

# The Cat in the Witch's Woods

11 Once upon a time, there was a girl and her wicked  
19 stepmother. The stepmother dreamt of nothing but how  
30 she could get rid of her stepdaughter. One day, an evil  
43 idea came into her head and she sent the girl out into the  
51 great, gloomy wood where a wicked witch lived.

61 After months of misery, the girl stumbled across a grey  
72 cat in the bleak woods. "How can I escape the witch?"  
81 she asked the cat. He gave her two items.

91 "Throw this handkerchief on the ground and run as fast  
102 as you can," he said. "Wherever it touches the ground, a  
113 deep, broad river will appear. If the witch manages to get  
124 across it, throw this comb behind you and run for your  
134 life. Wherever the comb falls, a dense forest will grow  
139 and trap the witch forever."



# Quick Questions



1. Which two objects did the cat give to the girl?

\_\_\_\_\_



2. Find and copy two adjectives which describe the Witch's woods.

\_\_\_\_\_



3. Why do you think that the girl experienced 'months of misery'?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



4. What do you think the girl did next?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# The Cat in the Witch's Woods

11 Once upon a time, there was a girl and her wicked  
19 stepmother. The stepmother dreamt of nothing but how  
30 she could get rid of her stepdaughter. One day, an evil  
43 idea came into her head and she sent the girl out into the  
51 great, gloomy wood where a wicked witch lived.

61 After months of misery, the girl stumbled across a grey  
72 cat in the bleak woods. "How can I escape the witch?"  
81 she asked the cat. He gave her two items.

91 "Throw this handkerchief on the ground and run as fast  
102 as you can," he said. "Wherever it touches the ground, a  
113 deep, broad river will appear. If the witch manages to get  
124 across it, throw this comb behind you and run for your  
134 life. Wherever the comb falls, a dense forest will grow  
139 and trap the witch forever."



# Answers



1. Which two objects did the cat give to the girl?  
**Accept: '(a) handkerchief' and '(a) comb' only.**



2. Find and copy two adjectives which describe the Witch's woods.  
**Accept two of the following: great, gloomy, bleak.**



3. Why do you think that the girl experienced 'months of misery'?  
**Accept answers which discuss that she was living in an unpleasant wood, that the wicked witch was horrible to her or that she missed home.**



4. What do you think the girl did next?  
**Accept any reasonable prediction based on the items given to her by the cat and her desire to escape, such as 'I think she ran through the woods and tried to escape'.**