

Before You Read the Story or Perform the Readers Theater:

✓ Link aspects of Susu & the Magic Mirror with other stories.

These may be other stories having a similar theme, characters, or other features in common.

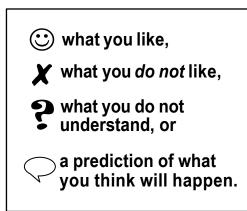
✓ Note:

The writing portion for *Susu* and the *Magic Mirror* will focus on **persuasive writing**. If you're interested in giving your students practice with persuasive writing, be sure to clink the links in the **Writing** column.

✓ Explain the Margin Notes.

In the story for *Susu* and the *Magic Mirror*, call the students' attention to the Margin Notes that accompany each page of the story. In the columns, students can note their thoughts **as they read**. This practice, known as **strategic reading**, deepens the reader's understanding and enjoyment. At the top of the Margin Notes, you will see four symbols. Some students may simply draw these symbols beside the parts of the story that evoke a response. Other students, more comfortable with note taking, can elaborate in writing beside or below the symbols.

These are the four pictorial symbols and their meanings:



Reading Comprehension Questions

Circle the correct answer

Question 1

Not long after the wedding, on a silent, moonlit night, Susu's father told her that he feared he had not long to live. Some enemy, he said, had cast a spell upon him with a wasting sickness. Day by day he grew weaker and weaker.

Which of the following would be the best title for the passage?

- A. "Wasting Sickness and Other Spells"
- **B.** "What Susu Learned One Silent, Moonlit Night"
- C. "How Many Days it Takes to Become Very Weak"
- **D.** "Enemies that Cast Spells"

Question 2

Seeing Susu, the stepmother took her by the hand. She drew the girl into a place where they could be seen by the father, yet far enough away to be out of earshot. This is what the woman said, and her voice was like a poison dart as she whispered loud enough for the owl in the hollow tree to hear.

The stepmother's voice is compared to a poison dart because

- A. what she said was hurtful.
- **B.** when she spoke, an actual dart flew out of her mouth.
- **C.** The stepmother practiced throwing darts at the tree.
- **D.** The stepmother drew Susu far enough away to be out of earshot.

Reading Comprehension Questions, continued

Circle the correct answer

Question 3

Susu quickly drew away her arm. She must speed to her father to warn him! But the woman caught her by the wrist, twisting it paintfully, and pinched the soft place on her arm with her other hand.

The MOST important thing we learn about the stepmother in this passage is that

- **A.** she has good reflexes because she quickly caught Susu by the wrist.
- **B.** she will not hesitate to hurt someone else.
- **C.** she probably has long fingernails.
- **D.** she is good at finding the soft place on an arm.

Question 4

The wise man told Susu and Chico that it was the wonderful magic mirror of one called Paracaca, long since dead. It was like none other, said the wise man. Whoever looked in the mirror would see his own face as others saw it—but whoever owned the mirror saw something else.

"For with it," he said, "you may see the hidden spirit of other people, hidden behind the mask they wear."

Which of the following activities had probably been MOST important to Paracaca when he was alive?

- A. collecting mirrors
- **B.** training falcons to deliver objects far away
- **C.** learning the true nature of other people
- **D.** polishing discs until they are as smooth as mirrors

Reading Comprehension Questions, continued

Circle the correct answer

Question 5

Then Chico took out his flute and played music until the world seemed full of peace. Susu, too, sang sweetly. For a moment the father thought that the shadow that was upon him was but a dream and might pass. The three of them talked for a long time.

When the father refers to "the shadow that was upon him," he is thinking about

- A. his cloak.
- **B.** a tree nearby that is casting a shadow on him.
- **C.** a storm predicted for later that day.
- **D.** his sickness.

Question 6

In less than three moments, three evil things died. It was like the sun coming from behind a cloud-veil, the way in which joy came to that place. The weakness of the father fell from him like a cloak. The bodies of the toad, the snakes, and the stepmother withered and shriveled. As a light breeze sprang up, what was left of them was blown away as dust. The whole world seemed to burst into song.

Which sentence in the passage best summarizes the end to this story?

- **A.** "It was like the sun coming from behind a cloud-veil, the way in which joy came to that place."
- **B.** "The weakness of the father fell from him like a cloak."
- **C.** "The bodies of the toad, the snakes, and the stepmother withered and shriveled."
- D. "As a light breeze sprang up, what was left of them was blown away as dust."

Sequence of Events

Circle the correct answer

Story Timeline:

Box 1 On a silent, moonlit night, Susu's father tells her that he fears he has not long to live.

Box 2 One day, Susu sees a falcon swooping down from the sky with something glittering in its beak.

Box 3

Box 4 All of a sudden, Susu's eyes fall upon a large grindstone that lay nearby.

Box 5

Question A

Which of these events belongs in Box 3?

- Susu comes upon her stepmother talking to a great horned owl.
- 2) He tells them it is the magic mirror of one called Paracaca, long since dead.
- **3)** Years after Susu's mother died, her father marries again.
- 4) Chico tells Susu of a mysterious experience he had the night before.

Question B

Which of these events belongs in Box 5?

- 1) She keeps the disc, wrapping it in a leaf.
- **2)** In the mirror, Susu beholds about her stepmother's neck two writhing white snakes!
- 3) "With it," says the wise man, "you may see the hidden spirit of other people."
- **4)** In less than three moments, three evil things died.

Questions to Answer about Word Strategies:

Similes, Descriptive Details & Transitional Words

Y	

Read each sentence below from *Susu and the Magic Mirror*. Fill in the circle which indicates whether the words that are underlined can be described as a **simile**, **descriptive details**, **transitional words**, or "none of the above."

- A. From far off in the woods came the sound of an answering owl like an echo: "Hate you-Hoo!-
 - ① simile
 - ② descriptive details
 - ③ transitional words
 - ④ none of the above
- **B.** In less than three moments, three evil things died.
 - ① simile
 - ② descriptive details
 - ③ transitional words
 - 4 none of the above
- **C.** The weakness of the father fell from him <u>like a cloak</u>.
 - ① simile
 - ② descriptive details
 - ③ transitional words
 - a none of the above

- **D.** And so it went on, a <u>mad</u> and horrible concert.
 - ① simile
 - ② descriptive details
 - ③ transitional words
 - ④ none of the above
- E. She drew the girl into a place where they could be seen by the father, yet far enough away to be out of earshot.
 - ① simile
 - ② descriptive details
 - ③ transitional words
 - 4 none of the above
- **F.** The bodies of the toad and the snakes withered and shriveled.
 - ① simile
 - ② descriptive details
 - ③ transitional words
 - ① none of the above

Answer Key - Multiple-Choice Questions

Susu and the Magic Mirror

Reading Comprehension Questions:

Question 1 - B

Question 2 - A

Question 3 – B

Question 4 - C

Question 5 - D

Question 6 - A

Sequence of Events:

Question A - 2

Question B - 4

Questions to Answer about Word Strategies

A. 2

в. 3

c. 1

D. 2

E. 4

D. 2

Open Response Questions

As you write, be sure to:

- Use your own ideas.
- Write neatly and clearly.
- Use only the space provided.

Whootie Owl's Tip: How to ACE these questions! Answer the question that's asked—read it carefully! use Colorful words give Examples

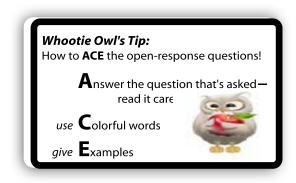
Question 1

Think of a time when you helped someone even though that was hard to do. Describe what happened.

Open Response Questions, continued

As you write, be sure to:

- Use your own idea.
- Write neatly and clearly.
- Use only the space provided.



Question 2

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Extra Writing Paper

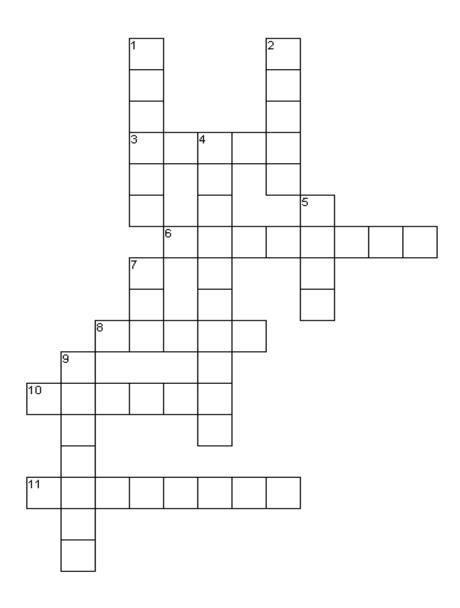
Discuss the Story



(Psstit's okay to feel the same way OR to change your mind!)		I think the author was trying to show that
What do your classmates think? You and your classmates can share your ideas of what was the author's purpose. Listen to what your classmates have to say, too! the discussion, do you think the author's purpose was the what you wrote at the top of this page? Or did you changed? I feel the same way		
What do your classmates think? You and your classmates can share your ideas of what was the author's purpose. Listen to what your classmates have to say, too! the discussion, do you think the author's purpose was the what you wrote at the top of this page? Or did you changed? I feel the same way	,	▲ Claceroom Dicouccion ▲
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- I N.I.C I.C IIINOI. I I.N.INK. NOIII OFLOW OUW AICCUSCION	7	This is what I think now, after our discussion.

Crossword Puzzle

Susu & the Magic Mirror



Across

- 3. What made the mirror special?
- 6. "The toad, our queen, lies hid -----."
- 8. The kind of musical instrument that Chico played.
- 10. The kind of bird that dropped a silver thing from its beak.
- 11. He owned the magic mirror many years ago.

Down

- 1. Goats and ----- are animals in South American herded in flocks.
- 2. He saw Susu from a distance, but did not have the nerve to speak to her.
- 4. A kind of stone "wrought by man."
- 5. The heroine of the story.
- 7. He sat in the hollow of an old tree.
- 9. The bread that Susu's father offered Susu and Chico.

Word Search

Look for words running across, up and down, and diagonally. The words can run frontward or backward – so look carefully!

E K В MK Н Ζ J S Q Н Ζ Т **O** A N U S USN В B Υ ı Α Н N S Ε Ζ Ζ UWQA Т R G K M C X RM D RVI ΧZ K R Α Т L M C M A Т W 0 W L Ε ı R М K CN K N S Т В S R Q F N Ζ Α K **O** A Т M C Α D Α G D Α M S Н G Ζ N S Α Α Ε В Ρ 0 R Α UU S Ν X 0 D C 0 Ρ C J S Т R M 0 N Ε В Ε M U J ı G 0 V G Ζ C Q K G Ε L D X Н 0 G N D M O W S Q M Т R R U Т Ε C N Α Т F C 0 N U Α L Α X Ε Н Ρ Ε -C R Н Т Α F C Н 0 Т Ε R Ε Υ W В G Ε Ζ U F Α J M L I

ARROWS
ENCHANTMENT
GRINDSTONE
STEPMOTHER

CHICO FALCON MAGIC SNAKES DAUGHTER FATHER MIRROR SUSU

Hidden Answer

Question: What should anyone puzzle over puzzles?

To Discover the Answer: Find the words listed below in the box of letters. The words may be listed forwards, backwards, or diagonally so look carefully! When you are done, the answer will be revealed! (Don't worry if there are extra letters at the end of the message—that's normal!)

C	M	U	R	D	N	U	N	0	C	E	P
C	R	Ε	A	T	l	V	Ε	U	Z	C	Z
Ε	L	Y	T	I	N	G	0	V	Ε	1	R
N	M	P	T	Ε	U	Z	Z	L	Ε	V	S
I	A	C	A	0	R	I	D	D	L	Ε	S
G	Z	N	В	R	G	C	0	A	D	D	Ε
M	E	N	Т	Н	Ε	R	Ε	В	R	A	I
N	X	D	В	U	Y	T	A	S	Н	Ε	Q
Т	Н	ı	N	K		N	G	M	D	P	M

CONUMDRUM DEVICE RIDDLES
CREATIVE ENIGMA SECRET
CRYTOGRAM MAZE THINKING



Story: Susu & the Magic Mirror

Story themes:

Love, friendship, helping, courage, cooperation

Writing theme: Persuasive writing

Writing Strategies (click the link in the Writing column):

You'll see that throughout the Writing Strategies, students are asked to compare Susu & the Magic Mirror with another story they know. This practice helps them to "zero in" on specific story elements and understand what makes a story work well.

How to find another story they know? Several ways.

- assign a specific story or book;
- allow students to select from several choices you provide; or
- allow students to choose any favorite story or book. If you do this, be sure to provide appropriate guidelines.

Link the Writing Strategies with other skills:

- thinking through a main idea
- supporting a claim with reasons and examples
- enriching a piece of writing with details such as similes, descriptive language and transitional words.

Other Stories

with a Theme of Courage

Story Title: Racing the Great Bear (Native American; Iroquois)

Book: Flying with the Eagle, Racing with Great Bear

Author: Joseph Bruchac

Publisher: Bridgewater Books, an imprint of Troll, 1993

Page(s): 15-23

Synopsis: After years of war, the people of the Five Nations—Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga, Cayuga and Seneca—set down their weapons and begin the Great Peace. One day, some young men from the Seneca tribe go to visit the Onondaga people and do not return. Others go to search for them but they don't return, either. Who is brave enough to go next? Only Swift Runner, a poor, small boy who wears torn clothes and who lives with his grandmother, is willing to go. Before the boy leaves, his grandmother tells him that his father had been a great warrior, and tells him some magic secrets. Deep in the forest, a monster bear rushes at Swift Runner. He calls out some magic words and the beast retreats. For days Swift Runner chases the monster bear until finally he is caught. The monster gives Swift Runner his teeth, which have healing powers, in exchange for the bear's life. When Swift Runner returns to his village, the people are amazed. The small skinny boy is now a man. What's more, the lost men of their tribe had returned home.

Story Title: Vassillissa the Valiant (*Russia*) **Book:** The Skull in the Snow and Other Folktales

Author: Toni McCarty

Publisher: Delacorte Press, New York, 1981

Page(s): 40-46

Synopsis: At the Grand Duke's castle, a young man named Staver boasts that his own castle is far more grand and, what's more, that no treasure of the Duke's is greater than his own wife, Vassillissa. The Grand Duke is furious at the insult. Staver is sent to prison and commands that Staver's wife is summoned. Friends manage to warn Vassillissa and she disguises herself as a Tartar. When the Grand Duke's men approach, she says Vassillissa is gone and that she—as the Tartar—is headed to the Duke's castle to collect 12 years tribute owed in gold. When Vassillissa arrives at the Grand Duke's castle to collect the debt, the Duke's wife whispers to her husband that the tax collector is not a man at all but, in fact, is a woman. To find the truth, he engages the visitor in a series of tests with his best men including wrestling, archery, and chess—yet the stranger beats the Duke's men every time. Bored, Vassillissa tells the Duke she will forgive his taxes if he can produce an excellent gusla player (knowing her husband is accomplished in the art). The prisoner Staver is promptly released from prison to perform, the "tax collector" is satisfied, and Vassillissa and Staver ride away, free.

Stories with a Similar Theme

of <u>Honesty</u>

Story Title: The Emperor's New Clothes (many versions available) **Synopsis:** A classic story by Hans Christian Andersen. Two tricksters appear before an emperor. They claim to be able to weave a cloth that will be invisible to people who are stupid or who are unfit for their job. The tricksters collect large sums of money for their "weaving," but in fact only pretend to weave. The court attendants see nothing, yet claim the cloth is beautiful, fearing their own jobs would be in jeopardy if they told the truth. Even the emperor, when presented with his new "clothes," exclaims they are magnificent. He leads a procession through the streets. The villagers, hearing of the magical cloth, dare not admit they cannot see anything and instead call out praise for the emperor's new clothes. Then a guileless child calls out: "He's got nothing on!", and they all realize the truth.

Story Title: The King's Choice (Sweden)

Book: Great Swedish Fairy Tales

Author: Translated by Holger Lundgergh **Publisher:** Dell Publishing Company, 1973

Synopsis: A king plans to go on a long journey and worries about which of his six councilors is trustworthy enough to rule in his absence. To help him, a fairy transforms the king into a woodcutter. Soon he notices his six councilors traveling down the river. A windstorm rocks the boat; they nearly fall. The king, as the woodcutter, swims to the boat and rescues them. Grateful, they ask to state his reward. He asks simply for the six councillors to come to dinner at his cottage in three days. Two nights later the king (transformed back to his normal state) is again visited by the fairy. She advises him to announce a great banquet the next evening. Five of the six councillors appear. Where is the sixth? The other five say he accepted another invitation. The king tracks down the sixth and demands he appear in court. Why did he not come to the royal invitation? The sixth says he had already promised to go to another's dinner. Thus the king rewards the sixth councillor to rule in his place, since he is "one who values his word to the most lowly above all graces and gifts."

Story Title: The Empty Pot (China)

Book: The Empty Pot (a picture book)

Author: Demi

Publisher: Henry Holt and Company, NY

Synopsis: A boy proves he is honest and thus wins the heart of the Emperor and the line to the throne. The Emperor gives cooked seeds—which cannot germinate—to all boys in the land, saying whoever raises the most beautiful flower will succeed him to the throne. None will grow, yet only young Ping is honest enough to bring the Emperor an empty pot.

It's Time to Write Persuasively

Write to convince others that you are right!

<u>Persuasive writing</u> convinces a reader that your statement, claim, or a point of view is true and correct.

ø

Here you'll make a statement about the main idea from *Susu and the Magic Mirror*. Find a main idea you think is <u>true in real life</u>.

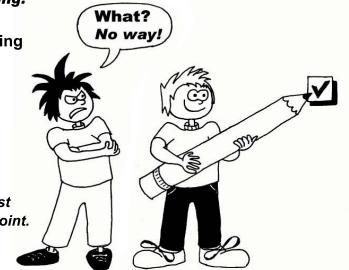
WHAT STATEMENT TO MAKE? Below are several statements that can describe a main idea from *Susu and the Magic Mirror*. Which one do you think is *most true in real life?* (If you don't find one you agree with, write in "your own idea" at the end.) Check the one you will use.

It's important to stop someone who is acting in an evil way.
Love is most important.
Friends help each other when it's time to fight something wicked.
You should pay attention so you notice important things.
Your own idea:

Here's a trick for getting in the right mood to make your reasons and examples convincing!

Imagine someone is watching as you check the box. The person is nasty and says:

You start to get mad. The best thing to do is to prove your point. Prove it—without a doubt!



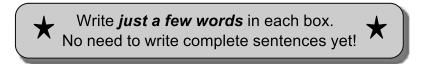
Now you are ready to write the <u>rough draft</u> for your <u>persuasive writing</u> piece. Use this page and the next one. If you need more space, use extra lined sheets of paper.

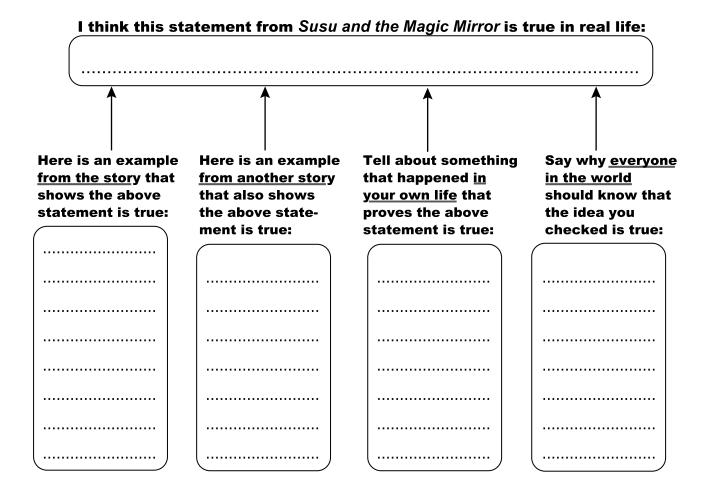
	<u>complete sentences</u> . To convince your reader, ite as if you really mean it !
In persuasive wr	niles and descriptive details make writing more exciting. iting, transitional words can introduce new ideas ns in a sequence. Try to use all three word strategies!
Title:	
Your name:	
The main idea from "Susu and the Magic Mirror" that you think is true in real life (your statement from the top of the chart on page 24).	
Your first supporting example. One specific example from the story that proves your point.	

Your next supporting example. Give an example from another story you know that also proves your point.	
Your third supporting	
example.	
Describe something	
that <u>happened in</u>	
<u>your own life</u> that also	
proves your point.	
Finish by saying	
why it's important	
for everyone in	
the world to know	
that the statement	
you checked is	
true.	

Map out four reasons and examples that prove your statement is true:

Read the headings carefully, as they will help you figure out good reasons and examples.





Next: Add Word Strategies:

The next page will be your rough draft. It's a good place to add ideas for **similes** or **descriptive details** to make your writing more **exciting.**

You can also add **transitional words** at the beginning of the boxes to introduce new ideas (For example..."), or to present reasons in a sequence ("First..." or "Next...").

Support Your Statement with Thinking and Writing Strategies



To write persuasively, let's look at some *strategies*. We'll look at one **Thinking Strategy** and three **Word Strategies**.

- Thinking Strategies help make your writing *clear*
- Word Strategies help make your writing exciting



To explore the <u>Thinking Strategy</u> and the Word Strategies, it's helpful to compare how they worked in <u>Susu and the Magic Mirror</u> with how they worked in **another story you know.**

How do you find this other story?

(we'll call it → The Other Story You Know)

This can be any favorite story. It's best to choose one that's in a book you can find at home, in your classroom, or borrow from a friend.

When you know the story you'll use for **The Other Story You Know**.

write its title and author here:			 1. the
write its title and author here:			
	write its title and	author here:	

5	What did you like best about it?	Let's start with the Thinking Strategy!
		\

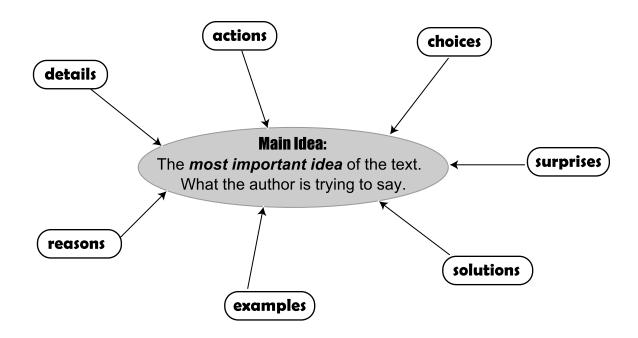
Thinking Strategy: Getting Across the Main Idea

Writing is usually clear to the reader when the author thinks through the story's **main idea**. In the beginning the author may think, "What am I trying to say? If there is



one message in my writing, what is it?
Once the author is perfectly clear what
the main idea of the piece will be, it's
much easier to write it. All of a sudden,
the various details, actions, choices,

surprises, solutions, examples, or reasons in the rest of the text easily connect to and support the **main idea**.



How effectively an author used the Thinking Strategy is shown by how well you—as a reader—understood the main idea.

In stories, main ideas may be harder to identify than in writing that gives *information* such as newspaper articles or science books. First of all, stories may have more than one main idea. What's more, different readers may find very different main ideas *from the* same story!

Find the Main Idea of the Story "Susu & the Magic Mirror"

THIS CHART CAN HELP. Below are suggestions for what might be the main idea of *Susu & the Magic Mirror*. Which statement do you think best describes the **main idea** of the story? (If you have a different idea, write it on the line next to **"Your own idea.")** Check the box beside one of the statements. In the chart below, write three examples from the story that support your statement.

Suggestions for what mig	ght be the main idea of <i>Su</i>	su & the Magic Mirror:				
☐ It's important to sto	op someone who is acting in	n an evil way.				
Love is most impo		·				
	other when it's time to fight	something wicked				
_	tention so you notice import	•				
_	,	ant things.				
☐ Your own idea:		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				
	the main idea of Susu & e statement that you checked	d above)				
one detail or	another detail or	yet another detail				
example from	example from	or example from				
the story that supports the	the story that supports the	the story that supports the				
statement:	statement:	statement:				
[·····]						

Find the Main Idea of "The Other Story You Know"

THINK: What is the **main idea** of *The Other Story You Know?* Write your statement below. Support it with details or examples from the story.

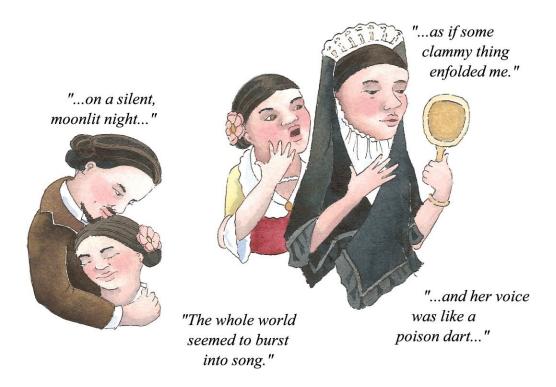
1		
one detail or example from the story:	another detail or example from the story:	yet another detail or example from the story:
	♦ Compare ♦	
	-	
_	nain idea <i>more clear</i> to you tory You Know. Why?	ı—ın Susu & the Magic

Introducing: Word Strategies

You saw the Thinking Strategy at work—helping the reader to better understand a text by identifying its main idea.

Let's explore Word Strategies.

Words can breathe life into writing. They make writing more exciting!



We're going to explore three **Word Strategies** that make *Susu and the Magic Mirror* more exciting and that probably appear in *The Other Story You Know,* too.

- #1: <u>Similes</u> compare one thing with another to create a more vivid image.
- #2: Descriptive details paint a picture or set a mood.
- #3: <u>Transitional words</u> smooth the way to a new thought.

Word Strategy #1: Similes

When Two Things that are Not Much Alike are Compared to Each Other

In a <u>simile</u>, two things that are not much alike are compared to each other. You can often find a simile in a phrase that begins with *"like..."* or *"as..."*



The word is not "smiles" as in looking happy—it's pronounced "sim-uh-lees"!

Three examples of similes from Susu and the Magic Mirror:

page 2:

"...and her voice was <u>like a poison dar</u>t as she whispered loud enough for the owl in the hollow tree to hear."

- Comparing the stepmother's voice to a <u>poison dart</u> creates a vivid image of a sharp and dangerous-sounding voice.

page 9:

"<u>Like lightning</u>, Chico, having seized the bow, sent more arrows flying, and each serpent was cut in half."

- Comparing Chico's movements to <u>lightning</u> creates a powerful image of how Chico seized the bow.

page 9:

"Though the sun is warm I feel a chill, <u>as if some clammy</u> thing enfolded me."

- Comparing the chilly air to the feel of a "clammy thing" creates a scary feeling for the stepmother's evil presence.

Are you Ready for a Challenge? \longrightarrow Try a "Simile Search"!



On the next page, find three examples of **similes** from The Other Story You Know.

Tip: Scan your book for phrases that:

- start with "like..." or "as..."
- compare one thing to another to create a vivid image

"Simile Search" — Write your results here: 			If there are		
Similes from "T	he Other Story You l	Know"	absolutely no similes in your story, try another one!		
Simile #1 page:					
Simile #2 page:					
Simile #3 page:					
₩	nich simile is you	r favorite?			
	☐ Simile #1	Simile #2	Simile #3		
Why?					

♦ Share Your Favorite Simile ♦

Share your favorite similes with the class.
Listen carefully to the ones your classmates chose.
Which similes that you heard gave you the
strongest, most colorful images?

Why do you think they worked so well?

Word Strategy #2: Descriptive Details

Paint a Picture or Set a Mood

<u>Descriptive details</u> are words—often verbs and adjectives—that evoke a particular and specific meaning.

Examples of **descriptive details** from the story:

page 1:

"Not long after the wedding, on a <u>silent, moonlit</u> night, her father told Susu that he feared he had not long to live."

-The words "silent, moonlit" set a mood of a quiet evening outdoors.

page 2:

"<u>Brown-haired</u> he was and <u>bright-eyed</u>, too, with <u>clear skin</u> and strong arms."

-These adjectives paint a picture of a handsome young man.

page 3:

"Then from a rock and a hole <u>slithered unclean, horrible</u> creatures of all sorts."

-The word "slithered" gives a more specific meaning than a verb such as "moved" or even "crawled." The words "unclean" and "horrible" are more meaningful than an adjective such as "small" or "bad."

Your Next Challenge → Finding Descriptive Details



On the next page, look for examples of <u>descriptive details</u> from *The Other Story You Know.* **How will you know them when you see them?** Look for:

- verbs or adjectives that give particular and specific meanings (words with especially interesting, rich meanings)
- words that set a mood by making you feel happy, sad or excited

Finding Descriptive Details—Write your results here:

Descriptive Details from "The Other Story You Know"

A descriptive detail may be a single word—or there may be several descriptive details in one sentence. Look for particular and specific verbs or adjuectives that help paint a picture in your mind or set a mood.

*Write the page number first so you can find your example later.			
page number:	descriptive detail:	If there are absolutely no descriptive details in your book, try another one!	
			

Team Activity



♦ Share Your Favorites ◀

Take turns reading aloud your favorite examples of <u>descriptive language</u>. Discuss why you liked them. Hear what others in your class or group have to say, too.

♦ Which examples of descriptive language helped you imagine something clearly or put you in a certain mood? Why were those examples good?

Word Strategy #3: Transitional Words

Smooth the Way to a New Thought

<u>Transitional words</u> are words that signal a passage of time, a change of scene, a new idea, or a sequence.

Transitional words are often used at the beginning of a new paragraph to **smooth the way to a new thought.**

Examples from Susu and the Magic Mirror:

"One day, Susu saw a falcon swoop down from the sky with something glittering in its beak."

"<u>On the way</u>, he told Susu of a mysterious experience he had had the night before."

"<u>All of a sudden</u>, Susu's eyes fell upon a large grindstone that lay nearby."

"At that very moment, the wise man was looking into the mirror himself."

Other examples of transitional words:

passage of time

"One day..."
"Later..."
"After that..."
"By and by..."
"Suddenly..."
"At once..."

change of scene

"Meanwhile..."

"At the same time..."

"Elsewhere..."

"On the way..."

"At that very moment..."

"While..."

new idea

"For example..."
"For instance..."
"This is shown by..."
"Another reason..."
"One proof of..."
"What's more..."
"Which leads us to..."

sequence

"First..."
"Second..."
"Third..."
"Last..."
"In conclusion..."
"Next..."

y What about the Comma?

You may notice that sometimes **transitional words** are followed by commas—other times they are not! How can you tell when you should put a comma after a transitional word (or words)?

Tip: Imagine how it would sound if you spoke the sentence out loud. Would you pause after you said the transitional word (or words)? If the answer is **yes**, then you should probably add a comma. If the answer is **no**, then you probably don't need one.

You know what to expect by now! \longrightarrow Find Transitional Words from "The Other Story You Know"



Write as many sentences that begin with **transitional words** from *The Other Story You Know. Tip:* Look at the beginnings of new paragraphs. Underline the **transitional word (or words)** in each sentence that you write.

Who can find the most?

page	_:	
page	_:	
page	_:	
page	_:	
		
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page	<i>:</i>	
. 5	_	
		Use another sheet of paper if you want.

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