



**LANGUAGE**  
English



## Goals

- Can read and understand excerpts from two classic children's tales.
- Can successfully make comparisons between the stories and express my own views fluently as part of a discussion on tone and feeling in literature.





**The Wonderful Wizard of Oz** and  
**Alice's Adventures in Wonderland**  
are classic tales known to children all  
over the English-speaking world and  
beyond. Read on to discover what has  
made these magical stories **endure**.



## Children's tales

**Do you know any famous fairy tales? Are there any children's stories from your country or region?**





## What about you?

What stories did you love to read most in your childhood?

How has your taste in literature developed?





## Children's tales

Do you know the stories of *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* or *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*? If you don't know, can you imagine what they will be about based on the pictures below?





## The Wonderful Wizard of Oz by L. Frank Baum



Dorothy lived in the midst of the great Kansas prairies, with Uncle Henry, who was a farmer, and Aunt Em, who was the farmer's wife. Their house was small, for the lumber to build it had to be carried by wagon many miles. There were four walls, a floor and a roof, which made one room; and this room contained a rusty looking cookstove, a cupboard for the dishes, a table, three or four chairs, and the beds. Uncle Henry and Aunt Em had a big bed in one corner, and Dorothy a little bed in another corner.



## The Wonderful Wizard of Oz by L. Frank Baum

Not a tree nor a house broke the broad sweep of flat country that reached to the edge of the sky in all directions. The sun had baked the plowed land into a gray mass, with little cracks running through it. Even the grass was not green, for the sun had burned the tops of the long blades until they were the same gray color to be seen everywhere. Once the house had been painted, but the sun blistered the paint and the rains washed it away, and now the house was as dull and gray as everything else.

When Aunt Em came there to live she was a young, pretty wife. The sun and wind had changed her, too. They had taken the sparkle from her eyes and left them a sober gray; they had taken the red from her cheeks and lips, and they were gray also. She was thin and gaunt, and never smiled now. When Dorothy, who was an orphan, first came to her, Aunt Em had been so startled by the child's laughter that she would scream and press her hand upon her heart whenever Dorothy's merry voice reached her ears; and she still looked at the little girl with wonder that she could find anything to laugh at.





## The Wonderful Wizard of Oz by L. Frank Baum

There was no garret at all, and no cellar—except a small hole dug in the ground, called a cyclone cellar, where the family could go in case one of those great whirlwinds arose, mighty enough to crush any building in its path. It was reached by a trap door in the middle of the floor, from which a ladder led down into the small, dark hole.

When Dorothy stood in the doorway and looked around, she could see nothing but the great gray prairie on every side.

Uncle Henry never laughed. He worked hard from morning till night and did not know what joy was. He was gray also, from his long beard to his rough boots, and he looked stern and solemn, and rarely spoke.



## The Wonderful Wizard of Oz by L. Frank Baum

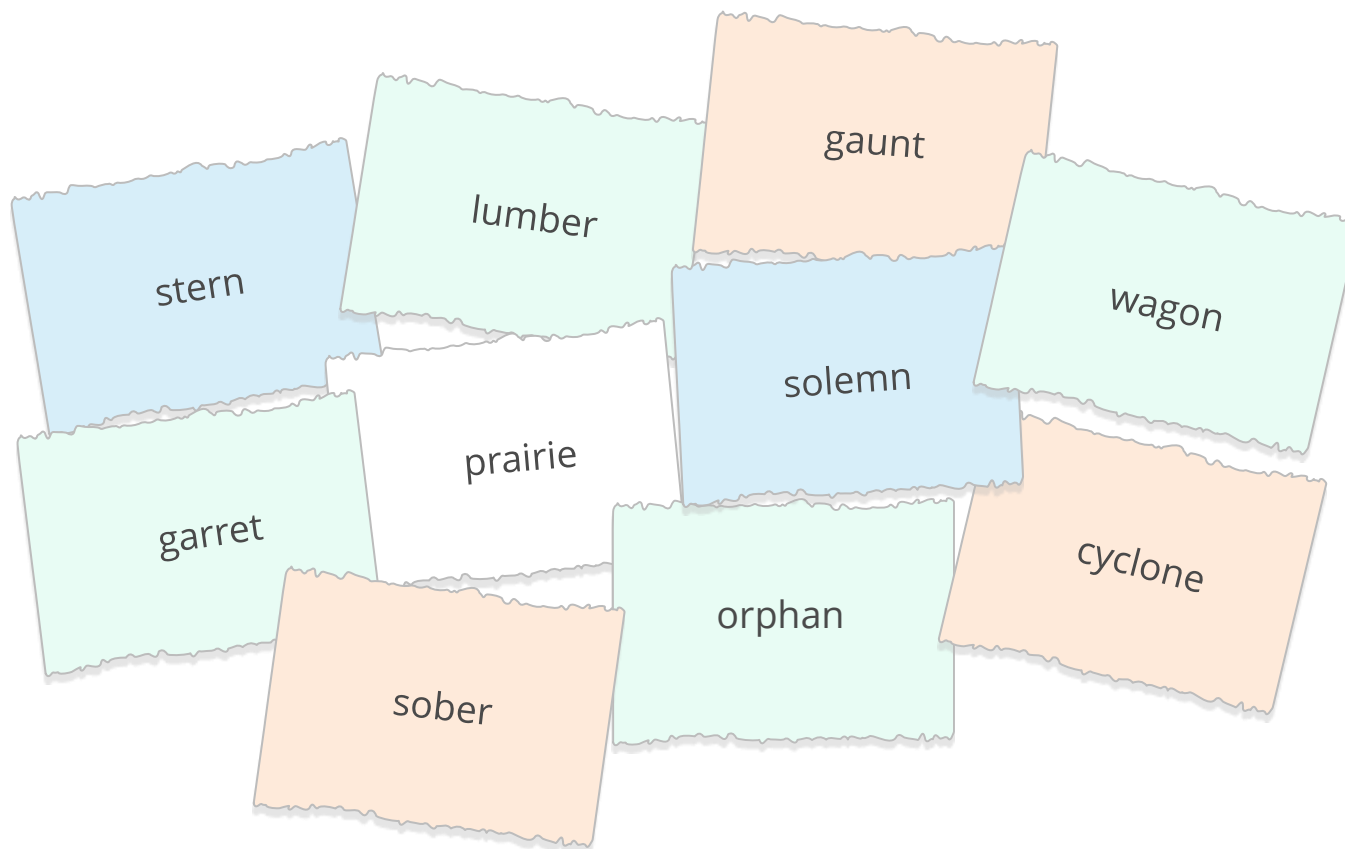


It was Toto that made Dorothy laugh, and saved her from growing as gray as her other surroundings. Toto was not gray; he was a little black dog, with long silky hair and small black eyes that twinkled merrily on either side of his funny, wee nose. Toto played all day long, and Dorothy played with him, and loved him dearly.

Today, however, they were not playing. Uncle Henry sat upon the doorstep and looked anxiously at the sky, which was even grayer than usual. Dorothy stood in the door with Toto in her arms, and looked at the sky too. Aunt Em was washing the dishes.



Do you know what these words mean? What impression do the descriptions give you of Dorothy's life?





## Complete the sentences

Complete the sentences using words from the previous page.

1. Kansas is described as a land of gray \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Dorothy was an \_\_\_\_\_ when she went to live with Uncle Henry and Aunt Em.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ had to travel very far on \_\_\_\_\_ to reach the place where the house was built.
4. Uncle Henry is described as...
5. While Aunt Em is described as...





## Over to you

**Answer these questions with your teacher.**



1

There are many popular stories about orphans. Can you remember any? Why do you think this is a popular theme?



## Over to you

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There are many popular stories about orphans. Can you remember any? Why do you think this is a popular theme?



2

How do you think living in a place like the one described would affect your personality?



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How do you think living in a place like the one described would affect your personality?



3

Sober, solemn, and stern are negative adjectives in the piece. Under which circumstances do you think these adjectives could be positive?



## The Wonderful Wizard of Oz by L. Frank Baum

From the far north they heard a low wail of the wind, and Uncle Henry and Dorothy could see where the long grass bowed in waves before the coming storm. There now came a sharp whistling in the air from the south, and as they turned their eyes that way they saw ripples in the grass coming from that direction also.

Suddenly Uncle Henry stood up.

"There's a cyclone coming, Em," he called to his wife. "I'll go look after the stock." Then he ran toward the sheds where the cows and horses were kept.

Aunt Em dropped her work and came to the door. One glance told her of the danger close at hand.

"Quick, Dorothy!" she screamed. "Run for the cellar!"





## The Wonderful Wizard of Oz by L. Frank Baum

Toto jumped out of Dorothy's arms and hid under the bed, and the girl started to get him. Aunt Em, badly frightened, threw open the trap door in the floor and climbed down the ladder into the small, dark hole. Dorothy caught Toto at last and started to follow her aunt. When she was halfway across the room there came a great shriek from the wind, and the house shook so hard that she lost her footing and sat down suddenly upon the floor.

Then a strange thing happened.

The house whirled around two or three times and rose slowly through the air. Dorothy felt as if she were going up in a balloon.

The north and south winds met where the house stood, and made it the exact center of the cyclone. In the middle of a cyclone the air is generally still, but the great pressure of the wind on every side of the house raised it up higher and higher, until it was at the very top of the cyclone; and there it remained and was carried miles and miles away as easily as you could carry a feather.



## The Wonderful Wizard of Oz by L. Frank Baum



It was very dark, and the wind howled horribly around her, but Dorothy found she was riding quite easily. After the first few whirls around, and one other time when the house tipped badly, she felt as if she were being rocked gently, like a baby in a cradle.

Toto did not like it. He ran about the room, now here, now there, barking loudly; but Dorothy sat quite still on the floor and waited to see what would happen.



## The Wonderful Wizard of Oz by L. Frank Baum

Once Toto got too near the open trap door, and fell in; and at first the little girl thought she had lost him. But soon she saw one of his ears sticking up through the hole, for the strong pressure of the air was keeping him up so that he could not fall. She crept to the hole, caught Toto by the ear, and dragged him into the room again, afterward closing the trap door so that no more accidents could happen.

Hour after hour passed away, and slowly Dorothy got over her fright; but she felt quite lonely, and the wind shrieked so loudly all about her that she nearly became deaf. At first she had wondered if she would be dashed to pieces when the house fell again; but as the hours passed and nothing terrible happened, she stopped worrying and resolved to wait calmly and see what the future would bring. At last she crawled over the swaying floor to her bed, and lay down upon it; and Toto followed and lay down beside her.

In spite of the swaying of the house and the wailing of the wind, Dorothy soon closed her eyes and fell fast asleep.



## Vocabulary

**Which of these words are for noises and which are actions?  
Make the noise or act it out for your teacher.**



wail

bow

shriek

howl

whirl

crawl



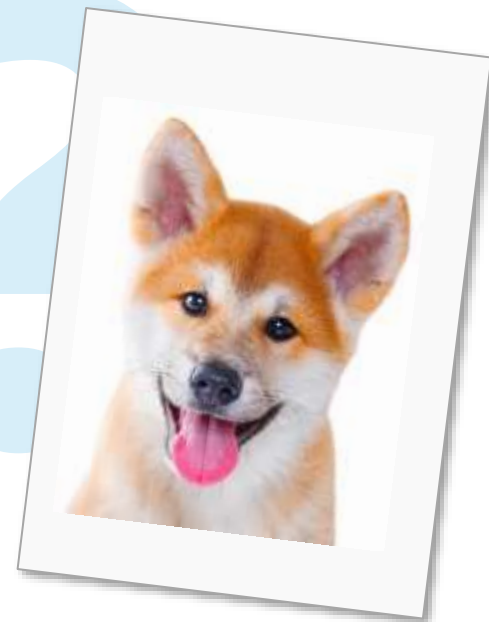
## True or false?

	TRUE	FALSE
1. The cyclone appeared to be coming from the south.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Toto jumped into the cellar before Dorothy.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Dorothy was knocked over as the house shook.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Dorothy made it to the cellar to join her aunt.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. As the house was in the air, the ride was very rough.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. As the hours passed, the worst thing was the noise of the wind.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



## About you

**How would you feel if you were Dorothy? Who or what would you choose to travel with you on such an adventure?**





## Alice's Adventures in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll

Alice was beginning to get very tired of sitting by her sister on the bank, and of having nothing to do: once or twice she had peeped into the book her sister was reading, but it had no pictures or conversations in it, and where 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 up and picking the daisies, when suddenly a white rabbit with pink eyes ran close by her.



## Alice's Adventures in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll

There was nothing so very remarkable in that; nor did Alice think it so very much out of the way to hear the rabbit say to itself, "dear, dear! I shall be too late!" (when she thought it over afterwards, it occurred to 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 out of its waistcoat-pocket, and looked at it, and then hurried on, Alice started to her feet, for it flashed across her mind that she had never before seen a rabbit with either a waistcoat-pocket or a watch to take out of it, and, full of curiosity, she ran across the field after it, and was just in time to see it pop down a large rabbit-hole under the hedge. In another moment down went Alice after it, never once considering how in the world she was to get out again.

The rabbit-hole went straight 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 a deep well.





## Alice's Adventures in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll



Either the well was very deep, or she fell very slowly, for she had plenty of time as she went down to look about her, and to wonder what would happen next. First, she tried to look down and make out what she was coming to, but it was too dark to see anything: then, she looked at the sides of the well, and noticed that they were filled with cupboards and book-shelves; here and there were maps and pictures hung on pegs. She took a jar down off one of the shelves as she passed: it was labelled "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.



## Alice's Adventures in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll

"Well!" thought Alice to herself, "after such a fall as this, I shall think nothing of tumbling down stairs! How brave they'll all think me at home! Why, I wouldn't say anything about it, even if I fell off the top of the house!" (which was most likely true.)

Down, down, down. Would the fall never come to an end? "I wonder how many miles I've fallen by this time?" said she 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 schoolroom, and though this was not a very good opportunity of showing off her knowledge, as there was no one to hear her, still it was good practice to say it over,) "yes, that's the right distance, but then I wonder what Longitude or Latitude-line shall I be in?" (Alice had no idea what Longitude was, or Latitude either, but she thought they were nice grand words to say.)



## Alice's Adventures in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll



Presently she began again: "I wonder if I shall fall right through the earth! How funny it'll be to come out among the people that walk with their heads downwards! But I shall have to ask them what the name of the country is, you know. Please, Ma'am, is this New Zealand or Australia?"—and she tried to curtsy as she spoke, (fancy curtseying as you're falling through 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 up somewhere."



## Fill in the gaps

Fill in the gaps with the words from the text.

1. A \_\_\_\_\_ is at the side of a river.
2. Men often wear a \_\_\_\_\_ with a suit.
3. When meeting a king or queen, women should \_\_\_\_\_.
4. A large hole in the ground where we can take water is a \_\_\_\_\_.
5. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a small white and yellow flower.
6. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a natural fence running along a field.

hedge

well

bank

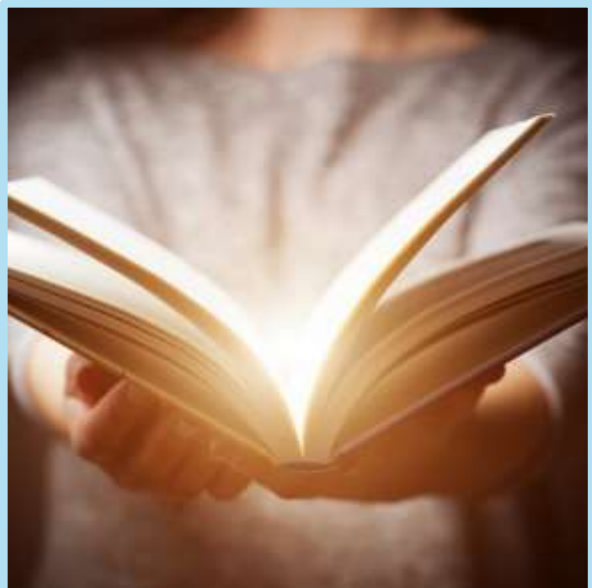
waistcoat

daisy

curtsey



## Alice's voice



Alice is a very imaginative character. Read back over the passages where she talks to herself. What kind of tone does Alice's speculations and imagination give to the story?



## In their shoes

**Look at the picture and reflect on what it represents. Imagine falling for a very long time, just as Alice does down the curious well. What different things would cross your mind? Would you be afraid? Would you have time to observe the different things around you? Think about these questions in relation to the picture below.**







## Thinking about character

**Think back to the character of Dorothy and the character of Alice. You will compare and contrast them in the questions below.**



1

Dorothy and Alice are both young girls of a similar age. What else do they have in common – if anything?

2

What is different about their situations?

3

How do you think the stories might be different if the main characters were boys instead of girls?





## Compare the stories

**What is the difference in atmosphere and feeling between Alice's story and Dorothy's?**



Dorothy's story



Alice's story





## Styles of writing

One of the stories was written by a British author and one was written by an American author. Can you guess which is which? What differences are there in the styles of writing? Do you think these differences have anything to do with the author's nationality or cultural background?



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Which do you prefer?

Which of the stories would you rather continue reading? Why?





## Reflect on the lesson

Take a moment to review any new **vocabulary, phrases, language structures** or **grammar points** you have come across for the first time in this lesson.

Review them with your teacher one more time to make sure you don't forget!





## Answer key

### Exercise p. 12

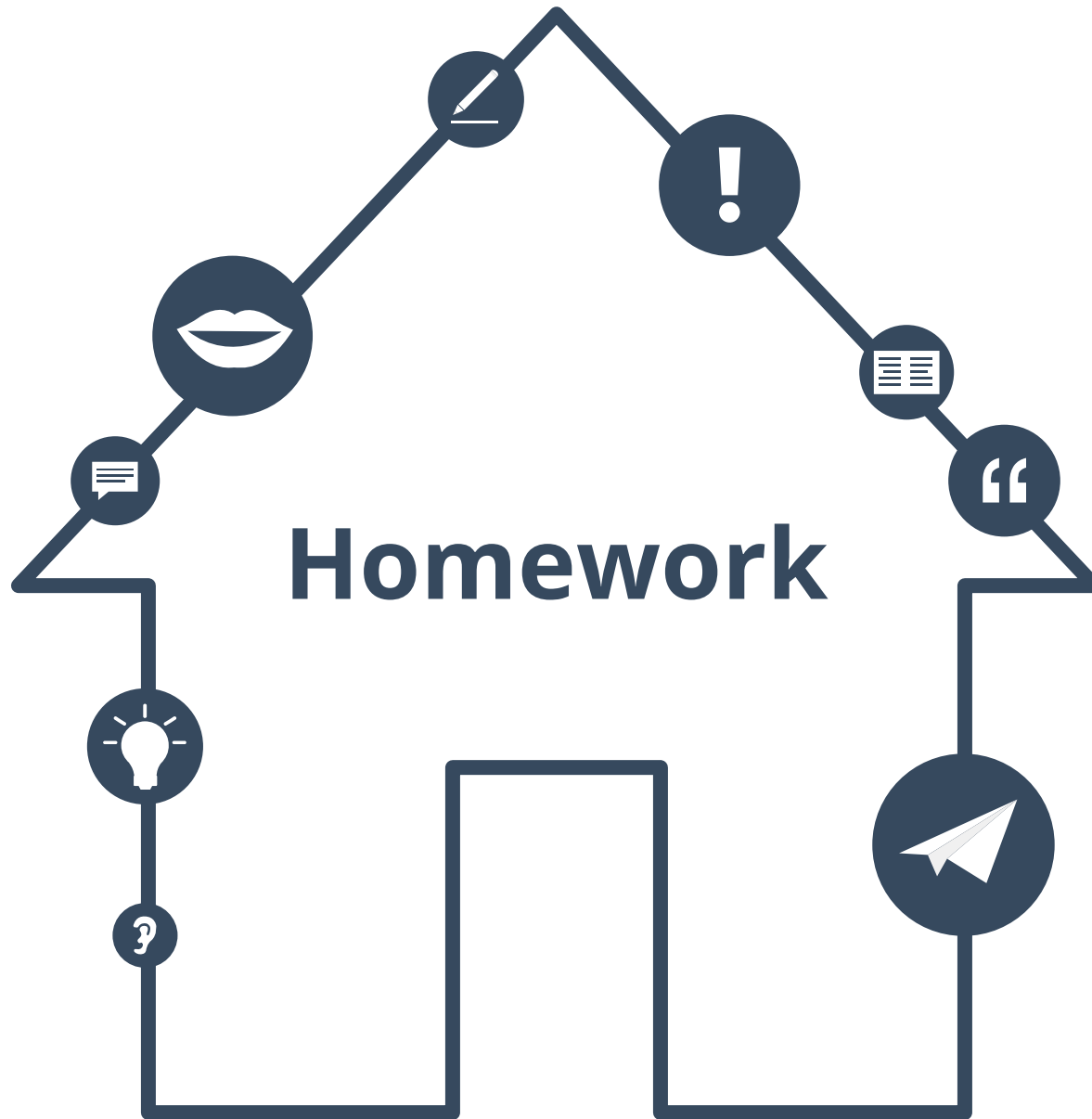
1. prairies, 2. orphan, 3. lumber/wagon, 4. stern and solemn, 5. sober and gaunt

### Exercise p. 21

1. T, 2. F, 3. T, 4. F, 5. F, 6. T

### Exercise p. 28

1. bank, 2. waistcoat, 3. curtsey, 4. well, 5. daisy, 6. hedge





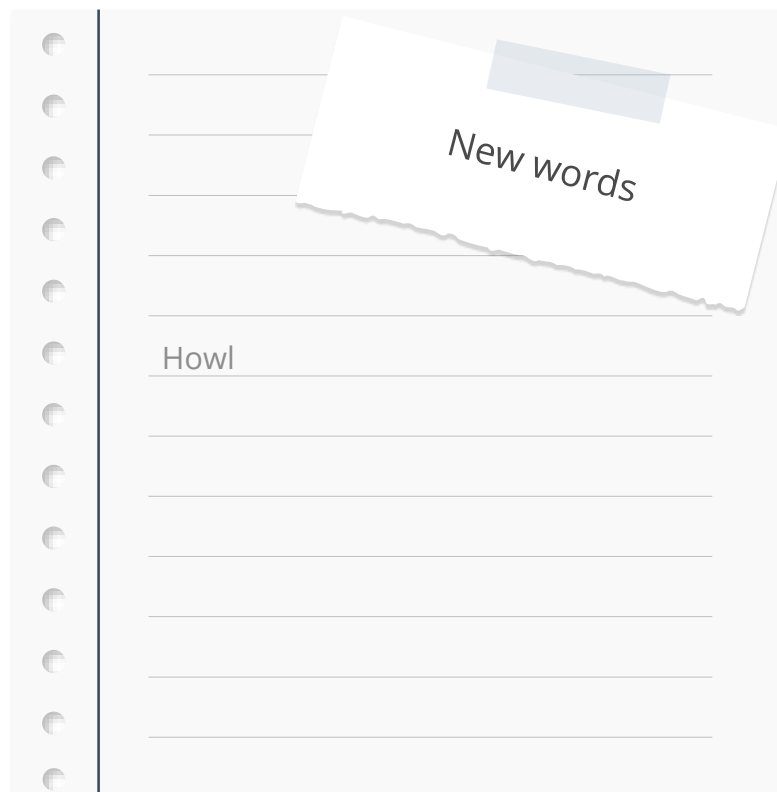
## Match the beginnings and endings

1. Dorothy lived in a tiny house with one room...
  2. Aunt Em was so startled by Dorothy's laughter...
  3. For Alice, the most remarkable thing about the rabbit...
  4. Alice thought she might fall straight through the earth...
- 
- a. was that it was wearing a waistcoat.
  - b. which was made of lumber carried by wagons.
  - c. and pop out in Australia or New Zealand.
  - d. that she would scream whenever she heard it.



## New words

**Add any new words from this lesson to your vocabulary book.  
Try to make sentences with them.**





## Homework answer key

**Exercise p. 38**  
1. B, 2. D, 3. A, 4. C





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