

Nail Soup

Once upon a time there was a traveller who came to a village on the edge of a great forest.



1. Where was the village?

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On the edge of a mountain.

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On the edge of a city.

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On the edge of a forest.

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On the edge of a river.

There, he met an old woman. Unfortunately, the traveller had not eaten for days and his tummy was rumbling like thunder.

“I’m so hungry!” moaned the traveller.

“Well, I cannot feed you!” snapped the old woman.

“I haven’t got a scrap of food in the house.”

2. Who did the traveller meet?

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An old man.

☐

An old woman.

☐

A young girl.

☐

A young boy.

3. Why was the traveller’s tummy rumbling?

So the traveller opened his sack and took out a rusty pot. First, he made a roaring fire. Next, he put the rusty pot onto the fire. After that, he tipped in some water. Finally, he took out a shiny nail and dropped it in!

4. What kind of pot did the traveller take out of his sack?

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A shiny pot.

☐

A rusty pot.

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A green pot.

☐

A hot pot.

5. What did the traveller do after he put the pot onto the fire?

Then, with his trusty, rusty spoon he sipped the soup.

“So what does it taste like?” asked the old woman who had been watching curiously as he popped the nail into the pot. “My soup tastes as good as the sky itself...but I’ve been using that nail all week and it’s grown a little thin so it needs a few vegetables.” said the traveller.

6. What did the traveller say his soup tasted as good as?

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The sun.

☐

The fresh air.

☐

The moon.

☐

The sky.

7. What did the traveller say his soup needed?

So, the old woman fetched one onion, two carrots and three potatoes. The traveller popped them into the pot. After a while, the traveller took out his trusty, rusty spoon and sipped the soup.

“So what does it taste like?” asked the old woman who was still watching curiously.

8. How many onions did the old woman fetch?

three

four

one

two

9. What were the other two vegetables that were added to the soup?

“My soup tastes as good as the sky itself...but it needs a some chicken legs and a few herbs.” said the traveller.

So, the old woman fetched some chicken legs and herbs and the traveller popped them into the pot.

After a while, the traveller took out his trusty, rusty spoon and sipped the soup.

“So what does it taste like?” asked the old woman who was still watching curiously.

10. What parts of a chicken did the traveller want for his soup?

breast

wings

bones

legs

11. How was the old woman watching the traveller?

“Mmmmm, this soup is better than a slice of sky pie!” said the traveller. After that, he shared his soup with all the villagers. Eventually, Old Goody Gardener said, “How wonderful to have nail soup.” Everyone agreed.

12. Who said “How wonderful to have nail soup.”?

The old woman.

Old Goody Gardener.

The traveller.

The villagers.

Wishing that she too could make such wonderful soup, Old Goody Gardener asked if she could have the traveller’s nail.

So, the traveller polished the nail on his coat, gave it to her and set off for another village and, perhaps, another bowl of nail soup... or stone soup... or pebble soup!

13. Why did Old Goody Gardener want the traveller's nail?

14. What do you think made the travellers soup so tasty?

Draw a picture of your favourite part of the story.