Now let's read a story about a clever fox and how he helped to catch a lian. Now let's read a story about a cleve, on a long journey on a long, long ago, a traveller was going on a long journey on once upon a time, long, long ago, a day and was feeling very tired. He knew of the had been riding all day and was feeling very tired. Once upon a time, long, long ago, a traveller was going of a forig Journey on the his horse. He had been riding all day and was feeling very tired. He knew that his horse. He had been riding all day and was feeling very tired. his poor horse must be tired too. So, he decided to stop for the night as soon

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as he came to a village.

After a while, he saw a village in the distance and soon, he was standing outside an inn. He tied his horse to a tree and went into the inn. A thief, who was hiding behind some bushes, was watching him. As soon as the man went inside,

horse and untied the rope. Quietly, he took the horse into the woods behind the inn and hid it there. Then, he came back and stood near the tree as if he had not done anything.

After some time, the man came out to check on his horse. He was surprised to see that his horse was not to be seen anywhere. He looked everywhere, but no luck.

He noticed the thief standing near the tree and asked, 'I'd tied my horse here a while ago. Did you see it?'

The thief pretended to think for a while and said, 'Yes, I saw the tree eat up your horse.'

The traveller was surprised. He exclaimed, 'What! Are you crazy? How could the tree eat up my horse?'

'Why, it did so,' said the thief.

They got into an argument but the thief refused to change his statement. Just then, they saw a fox passing by. The traveller called out to the fox, 'Hello there, Mr Fox! Can you come over here and solve our case, please?'

other people believe something that is not true argument an appropriate an appropriate and stay the night too pretended: behaved in a way to make other people believe something that is not true argument: an angry discussion case: a question or situation that is to . 16

They told the fox the whole story.
The fox listened carefully, then said, 'I am a little dull today. All night long, the sea was on fire;
I had to throw a great deal of hay into it to quench the flames; so come tomorrow, and I shall hear your case.'



'Oh, you lie!' said the thief. 'How could hay quench the flames?'

'Oh, you lie!' said the fox, with a loud laugh; 'how could a tree eat up a horse?'

The thief then realised that his lie had been caught by the clever fox. He then took the traveller to the place where he had tied his horse and asked him to forgive him.

—Ramaswarni Raju

(From The Junior Classics, edited by William Patten)

... which they took

–Kamaswarni Raju

(From The Junior Classics, edited by William Patten)

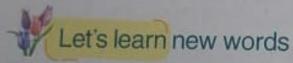
place in the story.
The thief told the traveller that a tree had eaten up his horse.
The thief told the fox that he was lying as neither could the sea be on fire, nor could hay be used to stop the fire.
The traveller asked the thief if he had seen his horse.
The traveller and the thief went to the clever fox and asked for his help.
A thief stole a man's horse and hid it in the forest.
The thief realised that his crime was revealed. He returned the horse to its owner.
The fox told both of them to come back the next day as he was very tired because he had been up the whole night, putting out the flames in the sea as it was on fire.

dull: not bright a great deal of: a lot of hay: grass that has been cut and dried and is used as food for animals quench: to stop a fire from burning flames: hot bright streams of burning gas that come from fire

The fox told the thief that if the sea could not catch fire then a tree could not eat a horse too, in the same way.

B. Answer these questions.

- 1. What did the traveller do when he could not find his horse?
- 2. What had happened to the horse, according to the thief?
- 3. Why did the fox tell the man and the thief to come again, the next day?
- 4. Why did the fox lie to the thief?
- 5. Why did the thief return the horse to the man?
- 6. The thief in the story stole the man's horse. Then he told a lie too. But in the end, he was caught. Write down in your own words why you think he was wrong. What advice would you give him? (4) (Hint: I think stealing is wrong we should never take something that a liar is always caught in the end so my advice is ...)
- 7. 'How could the tree eat up my horse?'
 - a) Who said this and to whom?
 - b) Do you think the listener was speaking the truth? Why not?
 - c) Why did the speaker ask this question?



You already know that two different words that have almost the same meaning are called synonyms.

For example, hotel, lodge and resort are synonyms of inn.

A. Now read the words in the box and write down the synonyms of the words given below.

light	quarrel	as	tonished	tired	forest
		2.	case: quench:		
			2. 4.	2. case: 4. quench:	2. case: 4. quench: