

### ***Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll**

(age group: 13-14; 7<sup>th</sup> grade)

“‘Curiouser and curiouser’ cried Alice (she was so much surprised, that for the moment she quite forgot how to speak good English); ‘now I’m opening out like the largest telescope that ever was! Goodbye, feet!’ (for when she looked down at her feet, they seemed to be almost out of sight, they were getting so far off). ‘Oh, my poor little feet, I wonder who will put on your shoes and stockings for you now, dears? I’m sure I shan’t be able! I shall be a great deal too far off to *trouble*<sup>1</sup> myself about you: you must *manage*<sup>2</sup> the best way you can – but I must be kind to them,’ thought Alice, ‘or perhaps they won’t walk the way I want to go! Let me see: I’ll give them a new pair of boots every Christmas.’

Just then her head *struck*<sup>3</sup> against the roof of the hall: in fact she was now more than nine *feet*<sup>4</sup> high, and she at once took up the little golden key and hurried off to the garden door.

Poor Alice! It was as much as she could do, *lying*<sup>5</sup> down on one side, to look through into the garden with one eye; but to get through was more hopeless than ever: she sat down and began to cry again.

‘You ought to be ashamed of yourself,’ said Alice, ‘a great girl like you,’ (she might well say this), ‘to go on crying in this way! Stop this moment, I tell you!’ But she went on all the same, *shedding*<sup>6</sup> *gallons*<sup>7</sup> of tears, until there was a large *pool*<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> To trouble (oneself) = a se îngrijora

<sup>2</sup> To manage = a se descurca

<sup>3</sup> To strike (*strike-struck-struck*) = a lovi

<sup>4</sup> Foot (pl. *feet*) = unitate de lungime, egală cu aproximativ 30,5 cm

<sup>5</sup> To lie (*lie-lay-lain*) = a sta culcat, a zăcea

<sup>6</sup> To shed (*shed-shed-shed*) = a vărsa

<sup>7</sup> Gallon (pl. *gallons*) = unitate de capacitate (4,54 l în Anglia sau 3,78 l în SUA)

<sup>8</sup> Pool = baltă

all round her, about four *inches*<sup>9</sup> deep and reaching half down the *hall*<sup>10</sup>.

After a time she heard a little *pattering*<sup>11</sup> of feet in the distance, and she *hastily*<sup>12</sup> dried her eyes to see what was coming. It was the White Rabbit returning, splendidly dressed, with a pair of white kid gloves in one hand and a large *fan*<sup>13</sup> in the other: he came *trotting*<sup>14</sup> along in a great hurry, *muttering*<sup>15</sup> to himself as he came, ‘Oh! The Duchess, the Duchess! Oh! Won’t she be *savage*<sup>16</sup> if I’ve kept her waiting!’ Alice felt so desperate that she was ready to ask help of anyone; so, when the Rabbit came near her, she began, in a low, timid voice, ‘If you please, sir’ – The Rabbit started violently, *dropped*<sup>17</sup> the white kid gloves and the fan, and ran away into the darkness as hard as he could go.”

(*Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll)

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<sup>9</sup> Inch (pl. *inches*) = unitate de măsură egală cu aproximativ 2,54 cm

<sup>10</sup> Hall = sală

<sup>11</sup> Pattering = bătaie (zgomot)

<sup>12</sup> Hastily = în grabă

<sup>13</sup> Fan = evantai

<sup>14</sup> To trot (past *trotted*) = a umbla cu pași mărunți

<sup>15</sup> To mutter (past. *muttered*) = a bolborosi, a bombăni, a murmura

<sup>16</sup> Savage = aici, cu sensul de nervos/nervoasă, scos/scoasă din fire

<sup>17</sup> To drop (something) (past *dropped*) = a scăpa din mână

## FOLLOW UP ACTIVITIES

### A. Understanding the story:

1. Read the text.
2. Which of the following statements are true (T) and which are false (F)?
  - a) Alice felt that she was opening out like the largest parachute that ever was. (...)
  - b) Alice thinks about giving her feet a new pair of boots every Easter. (...)
  - c) Alice became shorter and her head struck against the floor. (...)
  - d) Alice took the silver key and hurried off to the bathroom door. (...)
  - e) All of a sudden, Alice started laughing. (...)
  - f) The White Rabbit carried in his hands a pair of white gloves and a large fan. (...)
  - g) The White Rabbit was muttering to himself: 'Oh! The Queen, the Queen!' (...)
3. Arrange the events in the order in which they occurred.
  - a) Alice's head struck against the roof of the hall.
  - b) The White Rabbit appeared.
  - c) Alice talked to her feet.
  - d) Alice hurried off to the garden door.
  - e) When the White Rabbit came near her, Alice asked him to help her.
  - f) Alice heard a little pattering of feet in the distance.

### B. Word study:

1. Find three words related to units of measurement, which are present in the text:

|   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| X | G | V | E | W | R |
| G | A | K | W | I | Q |
| S | L | T | R | N | P |
| Z | L | Y | I | C | M |
| F | O | O | T | H | Y |
| C | N | B | U | A | E |

2. Complete the following sentences with words from the text:

- a) When making mistakes, you do not necessarily have to ..... yourself.
- b) A ..... is a very large room.
- c) If it is very hot outside, you can use a ..... to cool down a bit.
- d) When you have to hurry, you move .....
- e) These calculations are so difficult. How do you ..... to solve them without a calculator?
- f) When he saw the police coming, the thief ..... the stolen object.

3. Match the words from column A to the suitable word/s in column B:

| A             | B   |
|---------------|---|
| 1.Hastily     | A.cope with, handle, carry on,                        |
| 2.Fan         | B.laze, lie down, lounge, repose                      |
| 3.To trot     | C.groan, mumble, complain, moan, whisper              |
| 4.Savage      | D.hit, beat, run into, slap, smack                    |
| 5.To drop     | E.bother, worry, sadden, upset                        |
| 6.Pattering   | F.promptly, quickly, rapidly, suddenly, swiftly       |
| 7.To shed     | G.ventilator, air conditioner, propeller, blade, leaf |
| 8.To lie      | H.go, hurry, jog, pad, run, step lively               |
| 9.To strike   | I.brutal, cruel, feral, harsh, mad, rough             |
| 10.To manage  | J.collapse, dump, release, shed, slip, let go of      |
| 11.To trouble | K.light walk, pitter-patter, rat-a-tat, rattle, tap   |
| 12.To mutter  | L.cast, drop, pour forth, scatter, shower sprinkle    |
|               | M.basin, millpond, pond, tank, tarn                   |

3+. One group of words remained unmatched. There is a word in the text which corresponds to the remaining group of words. Find it and write it down.

**C. Creative writing**

1. Imagine what could have caused Alice to become taller and taller. Write a possible beginning of the story in about 5 lines.
2. Imagine that the White Rabbit stopped and listened to Alice’s call for help. Try to continue the story as if this had happened. Try not to write more than 5 lines.
3. Why do you think the White Rabbit was afraid of the Duchess? Write a brief description of the Duchess in about 4 lines.

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