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Start with English Readers **Grade**

Nine stories about people

D H Howe





The purse

Two friends went for a walk. On the road they saw a purse. There was a lot of money in it.

One of the men picked it up. 'I have a purse full of money,' he said and put it in his pocket.

'Don't say "I", say "we",' said his friend. 'It is our purse, not yours.'

'No,' said his friend. 'I saw it first. It is my purse. I am going to keep it.'

Then a man ran up to them. 'That is my purse,' he said. 'I saw you. You are a thief. I am going to get a policeman.'

'Oh, dear!' said the first man to the second man. 'What shall we do?'

'Don't say "we", say "I",' said his friend. 'You picked up the purse, not I.'

Always help your friends.



The foolish wives

Long ago there was a man with two wives. One of them was young. She had long black hair. The other was old. Her hair was white. The man was not young and he was not old. Some of his hair was black and some of it was white.

They were all very happy but the young wife thought, 'My husband is older than I am. His hair is grey but my hair is black,' and the older wife thought, 'My husband is younger than I am. His hair is grey but my hair is white.'

They did not say anything but they decided to do something. Every day, after dinner, the man had a little sleep. First his old wife came to him and pulled out some black hairs.

'That is much better,' she said. 'I am making your hair white and beautiful.' Then

she went away. Then the young wife came. She pulled out some white hairs.

‘That is much better,’ she said. ‘I am making your hair black and beautiful.’



They did this for many weeks. One day the husband woke up. ‘My head is cold,’ he said. He touched his head. ‘I have no hair!’ he said. There was not one hair on his head!



We cannot please everyone.



The two friends

One day two friends walked along a road. There were some trees near the road. A big bear came out of the trees and ran at the two men. The first man did not think about his friend. He ran to a tree and climbed up it. He sat on a branch, high above the ground. The bear could not touch him there but he was afraid.



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