

KHATE SEFID



Khate Sefid
**Graded
Readers**
Vision2

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Introduction

Khate Sefid Graded Readers is a collection of graded short stories designed to give young English learners, especially junior high school and high school students, the opportunity to maximize practice and progression in reading and comprehending English in context.

Stories in this stage focus on the use of quantifiers, phrasal verbs, present perfect tense and first conditional. This book is also supported by an audio CD.

Hussain Havashki

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A Quarrel over Names

Once upon a time four men - a Persian, an Arab, a Turk and a Greek - were traveling together to a distant place. They found themselves out of food and money. The only thing that they had was a silver coin. They immediately began to argue about what food to get with that last coin.

One of the four, the Persian, said, "Let's buy some 'angur' with it". The Arab disagreed. "Don't be stupid! I don't want any 'angur'. I want some 'inab'."

The third person, the Turk, didn't like either of those ideas. "I don't want any 'angur' or 'inab'. Let's buy some 'uzum'," he said.

The Greek, who was watching what was going on, cried angrily, "Stop this foolishness. We should have some 'istafil'. Let's buy some 'istafil' with this money!"

All at once, all four of them started arguing, each man yelling that they should buy what he wanted. Fists flew and there was a big fight.

While they were arguing, a wise man who was passing by overheard them. He stopped the fight and asked what their problem was.

The Persian said, "I want to buy some 'angur' with our money."

"No, we're going to buy some 'inab'," said the Arab.

"I say, let's buy some 'uzum'," shouted the Turk.

"We're going to buy some 'istafil' with our money," cried the Greek.

The wise man understood that these four people talking in different languages actually all wanted the same thing. He said, "Be quiet and listen to me. I'm going to buy what all of you want with this money. Believe me!"

At first they did not trust him. But as their hunger grew and they found themselves in an unfamiliar place, they gave him the coin.

The wise man went to town and bought four small bunches of grapes and brought it back to the four travelers. When he gave them the grapes, he made all four of them happy and settled the argument.

"This is my angur!" said the Persian.

"No, this is uzum!" said the Turk happily.

"You're both wrong, this is inab!" said the Arab.

"No, you're all wrong!" said the Greek, "In my language this is called istafil!"

The wise man said, "You may call it different names but it is the same thing."

A. Mark the sentences T (True) or F (False).

1. The four travelers found some money. _____
2. The travelers wanted different things. _____
3. A wise man solved their problem by buying them some grapes. _____
4. The wise man was traveling with the four travelers. _____
5. The wise man was able to solve their problem because he knew at least four languages. _____

B. Choose the right answer.

1. The only thing that the four travelers had was
 - a. some food
 - b. some grapes
 - c. a coin
2. The traveler's argument was about
 - a. what food to buy with their money
 - b. who should buy grapes
 - c. who the coin belonged to
3. The four travelers spoke
 - a. English, Persian, Turkish and Arabic
 - b. the same language
 - c. Persian, Greek, Turkish and Arabic
4. The travelers spoke languages but they wanted Thing.
 - a. the same / different
 - b. different / the same
 - c. different / different

5. The wise man
- a. saw the travelers as he was passing by
 - b. was traveling with the four travelers
 - c. gave the travelers some money

C. Fill in the blanks.

1. A wise man who was passing by overheard them about what to buy.
2. The travelers wanted to buy
3. The travelers didn't the wise man at first.
4. The wise man bought four of grapes for the travelers.
5. The wise man gave them the grapes and the argument.

D. Answer the following questions.

1. Why did the men argue about angur, inab, uzum and istafil?
.....
2. What happened after the travelers said what they wanted to eat in their own languages?
.....
3. Why did the four travelers trust the wise man?
.....
4. How did the wise man settle their argument?
.....
5. What would you do if you were one of the travelers and had the same problem?
.....



A Time to Laugh, a Time to Understand

My mother came into the house, sweating from downtown, with an envelope. She put the envelope down and said, “I have signed you up to learn English because even though I don’t have much of an education,” she says very simply that, “I heard learning a second language will take you places.” And it was like an important moment in her life, and I was like, “Ok!” So I went to class, and it was like this tiny little treasure box that opened in my head because I didn’t know how I would be learning English, but it was so exciting to try these different sounds and learn about another culture because as you are learning the language you learn the culture, too. I learned about England, learned about the US, and tried really hard to say “this” because “this” doesn’t exist in Portuguese.

But nothing really prepared me for the cultural experience than full immersion because you learn how to speak the language and you learn about the culture, but being there is a whole different

thing. For example, in the textbook, you learn “It’s raining,” but you don’t learn “shower,” or “We’re going to have showers.” When I heard that, I was like “We’re going to have showers!”

So I had a chance to go to Maine 22 years ago. I went on a scholarship to learn miming. I was learning English as a second language and I went to the US to learn a silent language. And so I learned lots of new words: It’s not just “snow,” it’s “sleet,” it’s “We are gonna have snow showers.” It was like, all these different expressions, and then there were all these cultural misunderstandings. People thought that I lived in a tree because I came from Brazil. I had all these silly questions like, “Do you have cars in Brazil? Do you have airplanes in Brazil?” I was like, “No, we don’t have any of this stuff. I canoed all the way to Maine.”

But you can’t judge those questions because people are not trying to hurt you. Just like for example, in Brazil, the sandwich. You know that America is a sandwich-type of culture in terms of a fast food is the sandwich. The hamburger is the only sandwich we heard about. But I got here, and somebody invited me to go and eat an Italian. I’m like, “Are you a cannibal? Are you going to eat an Italian? What is that all about?” It’s a sandwich! You don’t hear these things unless you sneak into the culture, you know.

And then there was that moment that somebody asked me how I was doing with my host family, I was living with a host family. And I was trying to be very, very good at my English. You learn “You swim,” “You’re a swimmer.” Right? “You paint,” “You’re a painter.”

do?” “Oh, the father is a teacher and the mother’s a cooker,” I said innocently. I didn’t know that a cooker was something used to cook and heat food. I just said, “She’s a cooker,” and my friend said, “No, no, she can’t be a cooker.” I said, “Yeah, she is.”

When I got home and I told my host mother what I had said, and she started laughing, and, so, that’s how you learn a new language. You take steps, you fail, and you laugh and you learn. You know, I believe that if everybody took a chance to learn somebody’s language, especially if you have an issue with that culture, you should go and learn that culture’s language, try at least, and you’re going to take a peek through a window you’ve never looked through before and you’re going to start understanding that culture. And I think that’s what I got from it and that’s what can actually change things in the world, is trying to listen to different cultures’ stories through language.

LESSON 1

Greek	/gri:k/ (adj)	یونانی
distant	/'dis.tənt/ (adj)	دور
argue	/'ɑ:rg.ju:/ (n)	جر و بحث کردن
foolishness	/'fu:lɪʃ.nəs/ (n)	حماقت
yell	/jel/ (v)	فریاد زدن
overhear	/'oʊ.və'hɪr/ (v)	از فاصله دور شنیدن
trust	/trʌst/ (v)	اعتماد کردن
unfamiliar	/ʌn.fə'mɪl.i.jə/ (adj)	نا آشنا
bunch	/bʌntʃ/ (n)	خوشه

LESSON 2

sweat	/swet/ (v)	عرق کردن
sign up	/'saɪn ,ʌp/ (v)	ثبت نام کردن
tiny	/'taɪ.ni/ (adj)	بسیار کوچک
treasure	/'treʒ.ə/ (n)	گنج
immersion	/'ɪ.mɜ:ʃən/ (n)	غوطه وری
scholarship	/'skɔ:lə.ʃɪp/ (n)	کمک هزینه تحصیلی
term	/tɜ:m/ (n)	واژه
cannibal	/'kæn.ə.bəl/ (n)	آدمخوار
sneak	/sni:k/ (v)	دزدکی وارد جایی شدن

LESSON 3

carriage	/ˈker.ɪdʒ/ (n)	کالسکه
swindler	/ˈswɪn.dəl/ (n)	کلاهبردار
weaver	/wi:vər/ (n)	نساج
pattern	/ˈpæ.t̩.ən/ (n)	طرح
loom	/lu:m/ (n)	دستگاه بافندگی
satisfied	/ˈsæt̩.ɪs.faɪd/ (adj)	خشنود
official	/əˈfɪ.əl/ (n)	مقام رسمی
parade	/pəˈreɪd/ (n)	رژه
thread	/θred/ (n)	نخ

LESSON 4

belong	/bɪˈlɔːŋ/ (v)	متعلق بودن
bright	/braɪt/ (adj)	درخشان
experienced	/ɪkˈspɪə.ri.ənst/ (adj)	با تجربه
leather	/ˈleð.ə/ (n)	چرم
whisper	/ˈwɪs.pə/ (v)	نجوا کردن
frighten	/ˈfraɪ.tən/ (v)	ترساندن
sweetness	/ˈswi:t.nəs/ (n)	شیرینی
tear	/teɪ/ (v)	پاره کردن
tear	/tɪr/ (n)	اشک