

Vocabulary

Use the words from the box to complete the sentences.

billowed **devour** **heroic** **quench** **scorched** **uprooted**

1. You can _____ your thirst with water.
2. The _____ firefighters saved people from the smoke and flames that _____ from the burning building.
3. The fire _____ the earth and seemed to _____ everything in its path.
4. The big machine _____ the tree and threw it aside.



Story Comprehension

Think about the story “The Paper Dragon.” Write **True** before the sentences that tell something that happened in the story. Write **False** before the sentences that do not tell what happened in the story.

1. _____ Each day Mi Fei painted pictures about the glorious past.
2. _____ People came from far away to buy his scrolls.
3. _____ The villagers wanted Mi Fei to face the dragon that was destroying villages and threatened to destroy theirs.
4. _____ The dragon said it would return to sleep if Mi Fei could perform one task.
5. _____ For one task, the dragon asked Mi Fei to capture the world in paper.
6. _____ The dragon disappeared and Mi Fei took a small paper dragon home in his scroll.

Sequence of Events

A **sequence of events** is the order in which things happen in a story. Understanding a story's sequence can help you better understand and enjoy the story.

Read this letter. Pay special attention to when things happen.

Dear Mira,

I have to tell you about my exciting day! First, Mom, Dad, and I visited Grandma Jean. Next, we went to a nice restaurant for lunch. We ordered lunch and talked until the waiter brought our food. I had a grilled cheese sandwich and juice.

After lunch we all went to the circus! We saw some wonderful acts. The first was a parade of clowns, animals, and acrobats. Next came the high-wire act. You should have seen how one athlete could ride a bike on the wire with just a pole for balancing! After this act we saw a tightrope walker and a family of trapeze artists. They do amazing things. Finally, we went home. I was so exhausted that I fell asleep immediately.

It was such fun. I hope you can come with us next time!

Your friend,
Adam

The events of Adam's day are out of order below. Write the numbers to show the correct order.

- _____ Adam and his family went to the circus.
- _____ Adam ordered lunch and talked with his parents.
- _____ Adam and his family went to a restaurant for lunch.
- _____ Adam had a grilled cheese sandwich and juice for lunch.
- _____ Adam and his family visited Grandma Jean.
- _____ Adam fell asleep exhausted from a busy day.
- _____ Adam and his family went home.
- _____ Adam watched the circus acts.

Sequence of Events

A **sequence of events** is the order in which things happen in a story. By understanding the sequence, you can better understand the story.

Long ago, people did not write words and letters as we do today. At first, people drew pictures to express a thought. You can still see some of these pictures drawn on rocks and walls in caves around the world.

People then began to use only a part of a picture, or signs, to show what they were thinking about. For example, they might show a crown to mean “king” without showing the king himself. Later people began to use signs to show how to pronounce a word.

Finally, people used letters or characters. The Chinese people use characters like the ones you saw in “The Paper Dragon.” There are about 50,000 characters in the Chinese language today.

These sentences summarize the selection, but they are not in the right order. Number the sentences to show the correct order.

- _____ a. People began to use only a part of a picture to show what they were thinking about.
- _____ b. People drew pictures to express a thought.
- _____ c. There are about 50,000 characters in the Chinese language today.
- _____ d. Finally, people used letters and characters.
- _____ e. People began to use pictures with signs to show how to pronounce a word.

Summarize

When you **summarize** a story, use your own words to tell the most important parts of the story in the correct order. The summary is much shorter than the story itself.

Read this partial summary of “The Paper Dragon.” Use it to number the sentences below in the correct order.

Mi Fei was a famous, beloved Chinese artist who lived in a village a long time ago. One day he heard that a great dragon had awakened from sleep and was destroying the land. The villagers asked Mi Fei to convince the dragon to sleep again. So Mi Fei took his scrolls, brushes, paper, and ink and went to the peak of the mountain where the dragon lived.

- _____ A dragon was destroying the land.
- _____ The villagers asked Mi Fei to convince the dragon to sleep again.
- _____ Mi Fei took his scrolls, brushes, paper, and ink.
- _____ Mi Fei solved the tasks.
- _____ Mi Fei went to the mountain.
- _____ Mi Fei was a famous painter.

Some important details are missing from the partial summary. You may recall the dragon asks that Mi Fei completes three tasks. Write the three tasks on the lines below.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____
