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Before We Read

MY LEARNING GOALS

I can

- ☐ talk about things that are valuable.
- ☐ identify characterization.

How Much?

In different cultures and in different time periods, various objects were considered highly valuable. Today, people may place a great value on a fancy sports car or a large home. During the American Revolution, chocolate was considered so valuable that it was sometimes used to pay the soldiers. In ancient times, people groups, such as the Jews, Greeks, and Chinese, placed a great value on salt because of its use in preserving food. Cities and roads were built around the production of salt, and wars were fought over the ability to get this mineral. Stories often reflect what a culture considered valuable.



Before We Read

Identifying Characterization

In literature, you learn about characters in two ways. **Direct characterization** comes from what the author tells the readers about the character. This may be a clear description of the character's physical appearance or a list of adjectives describing the character's personality. **Indirect characterization** comes from what the author shows the reader about the character. This may be a description of a character's deeds or thoughts.

Simone shifted in her seat and tried to stretch her long legs under the seat in front of her. Even in first class, her tall body felt cramped during the long flight. She ran her hand through her dark hair before glancing at the designer watch on her wrist. The plane would be landing in about an hour. These business trips were getting more

frequent, and Simone had barely been home at all this month. Her eyes drooped, and she rested her head against the headrest. Although she was honored with the increased responsibility, Simone longed for a quiet retreat away from the fast-paced climb up the corporate ladder. Days like today, she felt older than her 32 years.

Fill in the chart to tell about Simone from the story excerpt above.

Direct Characterization

long legs, tall body, dark hair

Indirect Characterization

eyes drooped, rested head

Description of Character



MY LEARNING GOALS

I can

- ☐ read and understand a traditional story.
- ☐ understand characterization.

The Measure of Rice

Once upon a time, a dishonest king had a man called the Valuer in his court, and it was this Valuer who set the prices that ought to be paid for horses, elephants, and other animals, as well as on jewelry and gold and other things of that kind.

This man was honest and just and set the proper price to be paid to the owners of the goods. But the man's honesty displeased the king. "It would be more beneficial to me to have a foolish sort of man as Valuer," the monarch thought, "as I would certainly gain more riches."

One day, the king saw a miserly peasant come into the palace yard. The king sent for the fellow and inquired if he would like to be the Valuer. As the peasant saw that such a role would only increase his own finances, he said that he would like the position. And so, the king sent the honest Valuer away from the palace.



Underline the reason the king was displeased with his first Valuer.



How would you describe a miserly person?

A miserly person is someone who _____.



Let's Read

The peasant began to set the prices on horses and elephants and on gold and jewels, but he did not know their value, so he would say anything he chose. Of course, as the king had made him Valuer, the people had to sell their goods for the price he set, and so the people were deprived of their rightful income.

Eventually, a horse dealer brought 500 horses to the court of the king. The Valuer came and dictated that they were worth a mere measure of rice. So the king ordered the horse dealer be given the measure of rice, and the horses were put in the palace stables.

Outraged, the horse dealer went to see the honest man who had been the Valuer, and told him what had happened.



Circle the value that the Valuer placed on 500 horses.



What do you consider valuable?

I consider _____ valuable because _____.



“What shall I do?” the horse dealer asked the former Valuer.

“I think you can give a present to the Valuer that will make him do and say anything you want,” said the man. “Go to him and give him a fine present, and then say: ‘You said the horses are worth a measure of rice, but now tell what a measure of rice is worth! Can you value that standing at your place by the king?’ If he says he can, go with him to the king, and I will also be there.”

The horse dealer thought this was a good idea, and so he took a fine present to the Valuer and said what the honest man told him to say.

The Valuer took the present and said, “Yes, I can go before the king with you and tell what a measure of rice is worth. I can value that now.”

“Well, let us go at once,” said the horse dealer. So they went before the king and his ministers in the palace. The horse dealer bowed before the monarch and said, “O King, I have learned that a measure of rice is the value of my 500 horses. But will the king be pleased to inquire of the Valuer as to the value of the measure of rice?”



Highlight what the honest man tells the horse dealer to do.



Who do you ask for advice, and why?

When I need advice, I ask _____ because _____.



Let's Read

The king, not knowing what had happened, asked, “Tell us, Valuer, what are 500 horses worth?”

“A measure of rice, O King!” said the Valuer.

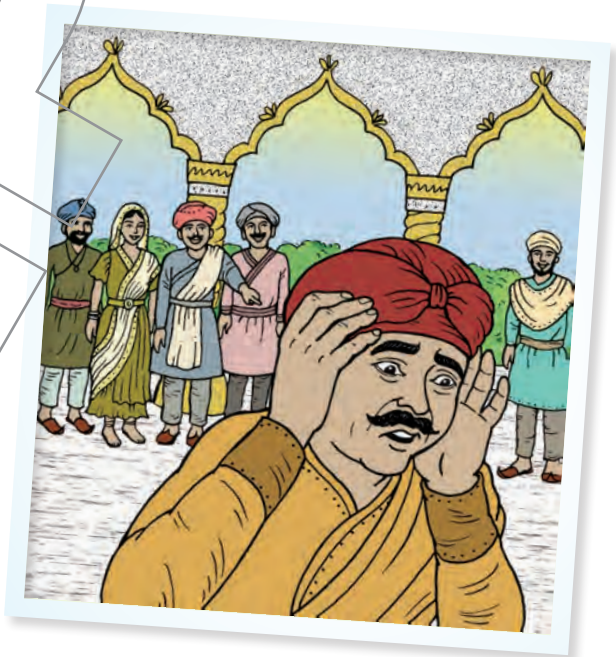
“Very good!” said the king. “If 500 horses are worth a measure of rice, what is the measure of rice worth?”

“The measure of rice is worth your whole city,” replied the foolish fellow.

The ministers clapped their hands and laughed, saying “What a foolish Valuer! How can such a man hold that office? We used to think this great city was beyond price, but this man says it is worth only a measure of rice.”

Humiliated, the king drove out the foolish fellow.

“I tried to please the king by setting a low price on the horses,” said the outcast as he ran away from the laughing crowd. “But I also tried to please the horse dealer by making his measure of rice worth an entire city, and now see what has happened to me! I suppose that if I had kept to what was fair, I might still have my position.”



Underline the value that the foolish Valuer placed on a measure of rice.



What is something that you think is “beyond price”?

I think _____ is beyond price because _____.



Show What You Know

Fill in this chart to tell about one of the characters in the story.

Character: _____

Direct Characterization

Indirect Characterization

Description of Character



Let's Read

What Did You Learn?

Think about what you learned from the passage. Then circle the letter of the correct answer.

1. What is the theme of this story?
 - A A city is beyond price.
 - B It pays to be fair.
 - C Always ask an honest man for advice.
 - D Be careful of people who try to cheat you.
2. Why is the king humiliated at the end of the story?
 - A It becomes clear that he hired a foolish Valuer.
 - B He didn't know what a measure of rice was worth.
 - C He hoped to keep the 500 horses.
 - D He wants the first Valuer to come back.
3. Why does the horse dealer give the Valuer a gift?
 - A so the horse dealer can see the king
 - B so the Valuer can pass the gift on to the king
 - C to thank the Valuer for the rice
 - D to bribe the Valuer
4. Which event happened first in the story?
 - A The honest Valuer loses his job.
 - B The horse dealer comes to the court.
 - C The king drives the dishonest Valuer out.
 - D The horse dealer visits the honest Valuer.



Listen and Discuss

MY LEARNING GOALS

I can

- ☐ listen to and understand a story.
- ☐ participate in a discussion.

Listen to a story from Thailand. While you listen the second time, take notes on the chart below.

Characters	Setting
Problem	Solution

SAVED

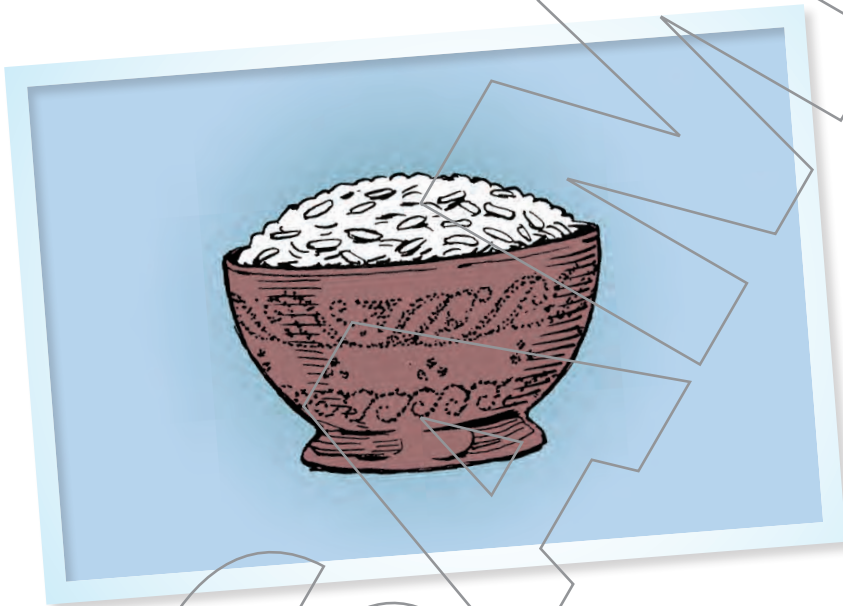


SPEAKING

Listen and Discuss



What is the moral
of this story?



Learning About Language

MY LEARNING GOALS

I can

- ☐ recognize adverbs.
- ☐ identify the words that adverbs modify.
- ☐ use adverbs in sentences.

Adverbs

Adverbs are words that describe or modify a verb, an adjective, or another adverb.

Verb The horse dealer angrily accepted the measure of rice.

The adverb *angrily* modifies the verb *accepted*.

Adjective Everyone knew that the Valuer was a very honest man.

The adverb *very* modifies the adjective *honest*.

Adverb The foolish Valuer replied too quickly.

The adverb *too* modifies the adverb *quickly*.

Read these sentences from the passage. Then underline the adverb in each sentence. One sentence has two adverbs.

1. Eventually, a horse dealer brought 500 horses to the court of the king.
2. “Very good!” said the king.
3. I can value that now.
4. I would certainly gain more riches.
5. If he says he can, go with him to the king, and I will also be there.



Learning About Language

Circle the adverbs in each sentence. Draw an arrow to the word that each one modifies.

1. The children's bad behavior was completely unacceptable.
2. Luka abruptly signed his almost illegible signature.
3. My neighbor often asks to briefly borrow my lawn mower.
4. Jen hesitantly sniffed the rather old milk.
5. Heidi eased very slowly into her seat in the back of the classroom.
6. Ang has been acting too secretly lately.

Rewrite each sentence by adding adverbs to modify the underlined words. You may use more than one adverb to modify a word.

1. A brown horse jumped over the fence.

2. The graceful dancers moved across the floor.

3. When the bell rang, we grabbed our heavy bags.



Write About It

MY LEARNING GOALS

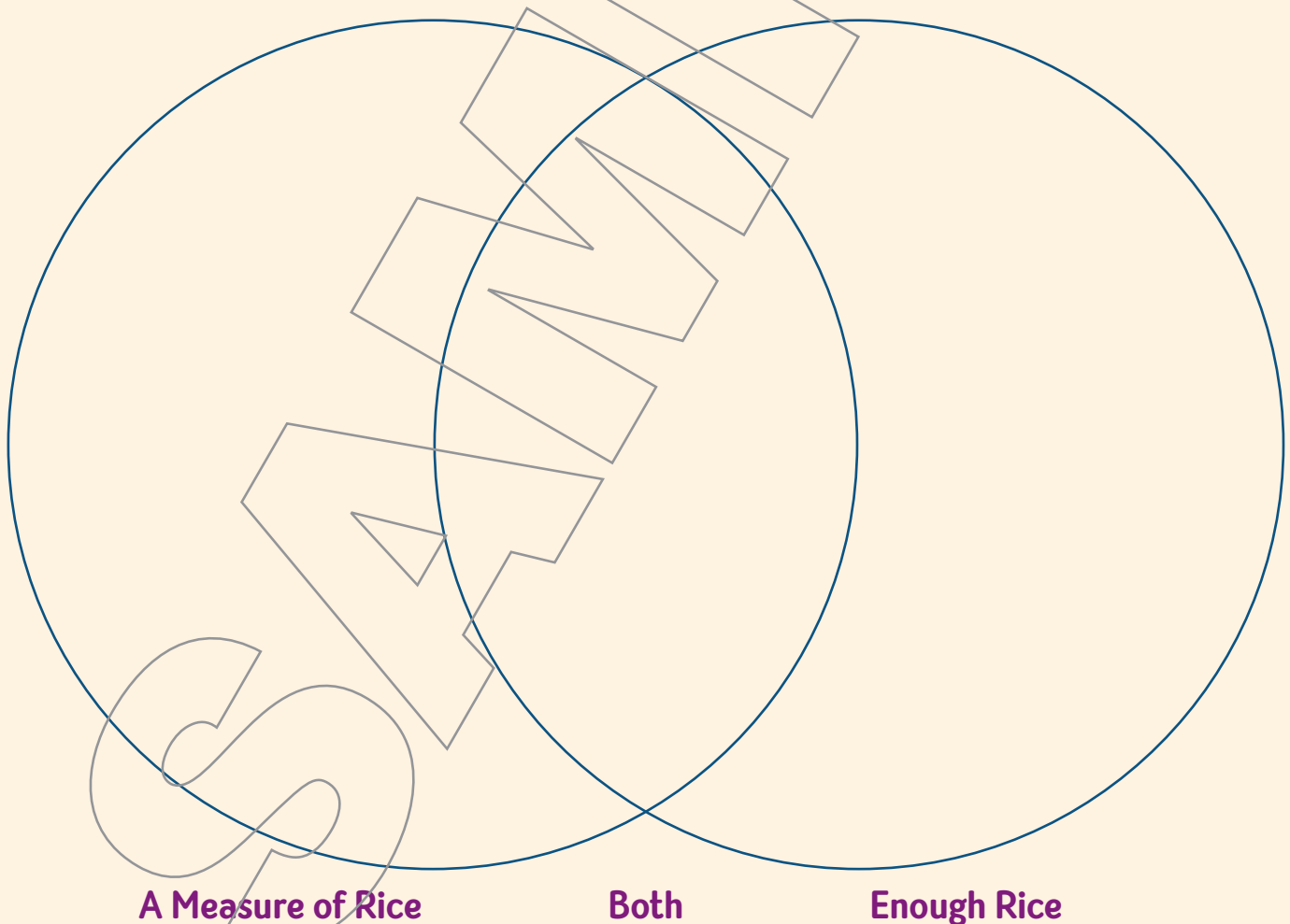
I can

- ☐ compare and contrast two stories.
- ☐ write and edit a paragraph.

When you write to compare and contrast, you tell what is the same and what is different about two things. To organize your writing, you may first tell all the similarities and then tell all the differences. You may choose to compare and contrast point by point. Think about the story you read and the story you heard in this lesson. Think about the cultures of the stories and the characterization of the characters. Write a paragraph to compare and contrast these two stories.

Plan My Writing

Fill in the Venn diagram to help you plan your paragraph.





Write About It

"A Measure of Rice" and "Enough Rice" are both _____

but they are also different. They have several similarities. First, _____

They also _____

Both stories tell _____

In "A Measure of Rice," _____

This story _____

The characters _____

In "Enough Rice," _____

This story _____

The characters _____

These stories _____