

【課題文 B】

The Honest Woodcutter

On a summer day, a woodcutter walked into a forest. It was a large forest with many animals and a beautiful river. He was a poor man who only had the clothes on his back and his old, rusty axe. It was a very hot day and he sweated a lot as he chopped down many trees.

The sun went down and the sky got dark. The woodcutter was chopping his last tree when he dropped his axe into the river. He tried to find his axe, but the river moved fast and it was too dark to see anything. "Oh, no," the woodcutter cried, "I need my axe. Without it, I can't cut trees and I can't eat. What am I going to do?"

The forest fairy heard the woodcutter's cries and came to him right away. "What is wrong, sir?" she asked.

"I've lost my axe in the river." the woodcutter told the fairy, "Without it, I will surely starve."

The forest fairy felt sorry for the woodcutter. "Please wait here and I will find your axe," she told him.

A few moments later, the fairy came out from the river and said, "I have found two axes, but I don't know which is yours. I have this gold one and this silver one."

The woodcutter was very surprised when he saw the two beautiful axes. "Thank you, Forest Fairy," the woodcutter said, "The axes you have found are splendid. But they are not mine. My axe is old and rusty."

The forest fairy smiled and said, "I am pleased by your honesty. Please take these two axes as a reward." The woodcutter thanked the forest fairy, finished chopping down the last tree, and returned home. That day he learned that honesty is the best policy.

(298 Words)



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