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Before you start

1. What do you already know about Robin Hood? Arrange your ideas in a mind map. You can add more information when you learn more about him from the story.



2. You will read these words very often in the story. Match the words with their meaning. Use a dictionary if you need to.

- | | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|--------------------------|
| 1) weapon | <input type="checkbox"/> | 8) thief | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2) bow | <input type="checkbox"/> | 9) deer | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3) archer | <input type="checkbox"/> | 10) illegal | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4) outlaw | <input type="checkbox"/> | 11) arrow | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5) the rich | <input type="checkbox"/> | 12) justice | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6) to hunt | <input type="checkbox"/> | 13) legend | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7) nobleman,
noblewoman | <input type="checkbox"/> | 14) hero | <input type="checkbox"/> |

- a) An object for shooting arrows.
b) A large, wild animal that lives in the forest. You can eat the meat.
c) An object, such as a gun or knife that can hurt or kill somebody.
d) Someone who uses a bow and arrows.
e) Someone who steals something that does not belong to him/her.
f) A weapon with a sharp point on one end.
g) To look for and kill wild animals.
h) A criminal.
i) Someone who does brave things and is respected for it.
j) Someone who belongs to the highest social group in some countries.
k) The opposite of poor people.
l) Behaviour or treatment that is fair and morally right.
m) Not allowed.
n) A story, parts of which may not be true.

The characters

The legend of Robin Hood and his Merry Men has been told for centuries and is famous all around the world. Here is a short introduction to the main characters.



ROBIN HOOD

Robin Hood was famous for taking from the rich and giving to the poor. He was an excellent archer. He lived in Sherwood Forest in Nottinghamshire.



LADY MARIAN

Lady Marian was a Norman noblewoman who fell in love with Robin. Later in the legend, she came to Sherwood Forest to live with Robin.



WILL SCARLET

Will Scarlet was one of Robin's closest friends, also an excellent archer. Some people believe he was once a soldier in the king's army.



THE SHERIFF

The Sheriff of Nottingham was Robin's main enemy. He was responsible for catching outlaws and stopping crime in Sherwood Forest, especially illegal hunting.

army a very large group of soldiers | **enemy** the opposite of a friend



Prince John was the younger brother of Richard I, also known as "Richard the Lionheart", King of England in the 12th century. John tried to start a **rebellion** against Richard while he was away fighting.



Friar Tuck was a monk who was expelled from his monastery because of his lack of religious authority. He was famous for his love of food and wine.



Little John was Robin's second-in-command. He was a giant of a man, over two metres tall. He liked to fight with a long stick called a quarterstaff.

rebellion a fight against the government | **to fight** (*fought, fought*) to try to hit and hurt someone during war or in an argument | **monk** a member of a group of religious men | **to expel** to send away from | **monastery** building where monks live | **lack of sth** not having sth



Robin takes his new bow and arrow. He puts the arrow in place and pulls back the string. He closes one eye and aims: a white cross on the wall of his hut. He holds his breath and ...

Robin hears a noise. He turns around and sees something moving in the bushes. A man.

"Please, don't shoot!" the man cries as he comes out of the bushes, holding up his hands.

"Who are you?" Robin asks, still aiming at the man.

The man puts his finger to his lips. "Sssshhhh! Not so loud!" he whispers and looks nervously over his shoulder. "The Sheriff's soldiers are looking for me!"

Robin lowers his bow and looks around the clearing. Smoke is coming out of the chimney of his hut. There is no one here but the two of them.

"Please, help me," the man says. "If they find me, they will kill me."

"Come with me," Robin says.

to hold one's breath to stop breathing for a moment | clearing a small area in the forest with no trees



Robin goes over to the well. He pulls the rope and takes out the bucket.

"Get in!" he says.

"In there?!" cries the man. His eyes are full of fear.

"Trust me," Robin says.

The man climbs into the bucket and Robin lowers him down into the well.

"You there!" A shout from the forest. Robin turns around. Two soldiers are riding their horses towards him. "Have you seen a man with dark brown hair?" asks one of them.

Robin shakes his head. "No one."

"Don't lie to us, father!" says the other soldier. "Where is he?"

Robin points to his hut. "I was inside. I only came out to get some water from the well."

"He's not here," says the first soldier. "Let's go back to the road. Maybe we'll find him there."

The two soldiers ride off between the trees. Robin waits for a few minutes, then he calls down the well, "You can come out now!"

full of fear very afraid | to lie to say sth that is not true