

Stop that Sorcerer!

Teacher Resources, Week 5

This PDF contains:

- **Text Questions:** In this section, you will find questions about the chapter. These can be used orally in guided or shared reading discussions, as an independent comprehension exercise, or as part of a written homework or reading club activity.
- **Writing Activities:** Fiction Express for Schools provides a brilliant springboard into writing and some ideas and inspiration are provided in this section.
- **Other Extension Activities:** This section provides ideas for cross-curricular extension activities related to the chapter.
- **Worksheets:** This section provides printable worksheets for student use. Answers are also provided.
- **Picture Resources:** This section provides images to inspire student discussion. These images can be displayed on a whiteboard or printed.
- **Resources:** Here you will find a list of relevant websites and books that students might find useful.

Text Questions

Chapter 5: Many Surprises

1. Did you enjoy reading the last chapter in this story? Which part of chapter 5 did you like best?
2. What evidence can you find in chapter 5 to show that Pezar has turned into a courageous person after all?
3. Why does the head guard decide to take Jahra, as well as Pezar, back to the palace? What did you think when he did this?
4. How did the villagers feel when they saw Pezar flying away with the guards on the magic carpet? Go back to the text to find the evidence to answer this question.
5. Why and how did the lazy camels escape from their owner? Go back to the text to find out.
6. How do the three sisters get the camels to move off the carpet? Describe what happens.
7. What makes Jahra say, *"No wonder you were so spoiled"*? Go back to the text to find out.
8. What does the sorcerer, Almazad, look like? Describe him.
9. Why does Jahra shout, *"Don't look back at him!"*? Go back to the text to find out.
10. Why do you think Almazad says, *"Well I never... no, it can't be..."*?
11. What lifts Pezar's spirits? Go back to the text to find the answer to this question.
12. How do the three sisters get into the palace? Find the evidence in the text to answer this question. What do you remember about this secret doorway into and out of the palace?
13. What is Gia's most important role in chapter 5?

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14. How does Jahra manage to get around the genie, so that he does what he is told?
15. Why does Aftar say, "*Is the sky blue?*" What is the author *implying* in this statement?
16. What does the stand that holds the heartstone look like? Go back to the text to find out. What do you think the word *bejewelled* means?
17. What happens when the three sisters replace the heartstone in its stand and chant their spell? Describe this scene.
18. Who is more powerful – the sorcerer or the three sisters? Is Aftar the genie more powerful than Almazad? Find the evidence in the text to help you answer this question.
19. What does the author imply has happened to the genie, when she says that *His headdress was tipped sideways and his waistcoat was all askew?*
20. What good decision did the king make when Pezar was little? Find the evidence in the text to answer this question.
21. What is Jahra's real name? What does Jahra have on her arm that proves she is a princess?
22. How do you think Pezar feels when he discovers he has a twin sister?
23. Who do you think was the hero, or the heroes, in chapter 5?

Writing Activities

Write an extended description of Almazad the sorcerer that could be inserted into the chapter. What is his face like? What about his hair? Make your description as colourful and as dramatic as you can.

The three sisters chant their spells and hold hands to make them work. Write your own chant/spell to make one of the following things happen: to make you able to fly; to turn someone into a mouse; to make yourself or someone else disappear. Try to make your spell rhyme, like the ones in the story.

Write another paragraph that could be added to end of the story that describes how Pezar feels when he discovers he has a twin sister.

Imagine you are one of the lazy camels sleeping on the magic carpet. Write your own account of what happens in this scene.

How did Almazad get past Aftar on the stairs? Discuss your ideas with a friend or classmate and then write this extra scene.

Imagine you are Jahra. Write your down your thoughts and feelings after you discover you are really Princess Zara and twin sister to Pezar.

Imagine you are a book critic for a newspaper or magazine. Write a review of this story for your readers.

Write an account of this story that would make other students want to read it.

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If you were the author of this story would you have changed any of the settings, characters or events in this story? Make notes to answer this question.

Think of two or three alternative titles for this story and explain your choices. Imagine you are the local journalist. Write the article that will announce to the Kingdom of Nearsia the discovery of the long lost Princess Zara and the defeat of the sorcerer Almazad. Make sure you give your article an eye-catching headline and that you write your article in a dramatic and entertaining way.

Write an interesting sentence of your own for each of the Key Words.

Other Extension Activities

Art Activities

Draw or paint a picture of Almazad. Make him look powerful and evil. Write an extended caption to go with your picture. Perhaps you could draw him with lightning bolts coming from his fingers as happened in the story.

Design a new front cover for this story. Make your cover as exciting and as eye-catching as you can. Remember to add the title of the story and the author's name. Now design the back cover of this book. Include a blurb to give potential readers some idea what the story is about.

Draw a before and after picture of Jahra the beggar girl and Princess Zara. Write extended captions to go with each of your pictures.

Research Activity

Using the Internet, find the names of the most famous sorcerers in children's fiction. Write a brief description of each of these characters. Remember to give the title and the author of the book they feature in.

Drama Activity

Imagine you are Prince Pezar. Write a monologue explaining how you came to have a sister. Make sure you add some emotion words to show exactly how you felt when this happened. When you are happy with your monologue read it to a partner or to a small group.

Key Words and Phrases

Here is a list of challenging or potentially unfamiliar vocabulary used in Chapter 5 of *Stop that Sorcerer*: **crept stealthily, ambled, sea of people, looming over him, distract, glanced, courageous, expanding.**

You may wish to explore this vocabulary with your pupils, to aid their understanding of the chapter and enhance, or 'up level', the quality of their own writing.

You might like to use the boxed versions of the words below on your 'working wall' or literacy display!

crept stealthily

ambled

sea of
people

looming
over him

distract

glanced

courageous

expanding

Worksheet (page 1 of 2)

Look at the following extract from chapter 5:

Luxurious cushions and velvet blankets seemed to appear under a nearby tree, along with what looked like a pool of fresh, ice cold water. The big camel stared at it with interest, and nudged his sleeping friend awake. Then, without so much as a backwards glance, the camels ambled slowly towards the mirage. The sisters scrambled onto the magic carpet.

Now answer these questions:

1. What material are the blankets made from?

2. What adjective does the author use to describe the cushions?

3. What verb tells us about the manner in which the big camel awakens the small camel?

4. Did the camels look back at the carpet? Find the phrase that answers this question.

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Worksheet (page 2 of 2)

5. Which verb does the author use to describe the way the camels moved towards the mirage?

6. What does the verb 'scrambled' suggest in the last sentence?

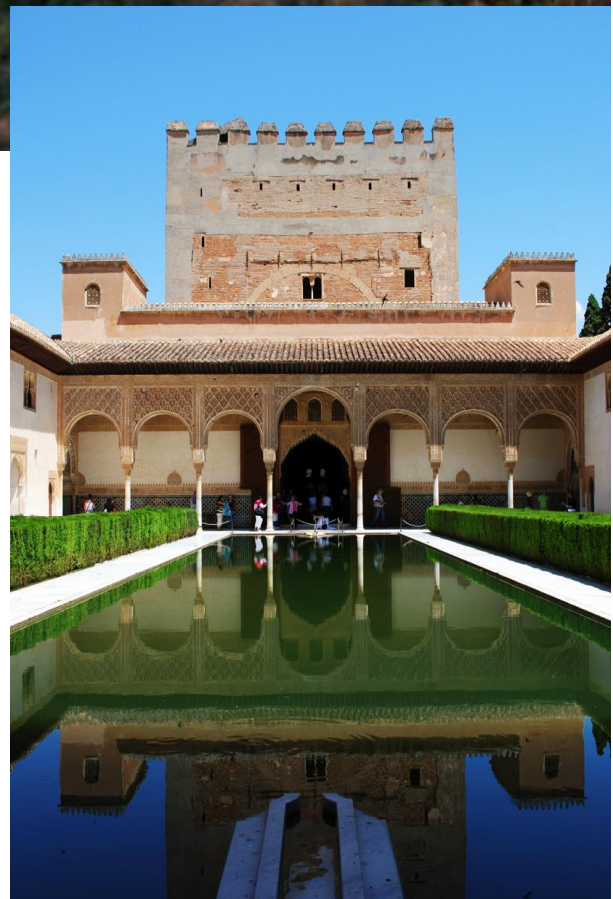
7. Which are the phrases that hint at what a 'mirage' might be.

Worksheet ANSWERS

1. What material are the blankets made from? **Velvet**
2. What adjective does the author use to describe the cushions? **Luxurious**
3. What verb tells us about the manner in which the big camel awakens the small camel? **Nudged**
4. Did the camels look back at the carpet? Find the phrase that answers this question. **No: 'Without so much as a backwards glance'.**
5. Which verb does the author use to describe the way the camels moved towards the mirage? **Ambled**
6. What does the verb 'scrambled' suggest in the last sentence? **The word 'scrambled' suggests the sisters moved quickly, but awkwardly.**
7. Which are the phrases that hint at what a 'mirage' might be. **The phrases 'seemed to appear' and 'with what looked like' suggest that the things might not be what they seem.**

Picture Resources

These two pictures show the Alhambra Palace.



Where is the Alhambra? Look on the Internet to find out.

Is this what you thought Price Pezar's palace might look like?

Why do you think there are often pools of water in palaces in hot places?

Picture Resources

These two pictures show different types of camels.



One is called a dromedary camel and one is an Arabian camel. Which one is which?

What is the difference between them?

Which camels do you think feature in our story: *Stop that Sorcerer?*

Why do camels have a hump or humps on their backs?

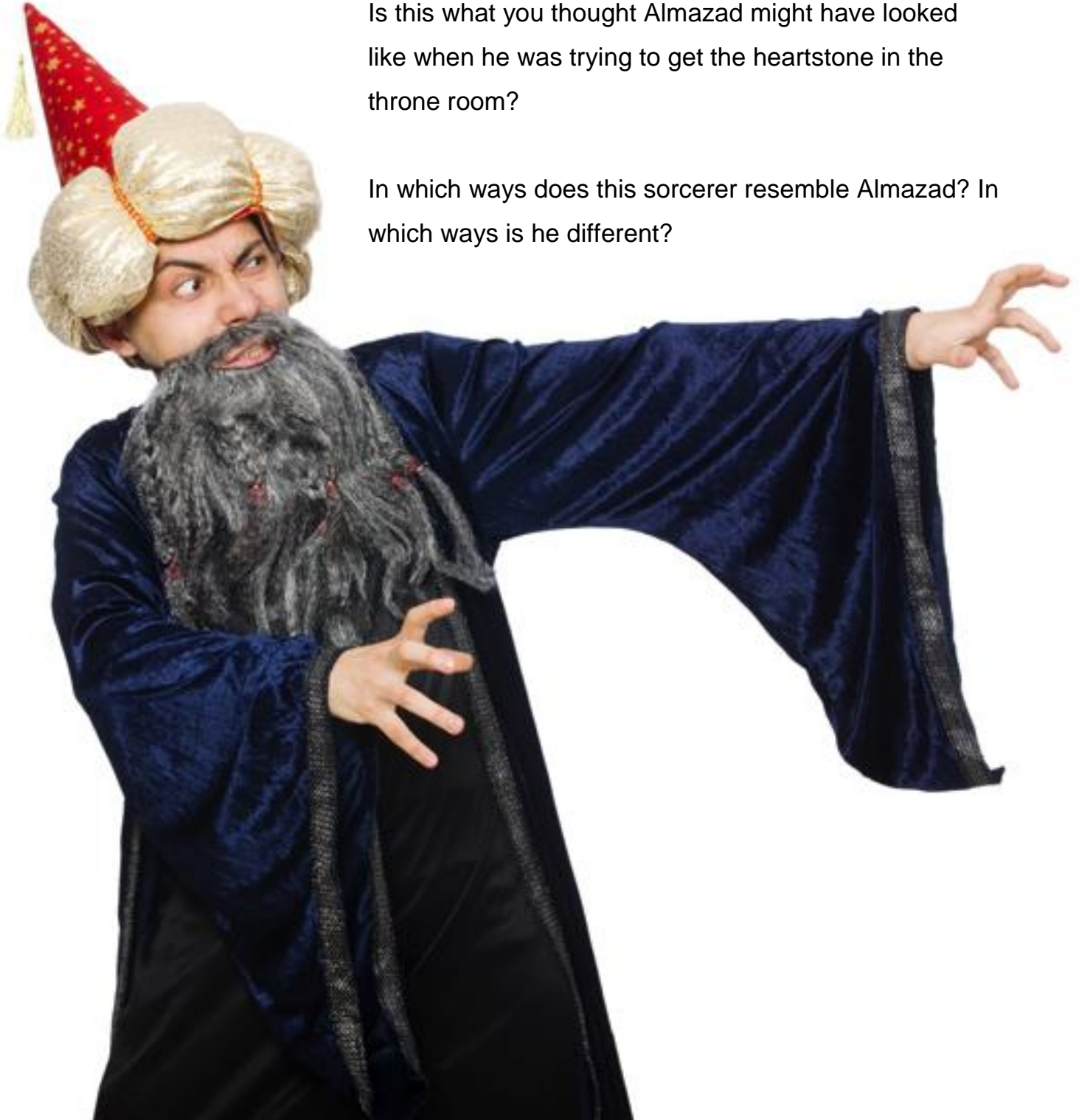
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Picture Resources

This picture shows a sorcerer casting a spell.

Is this what you thought Almazad might have looked like when he was trying to get the heartstone in the throne room?

In which ways does this sorcerer resemble Almazad? In which ways is he different?



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Resources

Websites

Science kids, camel facts:

<http://www.sciencekids.co.nz/sciencefacts/animals/camel.html>

Soft schools. camel facts:

http://www.softschools.com/facts/animals/camel_facts/38/

Easy science for kids, all about camels:

<http://easyscienceforkids.com/all-about-camels/>

Video tour of the Alhambra Palace:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZX4E5cQTMgo>

Note to teachers: Every effort has been made by the Publishers to ensure that these websites are suitable for children, that they are of the highest educational value, and that they contain no inappropriate or offensive material. However, because of the nature of the Internet, it is impossible to guarantee that the content of these sites will not be altered. We strongly advise that Internet access is supervised by a responsible adult.

Books

Fiction

Shahnameh: The Persian Book of Kings by Elizabeth Laird, Frances Lincoln Children's Books, 2014

Non-fiction

I is for Iran by Shirin Adl, Frances Lincoln Children's Books, 2011

Arts and Culture in Early Islamic World: 1 (Life in the Early Islamic World) by Lizann Flatt, Crabtree Publishing Company, 2010