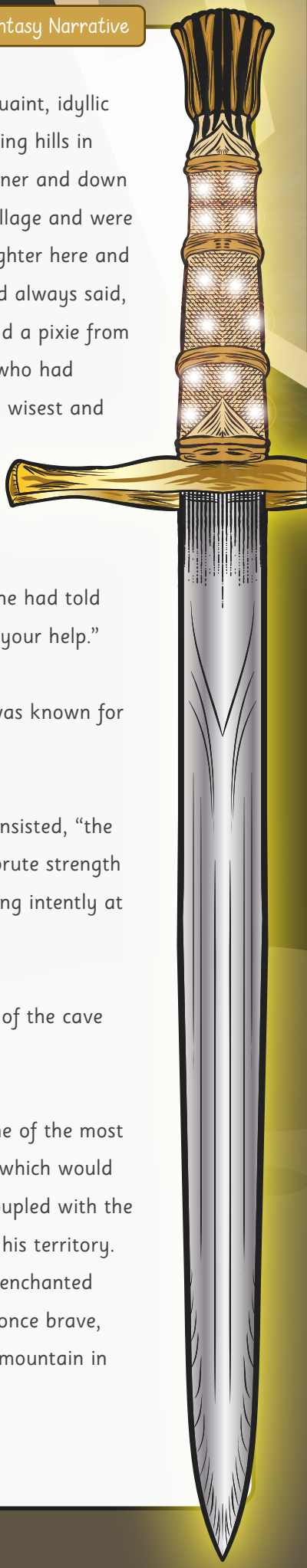
The Enchanted Sword

DIFFICULTY : HARD

Fantasy Narrative



The tiny army of 'men', who were stood at the mouth of a cave, stared back at their quaint, idyllic village. The small, wooden huts they called home could be seen peeping above the rolling hills in near distance and the sound of village folk from the market hummed through each corner and down each meandering street. Like a spider, the cobbled pathways spun a web around the village and were always full of friendly, smiling faces. The grass was greener here, the flowers were brighter here and the rivers were clearer and bluer than anywhere else on the planet. It was, as they had always said, a paradise. It's not surprising that nobody could have predicted that an elf, a dwarf and a pixie from such humble beginnings would have ended up on such an epic quest. The Silver One, who had arrived in the village a few weeks ago, had approached the elf first, for the elf was the wisest and most rational of the three. He needed three beings each with very specific qualities, if they were to succeed on this mission. Let's face it, stealing the enchanted sword from an ogre king is no easy feat.

"That sword, in the wrong hands, will have a disastrous effect on us all!" The Silver One had told the elf, who listened on with curiosity. "I am too old to do what is necessary so I need your help."

The elf listened to The Silver One's explanation, being careful not to interrupt, for he was known for having a short temper.

"I need a pixie who is small and nimble enough to steal a key without being seen," he insisted, "the key will open the door to the room where the sword is kept. I need the dwarf for his brute strength so he can fight off any ogres who stand in the way. Finally, I need you," he said, staring intently at the elf, "for you are resistant to the sorcery of the enchanted sword."

And so, after hours of persuading, the dwarf, the pixie and the elf stood at the mouth of the cave ready to begin the mission that would change their lives forever.

Meanwhile, deep down beneath them, in the darkness of the mountain, lived Drarg: one of the most feared kings in the land. Dressed in gold-plated armour, he had eyes of fire and fury, which would bore into your soul; weapons forged from the strongest metal in existence, which he coupled with the strength of a thousand oxen; and an all-consuming anger for anyone that would enter his territory. Many moons ago, he had stumbled upon the one weapon he was unable to forge- the enchanted sword. This precious weapon had immeasurable power and evil beginnings, turning a once brave, noble warrior into the ogre king he is today. Now, the entranced beast sits under the mountain in darkness, plotting to use the sword to rage evil upon the world.

Questions

DIFFICULTY : HARD

1. **Look at paragraph beginning** 'The tiny army of 'men''

   Why is 'men' in quotation marks?

_____

_____

2. **Write what item each phrase is describing.**

'…could be seen peeping above the rolling hills'	———	
'…spun a web around the village'	———	
'…clearer and bluer than anywhere else on the planet.'	———	
'…stared back at their quaint, idyllic…'	———	

3. **In the box below, draw the village as it is described in the text.**

Questions

DIFFICULTY : HARD

4. **Explain why nobody could have predicted that an elf, a dwarf and a pixie would have ended up on such an epic quest.**

5. **Why did The Silver One approach the elf first?**

6. **Using joining lines, match the character to their quality.**

the elf	*brute strength*
the dwarf	*all-consuming anger*
the pixie	*resistant to sorcery*
Drarg	*small and nimble*

7. **Explain, with reference to the text, how Drarg became an ogre king.**

Questions

DIFFICULTY : HARD

8. **Look at the paragraph beginning** ‘Meanwhile, deep down beneath them’.
Find and copy the adjective which tells us that Drarg is bewitched by the sword.

_____

9. **Using evidence from the text, give two reasons why the enchanted sword was precious to Drarg.**

1. _____

2. _____

10. **If you had to give this story an alternative title, what would it be?
Justify your choice with reference to the text.**

_____

_____

_____

Answers

DIFFICULTY : HARD

1. **Look at paragraph beginning** 'The tiny army of 'men''

   Why is 'men' in quotation marks?

   It is in quotation marks because they aren't really men. They are a dwarf, an elf and a pixie.

2. **Write what item each phrase is describing.**

'…could be seen peeping above the rolling hills'	———	the huts
'…spun a web around the village'	———	the pathways
'…clearer and bluer than anywhere else on the planet.'	———	the rivers
'…stared back at their quaint, idyllic…'	———	village

3. **In the box below, draw the village as it is described in the text.**

Any image that accurately shows a good understanding of the description in paragraph 1

Answers

DIFFICULTY : HARD

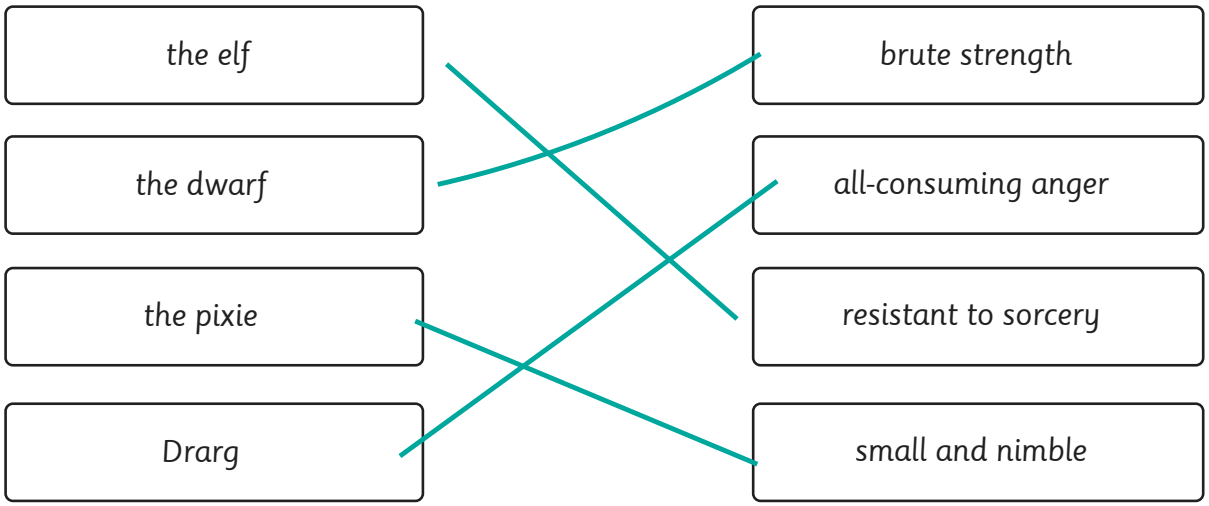
4. **Explain why nobody could have predicted that an elf, a dwarf and a pixie would have ended up on such an epic quest.**

Nobody could have predicted because they were from humble beginnings.

5. **Why did The Silver One approach the elf first?**

The elf was the wisest and most rational of the three.

6. **Using joining lines, match the character to their quality.**



7. **Explain, with reference to the text, how Drarg became an ogre king.**

He found the enchanted sword with entranced him and turned him from a warrior into an ogre (or similar).

Answers

DIFFICULTY : HARD

8. **Look at the paragraph beginning** 'Meanwhile, deep down beneath them'**. Find and copy the adjective which tells us that Drarg is bewitched by the sword.**

entranced

9. **Using evidence from the text, give two reasons why the enchanted sword was precious to Drarg.**

Any one of the three:
1. It had immeasurable power
2. It entranced him
3. It was the only weapon he was unable to forge

10. **If you had to give this story an alternative title, what would it be? Justify your choice with reference to the text.**

Accept any title which accurately sums up the events of the story so far and a justification which references events from the text.