

The Fox and the Tiger

One day, the king of the forest, tiger, caught a fox. He was pleased because now he would have a good meal.

The fox, however, was very clever. He told the tiger, “The Heavens sent me to be the King of the Forest. If you eat me, God will punish you.” The tiger was very doubtful that the fox was the King of the Forest. The fox tried to convince him. He said, “Let’s take a walk together. Please follow me. You will see how terrified other animals will be when they see me.”

The fox and the tiger walked into the forest. All the animals, including the bears, fled immediately when they saw the tiger.

The fox tricked the tiger and saved his own life; the tiger, on the other hand, lost a good meal.

10

The Fox and the Tiger

king of the forest

tiger

caught

fox

meal

clever

Heavens

eat

punish

doubtful

convince

terrified

bears

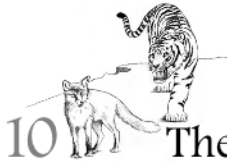
fled

tricked

saved

lost

Note: These are prompts for retelling the story, rewriting from memory, or discussion.
They are on the back of the page with the story.



10 The Fox and the Tiger

Dictation

The tiger was the King of the Forest.
One day he caught a fox.
The fox was very clever.
The fox said, "If you eat me, God will punish you."
The tiger was very doubtful, so the fox said,
"Let us walk together. You walk behind."
You will see the animals are terrified of me."
They walked into the forest.
All the animals fled immediately.
The fox tricked the tiger and the tiger
lost a meal.

Comprehension Questions

Who was the King of the Forest?
What did he catch?
Who was very clever?
What did the fox say?
Who would punish the tiger?
Who was very doubtful.
What did the fox tell the tiger?
Where did they go?
What happened?

Note: There are two exercises in the text for each story,
a dictation and comprehension questions.

10. The Fox and the Tiger

- A. How did the fox trick the tiger?
- B. Is there a lesson in this story? If so, what is the lesson?

10. The Fox and the Tiger

In Chinese culture, the tiger is considered as the King of the Forest. It is said that the stripes on Tigers' forehead indicate the Chinese word *Wang*, which means "king." The Tiger is also a common motif in traditional Chinese painting. It is a symbol of power and good fortune. There are different kinds of tigers in China. Siberian tigers live in the northeastern part of China; the South China tigers live in southern and eastern China. Both are endangered species. In traditional Chinese medicine, different parts of the tiger are considered precious and powerful medicine for various ailments. Poachers capture tigers for their fur and body parts. Also, Tiger Balm is a famous Asian trademark for a type of ointment that cures muscle pains, headaches, insect bites, stuffy nose, and itchiness.

Note: In the text, there are also a discussion question and some historical and cultural background for each story. On the web, the story is available in Chinese.