

CHAPTER 1

This is the story of Robin Hood. He lived with a group of men in a big forest in Nottingham, England. It was called Sherwood Forest. It was lovely in the forest. Robin Hood and his men were very happy. They were so happy they were **merry**. They wore green clothes and were good fighters. Robin was especially good with a bow and arrow. They ate good food. They lived a good life.

Robin Hood and his men were **criminals**. They stole things. The Sheriff of Nottingham wanted to put them in prison, but he could not find them. This made the sheriff angry. He did not like Robin Hood.

The sheriff worked for the king. The king wanted money. He took it from the people. This is called tax. But the king took too much money. It made the people angry. They did not like the king or the Sheriff of Nottingham.

“Robin Hood and his merry men are not criminals,” said the people. “We like them because they **steal** from the rich and give to the poor.”

merry (adjective) very happy

criminal (noun) someone who has committed a crime

steal (verb) to take something from a person or a place without permission



*Robin Hood and his men were very happy.
They were so happy they were merry.*

So how did Robin become a criminal? When he was eighteen, there was a **competition** to find the best **archer**. Robin walked through Sherwood Forest to get to the competition. Some men were in the forest. They worked for the king too. They **looked after** the king's deer. The deer lived in the forest.

“Where are you going?” they asked Robin.

“I am going to an **archery** competition,” said Robin.

“You are too young,” they laughed. “You cannot win.”

Robin was angry.

“I will win because I am the best,” he said.

“**Prove** it,” said one of the men.

“Okay,” said Robin. “I will shoot an arrow into that tree.”

“That is too easy,” said the man. “It must be more difficult. Shoot that deer.”

Robin **raised** his bow. He took aim. BAM! The deer was dead.

“You are very good!” said the man. “But you have killed the king's deer! Now you are in trouble!”

competition (noun) an event in which people try to win something (e.g. a prize, a trophy)

archer (noun) someone who uses a bow and arrow

look after (phrasal verb) to take care of someone or something

archery (noun) the sport of shooting with a bow and arrow

prove (verb) to show that something is true by using facts or evidence

raise (verb) to move something to a higher position

The man raised his bow and arrow. He shot at Robin. It missed. Robin was angry again. He raised his own bow and shot the man. He fell down dead. Now Robin was a criminal.



*Robin walked through Sherwood Forest to get to the competition.
Some men were in the forest.*

Robin was young and **confident**. He liked being a good fighter. One day he wanted to cross the river. There was a bridge. It was narrow. A big man was on the other side.

“Let me go first,” said Robin. “Because I am better than you!”

The big man laughed. “No, you must let me go first because I am better and BIGGER than you!”

Neither of the men moved. The man had a big stick.

“And I have a stick!” said the big man.

“Then I will get a stick too!” said Robin.

The man laughed. “I will wait for you.”

Robin jumped down and got a big stick.

“Now we can fight!” he said.

They had a big fight. The man was big and strong, but Robin was small and quick. The man hit Robin’s foot. Robin fell off the bridge and into the river. He was surprised. The man laughed. He helped Robin get back up.

“You fight very well,” said Robin. “What is your name?”

“My name is John Little,” said the man.

“I will call you Little John!” said Robin.

Robin and Little John became best friends.

confident (adjective) having a feeling that you can do something well



*They had a big fight. The man was big and strong,
but Robin was small and quick.*

CHAPTER 2

The king was angry. He went to see the Sheriff of Nottingham.

“Get me Robin Hood!” he said.

The sheriff had a message for Robin. It was not a nice message. It said he must die. No one wanted to take the message to Robin.

“Who will give my message to Robin Hood?” said the sheriff. “I will pay them with gold!”

“I want some gold,” said a man. “I will do it!”

The man went to Sherwood Forest. He met Robin.

“Where are you going, friend?” said Robin.

“I have a special message for Robin Hood,” said the man. “Do you know him?”

Robin smiled. “Yes, I do! Come with me, and I will tell you where he is.”

The man was very happy. This was easy.

Robin took him to the **pub**. He bought the man a drink. Robin was nice to him, but he stole the message.

pub (noun) a building where alcoholic drinks are served



Robin was nice to him, but he stole the message.

Quiz 2

Choose the correct answer.

1. You might not recognise me when I wear a
a) disguise b) coat c) fish
2. To make bread, you need water, and yeast.
a) fruit b) flower c) flour
3. When we weren't looking, the dog ate the pizza.
a) whole b) empty c) full
4. I don't think you understand because you look
a) happy b) confused c) excited
5. The child hit the dog for no reason.
a) mean b) kind c) cheerful
6. Finally, the police the criminals.
a) praised b) saved c) caught
7. We get very when people are rude to our family.
a) cross b) happy c) pleased
8. The war museum had a large collection of
a) flowers b) weapons c) cushions
9. During the show, the people on stage they are someone else.
a) pretend b) accept c) understand
10. Good parents their children.
a) dislike b) hurt c) protect