

The Tea Cup

Gap fill

Listen to the story and fill in the blanks.

Long ago, there was a great teacher. He was _____ in all the nearby villages for his wise instructions and gentle teaching methods. Many people came to visit him. They wanted to learn. They were _____ answers to important questions.

The great teacher was also kind and _____. He talked to almost everyone who visited his home.

One late afternoon on a _____ fall day, a stranger came to the teacher's house. He was a rich and powerful man. He wore _____ clothes made from the finest material. He told the monk that he wanted to be wise. He wanted to learn. He wanted the teacher to open his mind.

The man did not speak like a student _____ knowledge. His words and tone sounded like a person who _____ commanding other people.

The great teacher welcomed the man into his home. He _____ they drink tea together. The two men _____ the floor. A few minutes later, a young monk brought in a pot of _____ green tea and two small cups.

The teacher _____ the pot and poured tea into the man's cup. He poured and poured and poured some more. He didn't stop. Eventually, the tea _____ of the cup and onto the table. Some of the tea landed on the man's fancy clothes.

The man was _____ and angered by the teacher's unusual behavior. He asked, "What are you doing? Stop pouring. Can't you see the cup is full?"

The great teacher _____ pouring. He turned his head, looked at the man and said, "Your mind is like this cup. Nothing new _____ because it is so full of opinions. Come back to me when your mind is empty."

Synonym match

Match the words or phrases.

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|---------------|---------------|
| 1. generous | a. surprising |
| 2. tone | b. giving |
| 3. flowed out | c. judgements |
| 4. unusual | d. sound |
| 5. opinions | e. spilled |

True or false

Choose the correct answer.

1. The teacher lived in a city. T or F
2. The teacher taught in his home. T or F
3. The teacher spilled tea on the man's clothes by accident. T or F
4. The two men did not sit on chairs. T or F
5. The teacher asked the man to return. T or F

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Anagrams

Move letters. Make a new word.

CAYFN

RLIETAMA

SINNOPIO

NJEYEOOD

ERNRAGTS

AVLEILG

ESL discussion questions

Talk about the story

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1. Who visited the teacher in the story?
 2. What did the visitor want?
 3. The teacher listened to the visitor. What do you think the teacher learned about that person?
 4. Why did the teacher pour so much tea into the cup?
 5. Does the ESL listening story teach us a message?
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Writing practice

Put the words in the correct order.

1. to / his / who / visited / almost / everyone / talked / he / home

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2. of / speak / not / a / in / search / knowledge / like / student / did / the / man

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3. cup / man's / picked / pot / tea / into / the / poured / the / up / and / the / teacher

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4. people / many / to / him / visit / came

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5. he / head / your / the / this / man / mind / cup / his / turned / is / like / looked / said / and / at
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