



The Ant Who Loved the Sun Too Much

One small ant plays all summer while his friends work, until the first cold wind changes everything.

In a green field near a small hill¹, there lived a family of ants. Every summer morning, the ants woke up early. They walked in a long line to collect² seeds and grain. They carried the food back to their home under the ground. All day, they worked hard together.

But one ant was different. His name was Tom, and he was very lazy³. Tom did not like to work. He liked the warm sun and the soft grass. While the other ants carried food, Tom sang songs. He danced on the flowers. He slept in the shade of a big leaf.

"Tom, come and help us," his sister said. "Winter is coming soon. We need food for the cold days."

Tom only laughed. "Winter is far away," he said. "The sun is warm now. I want to enjoy it. There is no danger⁴ today!"

The summer days passed quickly. The other ants filled their home with food. They were careful⁵ and put every seed in a dry, safe place. Tom watched them, but he did not join them. He still played in the field.

Then, one morning, everything changed. The sun was not warm. The wind was cold and strong. The green grass turned brown. The flowers died. Grey clouds came, and the first rain fell. Tom was wet and cold. He looked for food, but

the field was empty now. There were no seeds. There was no grain.

Tom felt very hungry. He was also very worried⁶. "What can I do?" he thought. "I have no home for winter, and I have no food."

Tom walked slowly to his family's home under the ground. He stood at the door. He felt afraid, and he was ashamed of his lazy summer.

"I am sorry," Tom said sadly. "You worked, but I played and sang. Now winter is here, and I have nothing."

His sister looked at him. She was quiet for a moment. Then she opened the door wide. "Come inside, Tom," she said. "You are our family. We have enough food for you too. But next summer, you must work with us."

Tom came inside, warm and safe at last. He was so happy that he almost cried. That winter, he watched the snow and the ice from a small window. He remembered his easy summer days, and he understood his big mistake.

When spring came again, Tom was the first ant to wake up. He walked in the line with his family. He carried seeds and grain all day. He still loved the sun, but now he loved his work too. Tom was not lazy again.

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VOCABULARY — KEY WORDS FROM THE STORY

#	WORD	DEFINITION	EXAMPLE SENTENCE
1	hill <i>noun</i>	a small area of high land, like a very small mountain	"We walked up the hill to see the whole town below us."
2	collect <i>verb</i>	to bring things together from different places into one place	"The children like to collect small stones on the beach."
3	lazy <i>adjective</i>	not wanting to work or do any activity	"On a hot Sunday, I feel lazy and just want to sleep."
4	danger <i>noun</i>	a situation where something bad or harmful can happen	"The sign said the old bridge was full of danger, so we did not cross it."
5	careful <i>adjective</i>	giving a lot of attention to what you do so you do not make a mistake	"Please be careful with the hot cup of tea."
6	worried <i>adjective</i>	feeling unhappy because you think something bad may happen	"She was worried about her exam results all week."

COMPREHENSION — ANSWER THE QUESTIONS

QUESTION 1 — MULTIPLE CHOICE

Why did the other ants work so hard every summer day?

- A-) Because they wanted to sing and dance B-) Because they needed food for the cold winter
C-) Because they did not like the warm sun D-) Because Tom told them to work

QUESTION 2 — MULTIPLE CHOICE

What did Tom do while his family worked?

- A-) He collected seeds too B-) He built a new home
C-) He sang, danced, and slept D-) He helped his sister carry food

QUESTION 3 — SHORT ANSWER

How did Tom change from the beginning to the end of the story? Use your own words.

COMPREHENSION ANSWERS

My score today ____ / 3

Q1 Because they needed food for the cold winter ✓ Correct (B)

The text says the ants collected seeds and grain, and Tom's sister explains: 'Winter is coming soon. We need food for the cold days.' This shows the reason for their hard work was to prepare food for winter, not for fun or because of the sun.

Q2 He sang, danced, and slept ✓ Correct (C)

The story clearly says: 'Tom sang songs. He danced on the flowers. He slept in the shade of a big leaf.' These actions show he was enjoying himself instead of helping the other ants collect food.

Q3 **Answer:** At the beginning, Tom was lazy. He did not work and only played, sang, and slept in the sun. He did not think about winter. But after the cold came and he had no food, he felt sorry and worried. His family helped him. At the end, Tom changed completely. In spring, he was the first ant to wake up, and he worked hard with his family every day. He learned that work is important.

Explanation: A good answer should describe Tom's behaviour at the start (lazy, playing, not working) and at the end (hard-working, waking up first, helping the family). Strong answers will also mention why he changed: he suffered in winter and learned from his mistake. The student should use their own words, not copy full sentences from the text.

VOCABULARY — TRANSLATION & NOTES

hill

Use 'on the hill' or 'up the hill'. A hill is smaller than a mountain.

collect

Common phrases: 'collect information', 'collect stamps'. Do not confuse it with 'correct', which means true or right.

lazy

We often say 'a lazy day' for a relaxing day, or 'a lazy person' for someone who avoids work.

danger

Common phrases: 'in danger', 'out of danger'. The adjective form is 'dangerous'.

careful

We often say 'be careful' as a warning. The opposite is 'careless'. The adverb form is 'carefully'.

worried

Use 'worried about' something or someone. The verb form is 'worry'.

YOUR TURN — SENTENCE BUILDING

Mastery comes from practice. Write original sentences using today's target vocabulary.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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