

Dolphin Readers 4 Level Four

OXFORD

The Tough Task



The Tough Task

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Age _____

Class _____

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Lee Ming is an old grandfather. He lives in China with his family.

He is at home with his grandchildren. He is telling a story. The story is about a tough task.

1 Check ☒ true or false.

	True	False
① They are at the park.	☐	☒
② Lee Ming is Chinese.	☐	☐
③ The grandchildren are listening to a story.	☐	☐
④ They live in China.	☐	☐
⑤ Lee Ming has two grandsons.	☐	☐

2 Complete.

- ① Lee Ming is an old man.
- ② He has _____ grandchildren.
- ③ He is telling a _____ .
- ④ His _____ are listening to the story.
- ⑤ The story is about a _____ .



Many years ago, there was a student.

He was not good at English. His grades were always bad, and his teacher was always angry with him.

Rewrite the sentences in the past tense.

- ① The boy is a student.

The boy was a student.



- ② He is nine years old.



- ③ The student is not happy.



- ④ The teacher is angry with the boy.



- ⑤ The student's grades are bad.



- ⑥ The students study English together.





The student was walking home. He was not very happy.

"Where are you going?" asked an old man.

"I am going home," said the boy.

"Why are you sad, my boy?"

"I am sad because my English is so bad."

What were they doing yesterday afternoon? Connect.

The boy was walking home.

1



The old man was sitting down at home.

2



The teacher was writing on the board.

3



The girls were doing their homework.

4



The girl was reading a book.

5



The boys were playing cards.

6





“My teacher is always angry with me because my English grades are usually very bad,” said the boy. “I don’t know how to improve my English.”

“I can help you, my boy,” said the old man.

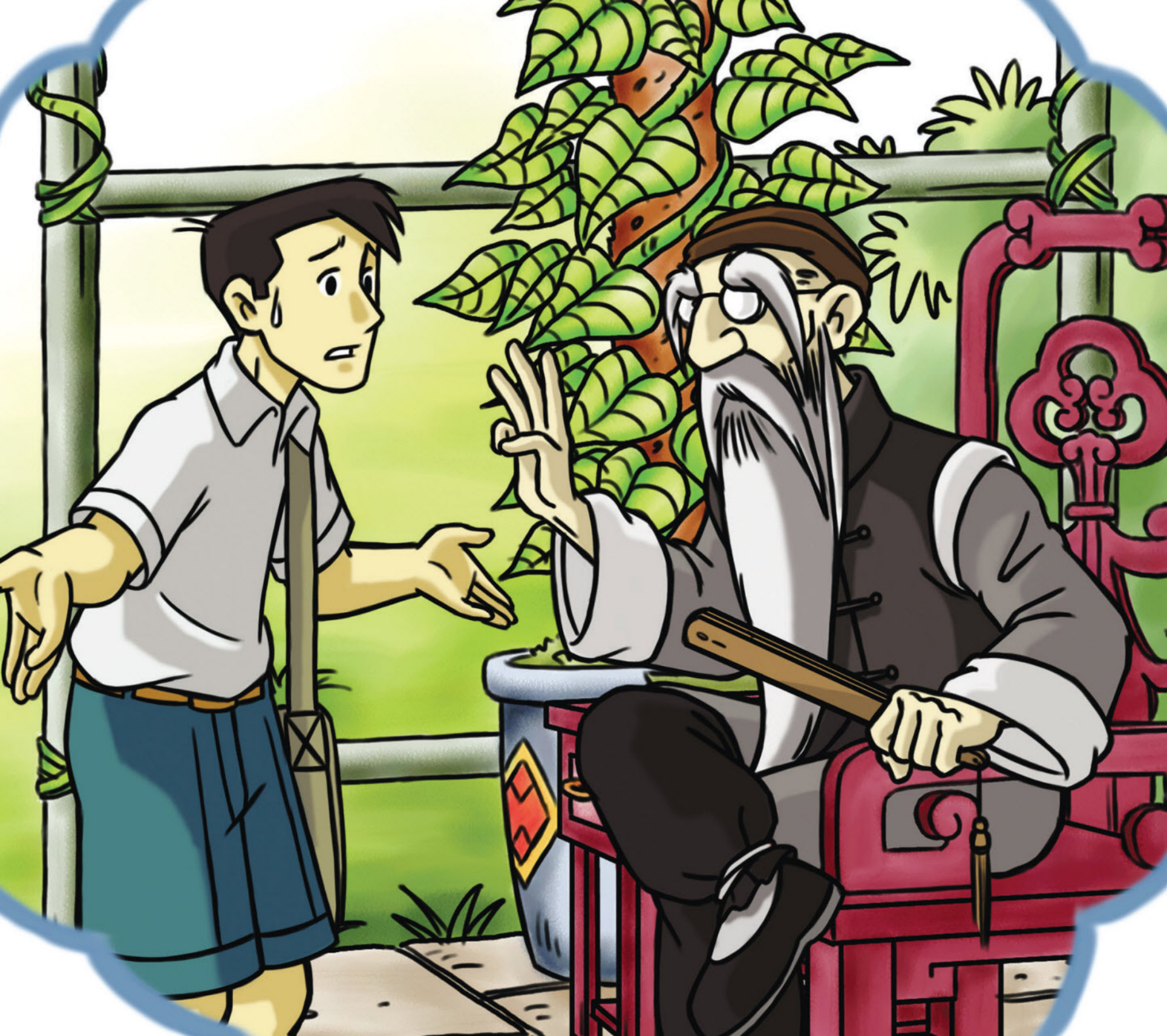
Complete. Use these words:

never sometimes usually always

- ① Lee Ming sometimes tells stories.
- ② The boy was _____ happy in his English class.
- ③ The teacher was _____ angry with the boy.
- ④ The boy's English grades were _____ very bad.

How about you?

- ⑤ My English grades are _____ very good.
- ⑥ I _____ help my mother.
- ⑦ I _____ ride a bicycle.
- ⑧ I _____ do my homework.
- ⑨ I am _____ sad.
- ⑩ I _____ speak English at school.



“What do I have to do?” asked the boy.

“You have to bring me three hairs from a tiger.”

“How can I do this? The tiger will kill me.”

“You have to find a way,” said the old man.

1 Connect.

- | | | |
|---|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| ① | Students • | • has to fight fires. |
| ② | Doctors • | • have to go to school. |
| ③ | A firefighter • | • has to drive a bus. |
| ④ | A teacher • | • have to help sick people. |
| ⑤ | We • | • have to do your homework. |
| ⑥ | A bus driver • | • has to grade students' tests. |
| ⑦ | You • | • have to keep our classroom clean. |

2 Complete these sentences about yourself.

- ① I have to _____.
- ② I don't have to _____.
- ③ I have to _____.
- ④ I don't have to _____.



“What did he do, Grandpa?”

“Where did he find a tiger, Grandpa?”

“Did the tiger kill him, Grandpa?”

“Did he kill the tiger, Grandpa?”

“All right, all right! I’m going to tell you.”

Rearrange the words.

① he what do did ?

What did he do?

② see he did who ?

③ he did find the tiger where ?

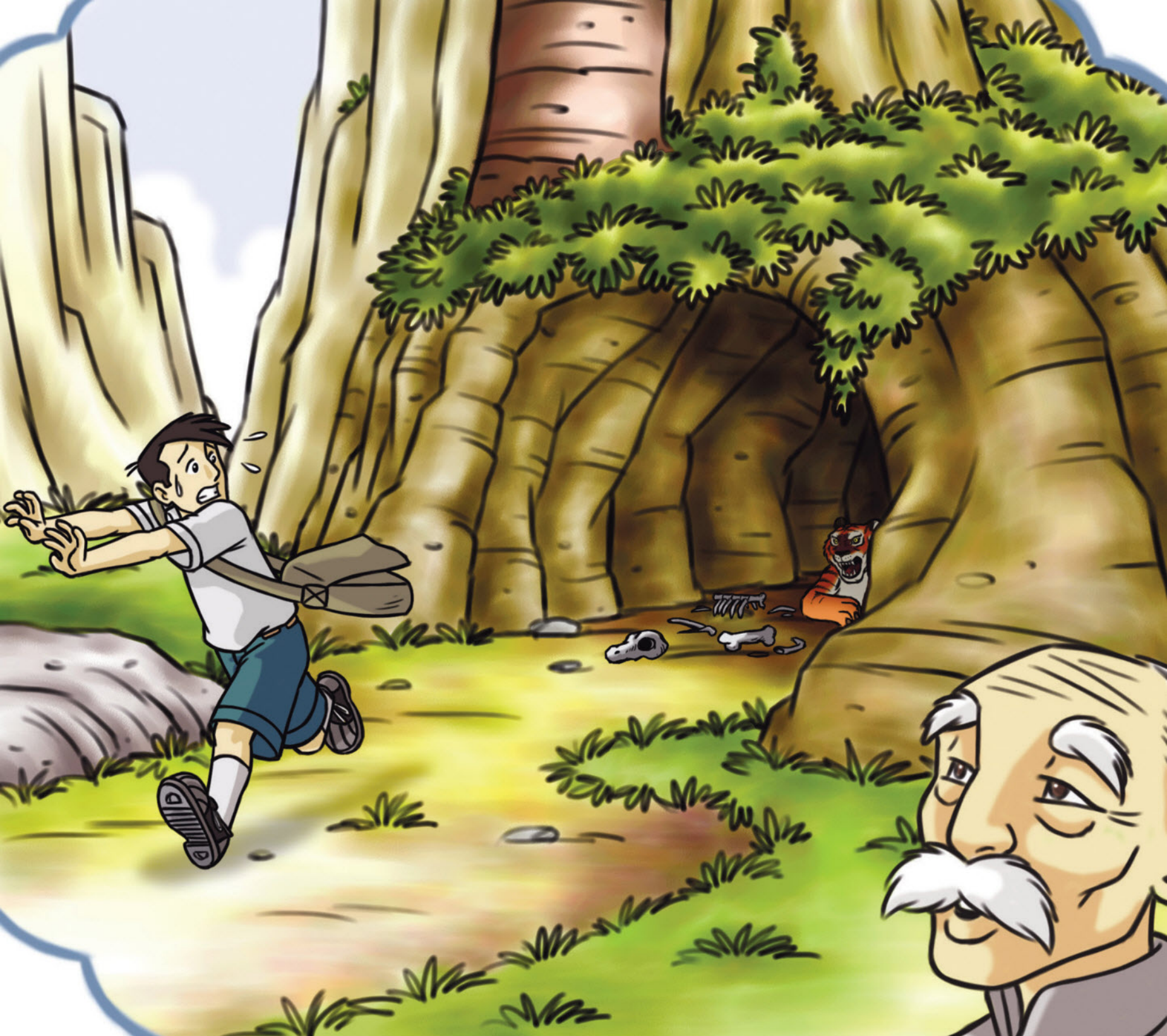
④ tiger find how did he the ?

⑤ go the boy did home ?

⑥ he find did tiger's the cave ?

⑦ him the tiger did kill?

⑧ tell I'm to going you .



The boy went up into the mountains.
He came to a tiger's cave. He looked
inside. The tiger was big and very hungry.
It roared loudly, so the boy ran away.

Put the sentences in order.
Number them 1 to 6.



- ☐ He looked inside the cave.
- ☐ He went into the mountains.
- ☐ The boy ran away.
- ☒ 1 The boy went to look for a tiger.
- ☐ He saw a big hungry tiger. It roared loudly.
- ☐ He saw a cave in the mountains.



That afternoon the boy came back with some food for the tiger. He put it outside the cave and walked away. The tiger roared and came out to eat the food.

1 Copy the text on page 16.

2 Check your work. Circle Yes or No.



- | | | |
|--|-----|----|
| ① Did you use three capital letters? | Yes | No |
| ② Did you use three periods at the end of the sentences? | Yes | No |
| ③ Did you leave spaces between the words? | Yes | No |
| ④ Did you check your spelling? | Yes | No |



The next day the tiger was hungry and thirsty, so the boy gave it food to eat and water to drink. This time the boy did not walk away.

1 Connect the present to the past.

is	walk	give	eat	drink
gave	was	ate	drank	walked



2 Circle the mistake and rewrite the sentence.

① The tiger was small.

The tiger was big.

② The tiger was not hungry.

③ The boy gave it food to drink.

④ The tiger ate the water.

⑤ The boy walked away.



The boy went to feed the tiger every day. The tiger ate the food and drank the water. It did not roar at the boy. It was not angry.

1 Answer the questions.

① Did the boy feed the tiger every day?

Yes, he did.

② What did the tiger eat?

③ What did the tiger drink?

④ Did the tiger roar at the boy?

⑤ Was the tiger angry?

2 Write the opposites to these words. Find them in the story.

down up

bad _____

easy _____

happy _____

never _____

young _____

small _____

inside _____



One day, the boy went to feed the tiger. The tiger was not happy because it was hurt. The boy saw a thorn in its foot. He helped the tiger and pulled the thorn out.

Circle the correct words.

- ① The old man

is
was

 telling the story.
- ② The children

are
is

 listening to the story.
- ③ The boy

looks
looked

 inside a tiger's cave.
- ④ The tiger

is
was

 hungry.
- ⑤ The boy

went
go

 to

fed
feed

 the tiger.
- ⑥ The tiger

were
was

 hurt and

unhappy
angry

.
- ⑦ The boy

looks
looked

 at the tiger's foot.
- ⑧ There

was
were

 a thorn

in
on

 its foot.
- ⑨ The boy

helped
was helping

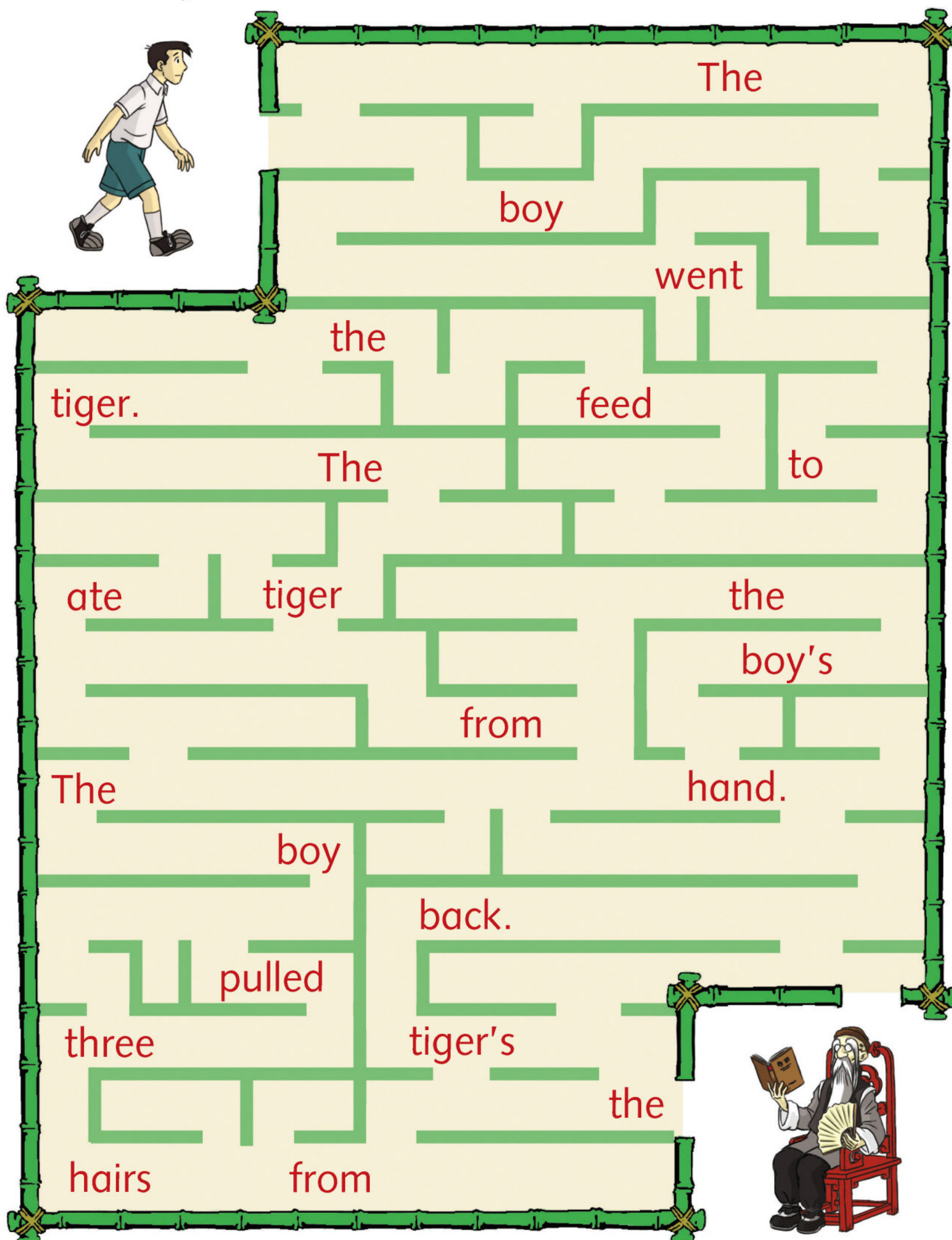
 the tiger.



The next day, the boy went to feed the tiger again. This time the tiger ate from the boy's hand.

As the tiger was eating, the boy pulled three hairs from its back.

Connect the words in the maze and tell the story.





The tiger was not angry. The boy said, "Thank you," and he ran home.

He showed the three hairs to the old man.

"What do I have to do with them, now?" asked the boy.

Rewrite the sentences in the past tense.

① The tiger is angry.

The tiger was angry.

② The boy is not afraid.

③ The boy gives the tiger food and water.

④ The tiger eats the food.

⑤ The tiger drinks the water.

⑥ There is a thorn in the tiger's foot.

⑦ The boy helps the tiger.

⑧ The boy runs home.



“How did you get those tiger hairs?”
asked the old man.

“I made friends with the tiger, little by
little, step by step,” said the boy.

“That is how you must learn English,
little by little, step by step.”

Answer the questions.

① Did the boy live in China?

Yes, he did.

② Was he a student?

③ Were his English grades good?

④ Was his teacher happy with him?

⑤ Was it easy to get the tiger's hairs?

⑥ Did the old man help the boy?

⑦ Did the boy need the hairs to learn English?



"Who was that little boy, Grandpa?"

"Did you know him, Grandpa?"

"Was he your friend, Grandpa?"

"I am that little boy. After that I was good at English, and I was a happy student."

Complete the report about this book.

Book Report

Title: _____

Author: _____

Illustrator: _____

Publisher: _____

Number of pages: _____

This story is about _____

New words I learned in this book

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

I think this story is...

- ☐ ★★★★★ interesting
- ☐ ★★★★ good
- ☐ ★★★ not bad
- ☐ ★★ OK
- ☐ ★ boring

Picture Dictionary

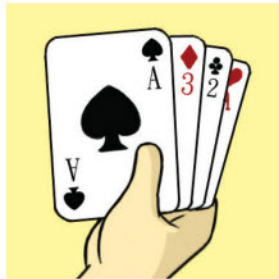
bus driver



feed



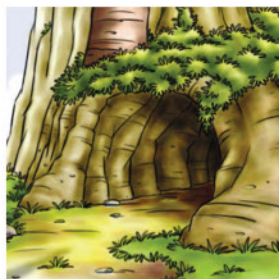
cards



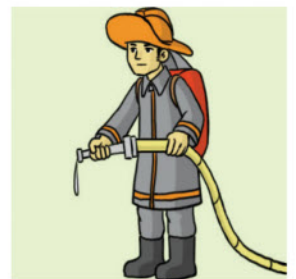
fire



cave



firefighter



doctor



food



hair



thorn



mountain



tiger



roar



water



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With thanks to Sally Spray for her contribution to this series

To my Dad, Ernest, and my Mom, Lynn