

Subject	– English Language
Grade	– 10
Competency level	– 5.5 Reads and responds to simple Folk stories
Lesson	– 43 Activity sheet

The Red and Blue coat

Once there were two boys who were great friends, and they were determined to remain that way forever. When they grew up and got married, they built their houses facing one another. There was a small path that formed a border between their farms.

One day, a trickster from the village decided to play a trick on them. He dressed himself in a two-color coat that was divided down the middle. So, one side of the coat was red, and the other side was blue.

The trickster wore this coat and walked along the narrow path between the houses of the two friends. They were each working opposite each other in their fields. The trickster made enough noise as he passed them to make sure that each of them would look up and see him passing.

At the end of the day, one friend said to the other, "Wasn't that a beautiful red coat that man was wearing today?"

"No", the other replied. "It was a blue coat."

"I saw the man clearly as he walked between us!" said the first, "His coat was red."

"You are wrong!" said the other man, "I saw it too, and it was blue."

"I know what I saw!" insisted the first man. "The coat was red!"

"You don't know anything," the second man replied angrily. "It was blue!"

They kept arguing about this over and over, insulted each other, and eventually, they began to beat each other and roll around on the ground.

Just then, the trickster returned and faced the two men, who were punching and kicking each other and shouting, "Our friendship is OVER!"

The trickster walked directly in front of them, and showed them his coat. He laughed at their silly fight. The two friends saw this his coat was red on one side and blue on the other.

The two friends stopped fighting and screamed at the trickster saying, "We have lived side by side like brothers all our lives, and it is all your fault that we are fighting. You have started a war between us."

"Don't blame me for the battle," replied the trickster. "I did not make you fight. Both of you are wrong, and both of you are right. Yes, what each one saw was true. You are fighting because you only looked at my coat from your own point of view."

Activity 1

Read the above text and mark the following statements as ‘True’ or ‘False’

1. The two boys are good friends. (.....)
2. The trickster dressed in a two colour coat. (.....)
3. The two boys didn’t argue with each other about the trickster’s coat. (.....)
4. The two boys are farmers. (.....)
5. Really, the coat was stolen. (.....)

Activity 2

Read the story and answer the questions.

1. How many characters are there in the folk tale? What are they?
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2. What were the two boys doing, when the trickster walked along the narrow path of their houses?
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3. Find and write four adjectives and two adverbs from the story.
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4. Were the two friends able to solve their problem on the coat?
.....
5. Find one word for each of the following phrases from the text.
 - a. A person who cheats or deceives people-
 - b. A state of armed conflict between two people or a group-
 - c. The relationship of two friends-
6. Write the moral message given through the story in your words.
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