



The Frog Prince

Many years ago, there lived a prince who was unkind. One day, a travelling witch cast a curse on him. He was transformed into a frog with a swish of her wand. She told him that he would only be turned back when he was thanked for a good deed.

The prince had a loyal servant named Henry. He was so upset at his master's curse that the witch was worried his heart would break. With another flick of her wand, she encased his heart in bands of iron.

For many years, the prince lived a lonely life as a frog with only Henry to keep him company. They spent their days around a large pond at the foot of a castle. Inside the castle lived a princess who was spoilt and as just as rude as the prince had been.

One sunny morning, the princess was playing with a ball of solid gold. It had been a gift from a suitor, but she had taken it and turned him away. On this day, she was throwing it high into the air and trying to catch it. Unfortunately, she missed the ball, and it rolled down the bank and into the muddy pond.

Seeing a chance to be helpful, Henry told the princess that his friend could help her. When the Frog Prince hopped into sight, she screamed and threw him against a tree.

"My lady," Henry shouted, "that frog is no ordinary frog. He was once the prince of

INFERENCE FOCUS

1. Why do you think the witch cast a curse on the prince?
2. Why would a good deed turn him back?
3. Why was Henry so upset at the curse?
4. Why was his life as a frog lonely?
5. Why did the princess throw the frog away?

these lands.”

The princess didn’t believe him. “If he was once a man, then let him fetch me my ball of gold.”

Without hesitating, the prince jumped into the pond and swam to the bottom. He picked the ball of gold up in his mouth and swam back to shore. When the princess saw what he had done, she was so happy she bent down and gave him a kiss on the head. “Thank you,” she said.

Henry and the prince jumped as glittery stars circled their heads. When it had disappeared, the frog was once again a prince and Henry’s heart from freed from its iron cage. Hand in hand, the princess and the Frog Prince walked back to the castle where they were married.



VIPERS QUESTIONS

- V** Which word means that his heart was covered in metal?
- R** What was her ball made from?
- R** What appeared above their heads when the prince turned back?
- S** Can you identify what happened first in the story: the princess kissing the frog or the frog fetching the ball?
- E** Why did the author say the wand “swished”?

Answers:

1. Because he was unkind
2. The witch wanted him to be kind to people
3. He was worried for his master/the prince
4. He couldn't talk to anybody and only had Henry for company
5. She didn't want to be helped by a frog/she thought it was gross/unpleasant

V: Encased

R: Gold

R: Glittery stars

S: Fetching the ball

E: It sounds like the noise a wand would make/Onomatopoeia