

Level 4-10
Ivan the Fool

Workbook

Teacher's Guide & Answer Key

Teacher's Guide

A. Summary

1. Book Summary

A farmer had three sons: Simeon, a soldier, Tarras, a merchant, and Ivan, a fool. Simeon and Tarras asked for Ivan's land, and he willingly gave most of it to them. The Old Devil was angry that the three brothers didn't fight with each other. He sent his little devils to make them fight. They caused the first two brothers to fail, but they couldn't stop Ivan. Each time, Ivan caught the little devil, who then gave Ivan a wish.

Ivan got some root that could cure any sickness, and he could make soldiers out of straw and gold out of leaves. Ivan made soldiers for Simeon, who then went away to fight other kingdoms. He made gold for Tarras, who then went away and bought his own kingdom. Ivan helped the sick daughter of the Czar get better with the root from the devil. For that, he received a lot of land and money, and he married the girl.

Then the Old Devil tried to stop the brothers himself. He defeated Simeon in battle and made it impossible for Tarras to do business. He then tried to persuade Ivan's people not to work. However, because he didn't want to work for food like the others, the Old Devil became weak from the lack of food. He fell and hit his head. When Ivan went up to help him, the Old Devil disappeared into the ground. Ivan's brothers, who now had nothing, came to live with him in his kingdom, where there was plenty of everything.

2. Chapter Summary

► Chapter 1

There once was a farmer who had three sons. Simeon was a soldier, Tarras was a merchant, and Ivan was a fool. Simeon was always poor. He asked Ivan for one-third of the farm, and Ivan gave it to him. Tarras was rich, but it was never enough. He asked for half of what Ivan had, and Ivan gave it to him, too. The brothers only left one old horse for Ivan.

► Chapter 2

The Old Devil was angry because the brothers did not fight with each other. He sent his three small devils to make the three brothers fight. One devil wet the gun powder so that Simeon and his soldiers couldn't use their guns. That made the Czar angry, and he took

away Simeon's land. The second devil made Tarras want everything he saw so that he spent all his money. Tarras had no choice but to go back to the farm.

► Chapter 3

The third devil spit in Ivan's drink and made him sick. Though Ivan's stomach hurt, he continued to work. The devil tried other ways to stop Ivan from working. He made the ground hard, broke one of Ivan's plows, and held the plow to stop it. When his plow hit something hard, Ivan thought it was a root, but he pulled out a devil from the ground instead. The devil pleaded for his life and promised Ivan a wish. Ivan asked him to make his stomach better, and the devil gave him a root. Ivan blessed the devil and let him go. When Ivan got home, Simeon was there. Simeon wanted to stay with him, and Ivan let him.

► Chapter 4

The next day, the first devil tried to stop Ivan from working. He held onto Ivan's tool to stop him from cutting the grass, but part of his tail got cut off instead. The devil thought of stopping Ivan from cutting the grain the next day, but Ivan cut the grain that night. Then the devil decided to kill the plants, but he fell asleep in the field and was caught by Ivan. The devil begged for his life and offered Ivan magic. He told Ivan how to make soldiers from straw, but Ivan said he didn't need soldiers and told the devil to turn them back into straw. Then he sent the devil on his way with a blessing.

► Chapter 5

When Ivan went home, Tarras was at the farm. Now both of his brothers needed homes, so Ivan went into the forest to cut some trees. But the second devil was there, and he kept the trees from falling when Ivan cut them. Then the devil fell asleep and a tree fell on him. He offered Ivan magic in exchange for his life. He told Ivan how to make gold from leaves, and Ivan let him go with a blessing. Ivan's brothers heard about the magic. Simeon asked Ivan to make soldiers of straw for him, and he took the soldiers to fight other kingdoms. Tarras asked Ivan for gold to do business. He became very rich and bought himself a kingdom.

► Chapter 6

The Czar's daughter was sick, so he announced that whoever made her better would get a lot of land and money. Ivan cured her with the root from the devil. He married her and became a czar over his land. The Old Devil was angry to hear about the three brothers and their kingdoms. He became a general and defeated Simeon, causing him to flee. Next, he became a merchant and bought up everything that Tarras wanted so that he couldn't buy anything, even food. Then the Old Devil went to Ivan's kingdom. Ivan's people worked for

everything they needed. But the Old Devil didn't want to work, so he became weak from not having food to eat. He fell and hit his head. When Ivan walked up to him, he disappeared into the ground. Now that they had nothing, Ivan's brothers came to him, and he welcomed them. They lived happily together in Ivan's kingdom, which had lots of everything.

B. Background and Themes

★ **Diligence:** Ivan continued to work hard when he faced problems and even after he became wealthy.

★ **Generosity:** Ivan freely shared with his brothers, though they did not deserve it.

★ **Foolishness:** Tarras and Simeon showed foolishness in trying to be successful, while Ivan the fool was not a fool at all.

★ **Ambition:** Tarras and Simeon never seemed to be satisfied with what they had, always wanting more.

★ **Evil:** The devils never liked others to be happy and did everything they could to make trouble.

Answer Key

Part A Story Focus

Before You Read

(Answers may vary.)

► Introduction

1. It was both a fairy tale and a short story.
2. Leo Tolstoy wrote it.
3. He liked to write about people who worked hard and helped each other.

► Characters

1. Ivan: farmer, hardworking
2. Simeon: strong, soldier
3. Tarras: rich, merchant
4. The Old Devil: bad, angry
5. Three Little Devils: foolish, trouble

While You Read

(Answers may vary.)

► Chapter 1

A. Preview Questions

1. I think it is Russia.
2. They are farmers.
3. He is plowing.

B. Review Questions

1. He wanted one-third of what Ivan had.
2. He wanted half of what Ivan had.
3. Only one old horse was left.

► Chapter 2

A. Preview Questions

1. I think they are devils.
2. They are talking about the farm below.
3. I think they want to cause trouble for the farmer.

B. Review Questions

1. He was angry because the three brothers did not fight with each other.
2. He wanted the little devils to make the brothers fight.
3. The Czar took away his land.

► Chapter 3

A. Preview Questions

1. They are Ivan and a little devil.
2. He has been plowing.
3. Ivan caught a little devil.

B. Review Questions

1. He spit in Ivan's drink, made the dirt hard, broke one of Ivan's plows, and held the plow to stop it.
2. He said he would give Ivan any wish.

3. He felt better.

► Chapter 4

A. Preview Questions

1. He is trying again to stop Ivan from working.
2. He uses his tool.
3. I think he will let the devil go.

B. Review Questions

1. Ivan cut off some of it.
2. Ivan could make soldiers from straw.
3. He wanted them turned back into straw.

► Chapter 5

A. Preview Questions

1. He is cutting trees.
2. He is sleeping in the tree.
3. He is making soldiers from straw.

B. Review Questions

1. He had to cut trees.
2. He stopped the trees from falling.
3. He could make gold.

► Chapter 6

A. Preview Questions

1. He is angry.
2. I think he will try to stop the brothers himself.
3. I think he will fail.

B. Review Questions

1. He gave her the root from the devil.
2. He told them to use their brains, not their hands, to do work.
3. He welcomed them to live in his kingdom.

Mini Quiz

a. Behind every great man, there's a great woman.

→ Every successful man has a woman who has helped him to become successful.

b. Look before you leap.

→ Think carefully before you attempt any risky endeavor.

c. What a fool does in the end, the wise do in the beginning.

→ It takes a fool a long time to learn a truth, but a wise man knows the truth already.

After You Read

(Answers may vary.)

► Pattern Practice

4. A: This lotion will make your skin better.

B: Thank you!

5. A: The operation made her nose better.

B: Really? That's good news.

► Challenge

1. The Old Devil sent three little devils to make the brothers fight.

2. Ivan stopped the devil with his tool.

3. When Ivan cut down the tree the devil was sleeping in, the tree fell on it.

4. The Old Devil heard about the three brothers and their kingdoms.

Part B Skill Focus

Vocabulary Preview

A.

Across

2. piece 4. rest 7. soldier 9. lazy 10. rich

Down

1. spit 3. fool 5. enough 6. czar 8. devil

B.

1. was a merchant
2. gun powder was wet
3. roots of the tree
4. hit its tail
5. fell asleep
6. rub your hands
7. my stomach hurts

Reading Comprehension

► Beginning: Chapters 1–2

A.

1. T 2. F 3. T 4. T 5. F

B.

1. He is the Old Devil.
2. He is bad.
3. The three little devils work for him.
4. He wants them to fight with each other.

C.

1. b 2. c 3. d 4. a 5. b 6. d

► Middle: Chapters 3–4

A.

1. T 2. F 3. T 4. T 5. F

B.

1. The third little devil
2. Ivan
3. A straw soldier
4. The first little devil

C.

1. a 2. c 3. d 4. d 5. b 6. d

► End: Chapters 5–6

A.

1. T 2. F 3. T 4. T 5. F

B.

a → c → b → d

C.

1. c 2. d 3. a 4. c 5. b 6. a

Think and Write

Main Idea: Old Devil against Ivan

Event 1: third little devil comes

Detail 1: Ivan's stomach hurts

Detail 2: Ivan gets special root

Detail 3: Ivan marries Czar's daughter

Event 2: second little devil comes

Detail 1: The Little devil is stuck under tree

Detail 2: Ivan gets magic

Detail 3: Ivan makes gold

Vocabulary Review

- | | | | | |
|-------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|------------|
| 1. merchant | 2. devils | 3. rich | 4. strength | 5. tired |
| 6. fight | 7. dirt | 8. sickness | 9. straw | 10. czar's |

Summary

A.

f → a → c → d → b → e

B.

1. Ivan, the third son, was a fool, but he was kind and hardworking.
2. The first little devil tried to stop Ivan from cutting the grass.
3. Ivan used magic to make lots of soldiers from straw for Simeon.

Book Report

Story 1. merchant 2. Devil 3. magic 4. brains 5. weak