



But why was he hiding? What made him so afraid? Even the Prince didn't know the answer to that. He was sure of one thing, though; he did not want to talk to anyone today, and he would not be disturbed!

As he watched from his hiding place, his sister, Queen Amanda of Mireneh, tossed off her riding boots and plunged into the moat. She swam to the other side. Then she pulled herself out by the **water rushes**, set one silken slipper on the casement, and began to climb very slowly up the rope ladder. Up she climbed, higher and higher, to the topmost tower. She peeped in through the narrow **lancet window**. Water lilies clung to her hair.



“Please, brother, dear brother, let me in,” she said.

But the Prince didn't want to hear. He held his fists over his ears, shut his eyes, and **deliberately** turned his face to the wall. Queen Amanda **shivered**. Her **dripping robe** blew in the wind. **Descending** the rope ladder, she swam back across the moat. The townspeople watched.

“Beware!” they cried. “An **evil Sorceress** must have **cast a spell** on our young Prince. Who can help him now? We fear he is lost forever!”

When the Prince heard this, he laughed **triumphantly**. From his tower window he watched the people fall away like shadows. An **eerie** silence settled over the moat and on the turrets. Soon he was completely alone.



Can you write down the word that is missing on each line? If you don't remember, look back at the Mirror and the Beast story. **Example number one is done for you.**

1. (eerie) strange and creepy
2. _____
tall grassy plants near the water
3. _____
a small castle window for shooting arrows
4. _____
bewitched (the Prince) with magical power
5. _____
victoriously, like the winner in battle
6. _____
to shake with cold or fright
7. _____
a soaking wet dress
8. _____
climbing or going down
9. _____
a wicked witch
10. _____
on purpose

Mirror and the Beast



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS Page 6

- a. How does Queen Amanda try to reach her brother?
- b. What do the townspeople think has happened to the young Prince?



Can you draw a picture of Queen Amanda climbing to the topmost tower?



Listen to the CD again and imagine what you might see.





Much later, when he was sure that no one would return to disturb him, the Prince crept downstairs into the hall. The dark mirror **scolded him harshly** as he passed.

“What an untidy beard you have grown. Change your robe. You don’t look like a prince at all,” it said.

“That’s not true,” said the Prince, **searching for** his beautiful reflection.

“What a handsome Prince you are!” beamed the bright mirror.

“But one day you will be old and ugly,” said the gloomy one.

“No, I shall not,” said the Prince, smoothing his **tousled** hair.

“Some day,” said the dark mirror, “your face will be **wrinkled**, your shoulders bent, your hair grey.”

“That’s not true.”

“It is true, unless you **perform the impossible task**,” continued the mirror gloomily.

“What task?”

“A task that no one has ever **accomplished** before.”

“And what might that be?” demanded the Prince **arrogantly**.

“**Capture** the Watersprite, the spirit of the fountain. Then you shall live forever.”





Can you write down the word that is missing on each line? If you don't remember, look back at the Mirror and the Beast story. **Example number one is done for you.**

1. (**accomplished**) done well, succeeded
2. _____
do something that cannot be done
3. _____
catch, to take someone prisoner
4. _____
(skin) covered with deep lines
5. _____
untidy, ruffled
6. _____
looking for
7. _____
told him off severely
8. _____
proudly

Mirror and the Beast



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS Page 7

- a. What does the bright mirror say to the young Prince?
- b. What does the gloomy mirror say?
- c. Does the Prince want to listen to the gloomy mirror? Why or why not?
- d. What must the Prince do so that he can live forever?



Can you draw a picture of the Prince talking to the gloomy mirror?



Listen to the CD again and imagine what you might see.





So next morning, the Prince rose earlier than ever. He ran down to the fountain to **sprinkle** his face with water, and to his great joy, there she was—the silver Watersprite, curled up in a sparkling bubble on his palm. For **a few precious moments** he held her, before she trickled back down into the fountain.

“Come back, little Sprite,” called the Prince, plunging his fingers into the **spray** once again. He **gathered** her carefully onto his open palm and held her close to his face. “Will you come and live with me in my castle?”

The tiny Watersprite shook her silvery head. “I cannot,” she said.

“But my castle is huge and grand—and lonely,” said the Prince. “You shall be **mistress** of my kingdom, and I shall be your **slave**.”

The Watersprite **tinkled gaily with laughter** at such an idea. “Thank you kindly for your offer, Your Highness, but still, I cannot,” she replied.

“Very well, then,” said the Prince, **seizing** her by her silver **braid**, “since you will not come freely, I must take you prisoner.” And he sealed her up in his crystal jar.





Can you write down the word that is missing on each line? If you don't remember, look back at the Mirror and the Beast story. **Example number one is done for you.**

1. (gathered) took, collected
2. _____
lady in charge of a household
3. _____
pour a few drops (of water)
4. _____
hair combed into a plait
5. _____
a short time
6. _____
a jet (of water)
7. _____
laughed gaily
8. _____
a servant
9. _____
catching

Mirror and the Beast



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS Page 8

- a. Why do you think the Watersprite doesn't want to live inside the Prince's castle?
- b. How does the Prince catch the Watersprite?
- c. How does the Prince keep her prisoner?



Can you draw a picture of the Prince catching the Watersprite?



Listen to the CD again and imagine what you might see.





The Watersprite **clung** to the inside of the glass and **wept** silvery tears.

“Let me out,” she said. “Don’t you understand I must trickle freely through streams and fountains, or else I’ll die.”

The Prince laughed. “You’ll never die, beautiful Watersprite; and if you stay with me forever, neither will I.”

“I promise you, you shall be sorry,” **sobbed** the Watersprite. “Your **monstrous** love will kill me.”

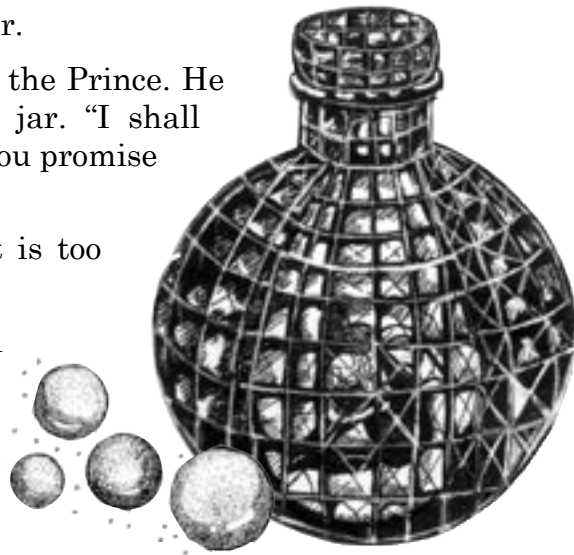
“Don’t be silly,” said the Prince, carrying her off into the castle. He set the glass jar carefully down in front of the mirrors. “Isn’t this the grandest palace you have ever seen?” he said.

The Watersprite did not answer.

“She is still **sulking**,” thought the Prince. He stared anxiously into the crystal jar. “I shall open the lid, little Watersprite, if you promise me you’ll stay.”

“Go away,” she whispered. “It is too late. I am dying—”

Hastily the Prince opened the jar and peeped inside. A few drops of water still **glistened** at the bottom. But the beautiful Watersprite was gone.





Can you write down the word that is missing on each line? If you don't remember, look back at the Mirror and the Beast story. **Example number one is done for you.**

1. (**clung**) held on to, stuck to

2. _____
twinkled brightly

3. _____
in a bad temper

4. _____
horrible, beastly

5. _____
cried quietly

6. _____
cried noisily

7. _____
quickly

Mirror and the Beast



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS Page 9

- Where do you think the Watersprite has gone?
- Do you think she died?
- How do you think the Prince feels about losing the Watersprite?



Can you draw a picture of the Prince searching for the Watersprite?



Listen to the CD again and imagine what you might see.





The Prince looked up. He saw something in the dark mirror. It had **tangled** hair. Its beard was **tufted with straw** and fluff and bits of grass. Is that me? thought the Prince. Of course not. How could it be? He turned away from the gloomy mirror, **cast in its own shadows**.

"I will *not* look at you any more," he said.

"You're so handsome, Your Highness," said the bright mirror, flashing his own beautiful image at him.

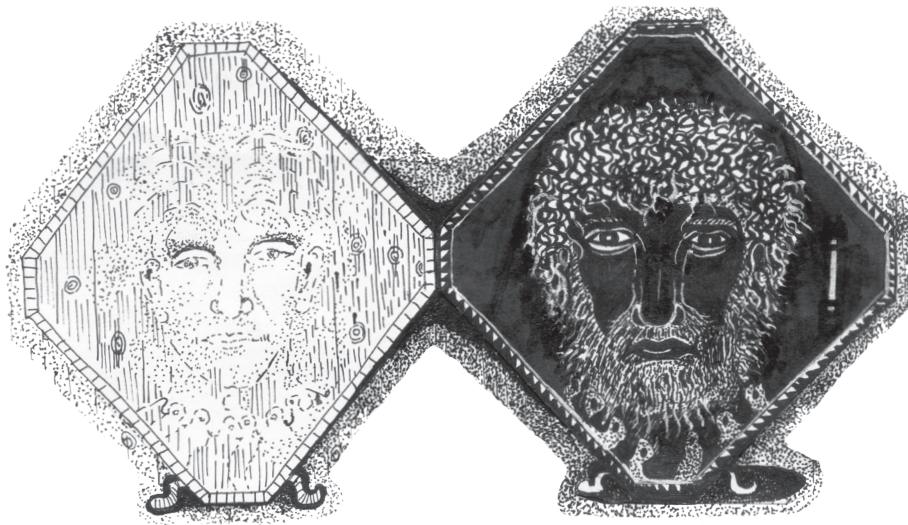
"But you have **failed your task**," **interrupted** the gloomy mirror. "You did not capture the Watersprite."

"But I tried," answered the Prince **solemnly**. He hated looking into the gloomy mirror for more than a moment. "What must I do now?"

"Something even more difficult than catching the Watersprite," said the dark mirror.

"What can that be?"

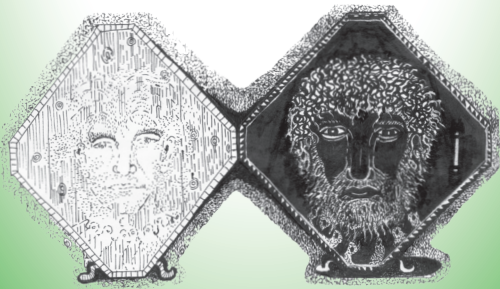
"Capture the Sunsprite," said the mirror with a **mocking** laugh, "if you can."





Can you write down the word that is missing on each line? If you don't remember, look back at the Mirror and the Beast story. **Example number one is done for you.**

1. (tangled) hair that is difficult to comb smooth
2. _____
broke into the conversation
3. _____
covered in its own shade
4. _____
had bits of straw sticking out of it
5. _____
seriously, not smiling
6. _____
done your job badly
7. _____
making fun of



Mirror and the Beast



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS Page 10

- a. What does the Prince see when he looks into the dark mirror?
- b. What do you think has happened to him?
- c. Does he still seem handsome when he looks into the bright mirror?
- d. How can he be handsome and ugly at the same time?
- e. What must he do now, so that he can live forever?



Can you draw a picture of the Prince talking to both the bright and the gloomy mirror?



Listen to the CD again and imagine what you might see.