parts / Read the text in parts / Let students take turns and read the play in parts. Encourage them to read with appropriate expressions. The class will now have a fairly good idea about the story.

Draw two columns on the board. Encourage/ Guide students to summarise the parts of

play after completion of each segment. Prompt them with appropriate questions. Fill in the responses.

(Optional: Students may copy the shortened story in their note books. This will introduce them to the concept of summarisation)

Note: The given questions and the details are for the teacher's reference.

1. Who are the characters in the play and where are they heading? Why? What happens while they are going to meet the wizard?	Dorothy, the scarecrow and the Tin Woodman are going to Emerald City to meet the Great Wizard of Oz. While they are on the way, a lion strikes the scarecrow and the Woodman. Dorothy calls the lion a coward for attacking a harmless stuffed scarecrow.
2. What does the lion learn about Dorothy's friends? Why does the lion call himself a coward?	The lion learns that Dorothy's friends are a scarecrow and a woodman who is made of tin. The lion calls himself a coward because his heart beats fast when there is danger lurking around.
3. What do the three friends tell the lion about meeting the wizard? What does the lion decide to do? Why is Dorothy happy to have the lion along? How does the story end here?	The three friends tell the lion that they are going to meet the Great Wizard of Oz so that the Scarecrow can ask the wizard to give him some brains and the Woodman can ask for a heart. Dorothy says that she wants him to send her back to Kansas. The lion decides to go along with them so that he can ask the wizard to give him courage. Dorothy is happy as this will keep the wild animals away. The three friends and the lion continue the journey.

● *The Good Witch... up to his feet.!*

Explain

- what a scarecrow is.
- who the characters in the play are and where they are heading and why.
- each one's feelings about crossing the forest.
- how the Tin Woodman lays Dorothy's fears to rest.

Ask students:

Where are the three friends going? Who do they want to meet? Who is a wizard? (Someone who practices magic) Why do you think they want to meet the wizard? (Let students predict. They may connect a wizard to magic and come up with their own deductions. Allow free response. This will help develop prediction skills.) What do they think will protect them on their journey through the forest? Why does Dorothy call the lion a coward?

Take it further by discussing with class who cowards are and what we mean by cowardly acts.

- *Cowardly Lion: (surprised) Is he stuffed?... I cannot have a heart disease.*

Explain:

- how Dorothy clears the lion's doubts.
- how the lion explains his cowardliness.
- the reactions of the others over the lion's cowardly state.

Ask students:

What did the lion not know about the Scarecrow and the Tin Woodman? What did Dorothy ask the lion? What did the lion say in reply? Was the lion kind-hearted? What tells us so? (He lets the frightened creatures go) What did the Tin Woodman and the Scarecrow tell the lion? Why was the Woodman sure that he did not suffer a heart disease?

- *Scarecrow: (to the Cowardly Lion) ... the Lion walking by Dorothy's side.*

Explain:

- what the three friends told the lion about their plan.
- why the lion wanted to join them.
- why Dorothy welcomed the idea.
- the line 'They really are ... any braver.' (The other animals do get scared of him but the lion does not feel like he is any better than these scared animals)

Ask students:

What did the Scarecrow ask the Cowardly lion and why did he ask this question? (because he himself did not have brains) What did the Tin Woodman not have? What did the lion want? Why was Dorothy happy to have him along?

Post-reading

Let students take turns and enact the play in parts using the right pronunciations, expressions and actions.

GRAMMAR

Singular possessive

Write the following on the board:

- Meena's toy.
- the dog's bone
- Mother's car

Discuss with the students, what is common about all the sentences: All of them refer to something which belongs to someone.

Explain that when we want to show that something belongs to a person, place or thing, we add an 's' with the **apostrophe**. (Explain what an apostrophe is.)

Let students work in pairs and come up with an example each, using possessives.

Direct them to use the singular form.

VOCABULARY

Compound words; phrases from the story

Follow the input given in the Reader.

LISTENING

While-listening

Tell students that they are going to listen to a conversation between Dhruv and Sana. They need to listen to the directions given by Sana and complete the notes as they listen.

Play the audio track and let students do the task.

You may play the track one more time depending upon the capability of your class.

Review the answers.

SPEAKING

Group-discussion

Write the topic 'Outdoor games are different than indoor games' on the board.

Now divide the class into groups of four. Instruct them to begin a discussion within the group based on the input given in the Reader.

Monitor the speaking activity and correct them wherever necessary.



WRITING

Rearranging sentences

Students learn to write a story and organise the events in the right order with the help of the given support sentences.

Guide students to read the sentences more than once to comprehend the sequence of events.

Let students number the sentences according to the flow of events.

Review the answers.

STUDENTS' BOOK ANSWER KEY

The Cowardly Lion

Pre-reading

A. *Free response.*

B. *Free response.*

Comprehension

A. 1. b 2. c 3. c 4. a 5. c

- B. 1. a. Dorothy said this to Tin Woodman.
b. The mark of the Good Witch's kiss on Dorothy's forehead would protect her from harm.
2. a. The Cowardly Lion answered this question by saying that he supposed he did have brains.
b. The Scarecrow's head was stuffed with straw.
3. a. The Cowardly Lion said this to Dorothy.
b. The speaker says that he had been a coward from the time of his birth.
4. a. The Cowardly Lion wanted to go with Dorothy and her friends to the Great Oz so that he could ask the Great Oz to give him some courage.
b. The Cowardly Lion would help to keep away the other wild beasts.
- C. 1. *Suggested answer (accept any logical response):* Nothing could hurt the Scarecrow because he was stuffed with straw, and so he would not feel pain.
2. *Suggested answer (accept any logical response):* Dorothy was a brave girl. When she saw a lion attack her friends, she shouted at him and called him a coward.
3. *Suggested answer (accept any logical response):* Yes, life can be unbearable without a bit of courage just like it was for the Cowardly Lion. A coward gets scared easily and people laugh at him. No one respects a coward.

Grammar

1. Shruti's dress is very beautiful.
2. Nitu's cat is very naughty.

3. Rajesh's cricket bat is new.
4. This cat's fur is very soft.
5. The doctor's coat was lying on the table.
6. Radha's house is very far.
7. Riya's hair is long and curly.
8. This is teacher's pen.

Vocabulary

A. 1. c 2. e 3. f 4. a 5. d 6. b 7. h 8. g

- B. 1. I suppose I was ~~like that from the start~~ born that way.
2. ~~As far as I know~~ For my part, I have no heart.
3. My head is ~~filled with~~ stuffed with straw.
4. ~~In the same way as~~ Just as easily as he could give me brains.
5. You will help to ~~make~~ keep away other wild beasts ~~stay away~~.
6. My life is simply unbearable without ~~any courage~~ a bit of courage.

Listening

1. Go straight on for about 200 metres.
2. There will be a traffic light.
3. Go past the traffic light.
4. Then, turn right.
5. Go straight until you reach the theatre.
6. It's the building next to the theatre, opposite the café.

Writing

1. One day a fox fell into a pit. 1
2. The goat started crying. 8
3. The fox said that the water was very good and asked the goat to come down into the pit. 4
4. The clever fox climbed on the goat's back and jumped out of the pit. 6
5. "You should have thought about getting out before you jumped in," the fox shouted before running away. 7
6. The thirsty goat jumped in. 5
7. After some time a thirsty goat came by and asked the fox if the water was good to drink. 3
8. The fox could not get out of the pit even after trying for many hours. 2

Spelling

E(d)ge Ple(d)ge (H)our (H)onour (K)nife (K)nee
 Lis(t)ten Ma(t)tch

ANSWER KEY TO WORKSHEET 8

- A.**
1. the school bag of Rhea
Rhea's school bag
 2. the owner of the cat
the cat's owner
 3. the wallet of dad
dad's wallet
 4. the computer of Asha
Asha's computer
 5. the football of Ankita
Ankita's football
 6. the jump rope of Seema
Seema's jump rope
 7. the plan of Robbie
Robbie's plan
 8. the book of Shravan
Shravan's book
- B.**
- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. News + paper = newspaper | 2. Tooth + paste = toothpaste |
| 3. Basket + ball = basketball | 4. Air + plane = airplane |
| 5. Straw + berry = strawberry | 6. Sun + flower = sunflower |
| 7. Snow + man = snowman | 8. Fire + fly = firefly |
- C.**
1. a. intelligent: smart and clever
b. curious: wanting to learn or know more
c. interesting: attractive
 2. a. Dolphins are curious just like humans, and they form strong bonds with the members of their group.
b. There are 43 different types of dolphins that are known to us. Out of these, 38 types are found in seas and oceans, and five types are found in rivers.
c. They have to come to the surface of water to breathe.
d. Dolphins have 100 teeth. But they do not use their teeth to eat. They use their teeth to catch fish, and then they swallow it.

QUESTION BANK

The Cowardly Lion

A. Answer in brief.

1. What did the Cowardly Lion do to the Scarecrow and the Tin Woodman while they were walking through the forest?

Ans: With one blow of his paw, the Cowardly Lion sent the Scarecrow spinning over and over to the edge of the road. Then he struck at the Tin Woodman with his sharp claws.

2. Why did the Cowardly Lion decide to go with them and what did they all do?

Ans: The lion wanted to ask Oz to give him courage as his life was simply unbearable without even a bit of courage. So, they set off upon the journey, the Cowardly Lion walking by Dorothy's side.

B. Answer in detail.

1. What did the lion reply when Dorothy asked him why he was a coward?

Ans: When Dorothy asked him why he was a coward, the lion said that it was a mystery. He felt he might have been born that way. He learned that if he roared very loudly, every living thing was frightened and got away from him. But whenever there was danger, his heart began to beat fast.

2. Why were the Scarecrow, the Tin Woodman, Dorothy and the Cowardly Lion going to the Great Oz?

Ans: The scarecrow was going to the Great Oz to ask him to give him some brains as his head was stuffed with straw. Tin Woodman was going to ask him to give him a heart. Dorothy was going to ask him to send her back to Kansas. And the Cowardly Lion was going to ask Oz to give him courage.

C. Choose the right answer.

The Great Oz lived in

- a. Kansas.
- b. the forest.
- c. Emerald city.

Ans: c

D. Read the lines and answer the questions.

1. *"You are nothing but a big coward to strike a stuffed man like the poor Scarecrow!"*

- a. Who called whom a coward?
- b. Why did she call him a coward?
- c. What did Dorothy do?

Ans: a. Dorothy called the Lion a coward.

b. He pushed the Scarecrow and struck the Tin Woodman. They were very easy to strike and so she called him a coward.

c. Dorothy helped the Scarecrow up to his feet.

2. *"Perhaps you have a heart disease."*

- a. Who said this and to whom?
- b. Why did he say this?
- c. What did the Tin Woodman not have?

Ans: a. Tin Woodman said this to Cowardly Lion.

b. Lion said that whenever there was danger, his heart began to beat fast. So, Tin Woodman said this.

c. Tin Woodman did not have a heart.