

alice was beginning to get very tired of **sitting**<sub>1</sub> **by**<sub>1</sub> her sister on the bank and of having nothing **to**<sub>2</sub> **do**<sub>2</sub> : once or twice she had peeped into the book her sister was reading , but it had no pictures or conversations in it , “ and what is the use of a book , ” thought alice , “ without pictures or conversations ? ’

so she was considering , in her own mind ( as well as she could , for the hot day made her feel very sleepy and stupid ) , whether the pleasure of making a daisy-chain would be worth the trouble of **getting**<sub>1</sub> **up**<sub>1</sub> and picking the daisies , when suddenly a white rabbit with pink eyes ran close by her .

there was nothing so very remarkable in that ; nor did alice think it **so**<sub>1</sub> **very**<sub>1</sub> much **out**<sub>2</sub> **of**<sub>2</sub> the way to hear the rabbit say to itself “ oh dear ! oh dear ! i shall be too late ! ” ( when she thought it over afterwards it **occurred**<sub>3</sub> **to**<sub>3</sub> her that she ought to have wondered at this , but at the time it all seemed quite natural ) ; but , when the rabbit actually took a **watch**<sub>4</sub> **out**<sub>4</sub> of its waistcoat-pocket , and **looked**<sub>5</sub> **at**<sub>5</sub> it , and then hurried on , alice started to her feet , <sup>14</sup> **for**<sub>6</sub> **it**<sub>6</sub> flashed across her mind that she had never before seen a rabbit with either a waistcoat-pocket , or a watch to **take**<sub>7,8</sub> **out**<sub>7,8</sub> **of**<sub>8</sub> it , and burning with curiosity , she ran across the field after it , and was **just**<sub>10,11,12</sub> **in**<sub>9,10,11,12</sub> **time**<sub>9,10,11,12</sub> **to**<sub>11,12</sub> **see**<sub>12</sub> it **pop**<sub>13</sub> **down**<sub>13</sub> a large rabbit-hole under the hedge .

in another moment down went alice after it , never once considering how **in**<sub>1</sub> **the**<sub>1</sub> **world**<sub>1</sub> she was to **get**<sub>2</sub> **out**<sub>2</sub> again .

the rabbit-hole **went**<sub>1</sub> **straight**<sub>1</sub> on like a tunnel for some way , and then dipped suddenly down , so suddenly that alice had not a moment to think about stopping herself before she found herself falling down what seemed to be a very deep well .

either the well was very deep , or she fell very slowly , for she had plenty of time as she **went**<sub>1</sub> **down**<sub>1</sub> to **look**<sub>2</sub> **about**<sub>2</sub> her , and to wonder what was **going**<sub>3</sub> **to**<sub>3</sub> happen next .

first , she tried to **look**<sub>1</sub> **down**<sub>1</sub> and **make**<sub>2</sub> **out**<sub>2</sub> what she was coming to , but it was too dark to see anything : then she **looked**<sub>3</sub> **at**<sub>3</sub> the sides of the well , and noticed that they were filled with cupboards and book-shelves : **here**<sub>4</sub> **and**<sub>4</sub> **there**<sub>4</sub> she saw maps and pictures hung upon pegs .

she **took**<sub>1</sub> **down**<sub>1</sub> ajar from one of the shelves as she passed : it was labeled “ orange marmalade ” but to her great disappointment it was empty : she did not like to drop the jar , for fear of killing somebody underneath , so managed to put it into one of the cupboards as she fell past it .

“ <sub>3</sub> well ! ” thought alice to herself “ after **such**<sub>1</sub> **a**<sub>1</sub> fall as this , i shall think nothing of tumbling down-stairs ! how brave they ’ll all think me **at**<sub>2</sub>

**home** <sub>2</sub> ! why , i would n't say anything about it , even if i fell off the top of the house ! ” ( which was very likely true . )

down , <sub>1</sub> down , <sub>1</sub> down . <sub>1</sub>

would the fall never come to an end ? “ i wonder how many miles i 've fallen by this time ? ” she said aloud .

“ i must be getting somewhere near the centre of the earth .

let me see : that would be four thousand miles down , i think- ” ( for , you see , alice had learnt several things of this sort in her lessons in the school-room , and though this was not a very good opportunity for showing off her knowledge , as there was no one to listen to her , still it was good practice to say it over ) “ – yes that 's about the right distance – but then i wonder what latitude or longitude i 've got to ? ” ( alice had not the slightest idea what latitude was , or longitude either , but she thought they were nice grand words to say . )

presently she began again .

“ i wonder if i shall fall fight through the earth ! how funny it 'll seem to **come** <sub>1</sub> **out** <sub>1</sub> among the people that walk with their heads downwards ! the antipathies , i think- ” ( she was rather glad there was no one listening , this time , as it did n't sound **at** <sub>2</sub> **all** <sub>2</sub> the right word ) “ -but i shall **have** <sub>3</sub> **to** <sub>3</sub> ask them what the name of the country is , you know .

please , ma'am , is this new zealand ? or australia ? ” ( and she tried to curtsey as she spoke- fancy , curtseying as you 're **falling** <sub>1</sub> **through** <sub>1</sub> the air ! do you think you could manage it ? ) “ and what an ignorant little girl she 'll think me for asking ! no , it 'll never do to ask : perhaps i shall see it **written** <sub>2</sub> **up** <sub>2</sub> somewhere . ”

down , <sub>1</sub> down , <sub>1</sub> down . <sub>1</sub>

there was nothing else **to** <sub>1</sub> **do** <sub>1</sub> , so alice soon began talking again .

“ dinah 'll miss me very much to-night , i should think ! ” ( dinah was the cat . )

“ i hope they 'll remember her saucer of milk at tea-time .

dinah , my dear ! i wish you were down here with me ! there are no mice in the air , i 'm afraid , but you might catch a bat , and that 's very like a mouse , you know .

but do cats eat bats , i wonder ? ” and here alice began to get rather sleepy , and **went** <sub>1</sub> **on** <sub>1</sub> saying to herself , in a dreamy son of way , “ do cats eat bats

? do cats eat bats ? ” and sometimes “ do bats eat cats ? ” for , you see , as she could n’t answer either question , it did n’t much matter which way she put it .

she felt that she was dozing off , and had just begun to dream that she was walking hand **in**<sub>1</sub> **hand**<sub>1</sub> with dinah , and was saying to her , very earnestly , “ now , dinah , tell me the truth : did you ever eat a bat ? ” when suddenly , thump ! thump ! <sub>3</sub> down she **came**<sub>2</sub> **upon**<sub>2</sub> a heap of sticks and dry leaves , and the fall was over .

alice was not a bit hurt , and she **jumped**<sub>1</sub> **up**<sub>1</sub> on to her feet in a moment : she looked up , but it was all dark overhead : before her was another long passage , and the white rabbit was still **in**<sub>2</sub> **sight**<sub>2</sub> , **hurrying**<sub>3</sub> **down**<sub>3</sub> it .

there was not a moment to be lost : <sub>1</sub> **away**<sub>1</sub> went alice like the wind , and was **just**<sub>3</sub> **in**<sub>2,3</sub> **time**<sub>2,3</sub> to hear it say , as it turned a comer , “ oh my ears and whiskers , how late it ’s getting ! ” she was close behind it when she turned the comer , but the rabbit was no longer to be seen : she found herself in a long , low hall , which was **lit**<sub>4</sub> **up**<sub>4</sub> by a row of lamps hanging from the roof .

there were doors all round the hall , but they were all locked ; and when alice had been **all**<sub>1</sub> **the**<sub>1</sub> way down one side and up the other , trying every door , she walked sadly down the middle , wondering how she was ever to **get**<sub>2</sub> **out**<sub>2</sub> again .

suddenly she came upon a little three-legged table , all **made**<sub>1</sub> **of**<sub>1</sub> solid glass : there was nothing on it but a tiny golden key , and alice ’s first idea was that this might belong to one of the doors of the hall ; but , alas ! either the locks were too large , or the key was too small , but at any rate it would not open any of them .

however , on the second time round , she **came**<sub>1</sub> **upon**<sub>1</sub> a low curtain she had not noticed before , and behind it was a little door about fifteen inches high : she tried the little golden key in the lock , and to her great delight it fitted !

alice opened the door and found that it **led**<sub>1</sub> **into**<sub>1</sub> a small passage , **not**<sub>2</sub> **much**<sub>2</sub> larger than a rat-hole : she knelt down and looked along the passage into the loveliest garden you ever saw .

how she longed to **get**<sub>1</sub> **out**<sub>1</sub> of that dark hall , and wander about among those beds of bright flowers and those cool fountains , but she could not even get her head through the doorway ; “ and even if my head would **go**<sub>2</sub> **through**<sub>2</sub> , ” thought poor alice , “ it would be of very little use without my shoulders .

oh , how i wish i could **shut**<sub>1</sub> **up**<sub>1</sub> like a telescope ! i think i could , if i only knew how to begin . ”

for , you see , so many out-of-the- way things had happened lately , that alice had begun to think that very few things indeed were really impossible .

there seemed to be **no**<sub>1</sub> **use**<sub>1</sub> in **waiting**<sub>2</sub> **by**<sub>2</sub> the little door , so she **went**<sub>3,4</sub> **back**<sub>3,4</sub> **to**<sub>4</sub> the table , half hoping she might find another key on it , or at any rate a book of rules for shutting people up like telescopes : this time she found a little bottle on it , ( “ which certainly was not here before , ” said alice ) , and tied round the neck of the bottle was a paper label , with the words “ drink me ” beautifully **printed**<sub>5</sub> **on**<sub>5</sub> it in large letters .

it was all **very**<sub>1</sub> **well**<sub>1</sub> to say “ drink me , ” but the wise little alice was not **going**<sub>2</sub> **to**<sub>2</sub> do that **in**<sub>3</sub> **a**<sub>3</sub> **hurry**<sub>3</sub> .

“ no , i 'll look first , ” she said , “ and see whether it 's marked 'poison ' or not ” ; for she had read several nice little stories about children who had got burnt , and **eaten**<sub>1</sub> **up**<sub>1</sub> by wild beasts , and other unpleasant things , all because they would not remember the simple rules their friends had taught them : such as , that a red-hot poker will burn you if you hold it too long ; and that , if you cut your finger very deeply with a knife , it usually bleeds ; and she had never forgotten that , if you drink much from a bottle marked “ poison , ” it is almost certain to disagree with you , sooner or later .

however , this bottle was not marked “ poison , ” so alice ventured to taste it , and , finding it very nice ( it had , in fact , a sort of mixed flavour of cherry-tart , custard , pine-apple , roast turkey , toffy , and hot buttered toast ) , she very soon finished it off .

“ what a curious feeling ! ” said alice .

“ i must be shutting up like a telescope ! ”

“ what a curious feeling ! ” said alice .

“ i must be shutting up like a telescope ! ”

and so it was indeed : she was now only ten inches high , and her face brightened up at the thought that she was now the right size for **going**<sub>1</sub> **through**<sub>1</sub> the little door into that lovely garden .

first , however , she **waited**<sub>1</sub> **for**<sub>1</sub> a few minutes to see if she was **going**<sub>2</sub> **to**<sub>2</sub> shrink any further : she felt a little nervous about this ; “ **for**<sub>3</sub> **it**<sub>3</sub> might end , **you**<sub>4</sub> **know**<sub>4</sub> , ” said alice to herself ; “ in my **going**<sub>5</sub> **out**<sub>5</sub> altogether , like a candle .

i wonder what i should be like then ? ” and she tried to fancy what the flame of a candle looks like after the candle is **blown**<sub>1</sub> **out**<sub>1</sub> , for she could

not remember ever having seen **such** <sub>2</sub> **a** <sub>2</sub> thing .

after a while , finding that nothing more happened , she decided on **going** <sub>1</sub> **into** <sub>1</sub> the garden at once ; but , alas for poor alice ! when she **got** <sub>2</sub> **to** <sub>2</sub> the door , she found she had forgotten the little golden key , and when she **went** <sub>3,4</sub> **back** <sub>3,4</sub> **to** <sub>4</sub> the table for it , she found she could not possibly reach it : she could see it quite plainly through the glass , and she tried her best to **climb** <sub>5</sub> **up** <sub>5</sub> one of the legs of the table , but it was too slippery ; and when she had tired herself out with trying , the poor little thing **sat** <sub>6</sub> **down** <sub>6</sub> and cried .

“ come , there ’s **no** <sub>1</sub> **use** <sub>1</sub> in crying like that ! ” said alice to herself rather sharply .

“ i advise you to **leave** <sub>1</sub> **off** <sub>1</sub> this minute ! ” she generally gave herself very good advice ( though she very seldom followed it ) , and sometimes she scolded herself so severely as to bring tears into her eyes ; and once she remembered trying to box her own ears for having cheated herself in a game of croquet she was **playing** <sub>2</sub> **against** <sub>2</sub> herself , for this curious child was very **fond** <sub>3</sub> **of** <sub>3</sub> pretending to be two people .

“ <sub>5</sub> but it ’s **no** <sub>1</sub> **use** <sub>1</sub> now , ” thought poor alice , “ <sub>2</sub> **to** <sub>2</sub> **pretend** <sub>3</sub> **to** <sub>3</sub> be two people ! why , there ’s hardly enough of me **left** <sub>4</sub> **to** <sub>4</sub> make one respectable person ! ”

soon her eye fell on a little glass box that was lying under the table : she opened it , and found in it a very small cake , on which the words “ eat me ” were beautifully marked in currants .

“ <sub>2</sub> well , i ’ll eat it , ” said alice , “ and if it makes me grow larger , i can reach the key ; and if it makes me grow smaller , i can creep under the door : so either way i ’ll **get** <sub>1</sub> **into** <sub>1</sub> the garden , and i do n’t care which happens ! ”

she ate a little bit , and said anxiously to herself “ which way ? which way ? ” , holding her hand on the top of her head to feel which way it was growing ; and she was quite surprised to find that she remained the same size .

to **be** <sub>1</sub> **sure** <sub>1</sub> , this is what generally happens when one eats cake ; but alice had got **so** <sub>2</sub> **much** <sub>2</sub> into the way of expecting nothing but out-of-the-way things to happen , that it seemed quite dull and stupid **for** <sub>3</sub> **life** <sub>3</sub> to **go** <sub>4</sub> **on** <sub>4</sub> in the common way .

so she set to work , and very soon finished off the cake .