



There was a man who often asked Hodja for advice. Usually Hodja thought the man's problems were not very important. One day he came to Hodja with this problem: "I have a headache. What should I do?"

Hodja replied, "I'm not sure, my friend, but I can tell you that recently I had a toothache. I had the tooth pulled out, and it doesn't bother me now."

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The Cure for a Headache

man
advice
important
problem
headache
recently
toothache
pulled out
bother



The hair on a man's head often turns grey before his beard. As Hodja became older, his hair turned white, but his beard didn't.

At the barber shop one day, one of his friends said to Hodja, "Hodja, your hair is almost white, but your beard is still black as coal. Why is that?"

Hodja answered, "Why, that's easy to explain. The hair on my head is twenty years older than my beard."

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Hodja's Hair

hair
gray
beard
older
white
barber shop
beard
still black
explain
head
older
beard



Hodja often took donkeys to the market to sell, and he sold his donkeys for a very low price. One day another donkey seller said to him, "How can you sell your donkeys so cheaply? I cannot do it, although I pay my servants almost nothing, and I have my servants steal the hay from the fields."

"Well," said Hodja, "it's easy to explain. You steal hay and labor; I steal donkeys."

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Cheap Donkeys

donkeys
market
low price
seller
cheap
pay
servants
steal
hay
explain
labor
hay
donkeys



One day Hodja went to the market and bought a fine piece of meat. On the way home he met a friend who gave him a special recipe for the meat. Hodja was very happy. But then, before he got home, a large crow stole the meat from Hodja's hands and flew off with it.

"You thief!" Hodja angrily called after the departing crow. "You have stolen my meat! But you won't enjoy it; I've got the recipe!"

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The Stolen Meat

market
bought
meat
friend
recipe
crow
flew off
thief
stolen
enjoy
recipe