LESSON PLAN

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TALES FROM THE THOUSAND AND ONE NIGHTS

Worksheet

Part One

- 1. Before you read Match these words from the text to their definition.
- 1. treasure
- 2. chests

5. warning

6. hooves

4. 'Open, sesame!'

3. steal

- a. big, strong boxes
- b. the feet of a horse
- c. precious jewels, gold and silver
- d. take someone's money or things
- e. magic words that opened the cave door. Sesame is a plant.
- f. something that tells people about a possible danger

2. Read the first part of the extract.

There were beautiful carpets and silk cloth. There were chests full of gold and silver coins. Ali Baba went back t his donkeys, took the bags and went inside the cave. He filled his bags as quickly as he could with coins. Then he hid them under some wood on his donkeys. 'Shut, sesame!' he said and the door closed.

When he arrived home and showed his wife the gold coins, her eyes became as big as dinner plates. She started counting them.

'Stupid woman!' said Ali Baba. 'Go and get the scales from your sister-in-law. We must weigh them. There are too many to count.'

Ali Baba's wife went to Kasim's house and asked for the scales. Her sister-in-law was surprised. 'Ali Baba is a poor man,' she thought. 'What does he want to weigh?' Before giving the scales to Ali Baba's wife, she took the cup and put some wax on the bottom of it-.

When Ali Baba's wife brought the scales back the next day, her sister-in-law looked at the cup carefully. There was a gold coin sticking to the wax. That evening she said to her husband, 'You think you are rich. But Ali Baba has more gold than you. He doesn't count his money. He weighs it!'

Kasim didn't sleep that night. He thought about his brother's gold. The next morning he went to Ali Baba's house and showed him the gold coin. He said, 'Brother, you say you are poor but I know that you weigh your gold. My wife found this coin in the cup of the scales. Where did you get it?

Ali Baba was an honest man so he told Kasim about the cave in the forest.



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3. Read the second part of the extract.

When he heard about the treasure, Kasim wanted some of the gold too. Without saying anything to his wife or Ali Baba, he took ten donkeys, each with two bags and went to the forest. He found the rock and said the magic words, 'Open, Sesame!' The door opened. He went inside the cave and immediately started filling his bags with coins and jewels. While he was filling the last bag, he heard the sound of horses' hooves outside. 'The thieves!' he thought. 'What shall I do? They'll kill me. Where can I hide?' He

looked around the cave but at that moment the door opened and the captain came in. Kasim tried to escape but the captain caught him and killed him with his sword. 'Perhaps other people know about the cave. We'll leave his body here as a warning to them,' said the captain. He cut Kasim's body into four pieces and put them around the door of the cave. Then, after putting the gold and silver back in the chests, the captain and the thieves left.

4. Look at this sentence

'We'll leave his body here as a warning to them,' said the Captain.

In pairs or small groups, comment on this sentence.

Will other people really be discouraged? Or will people risk, as Kasim did? How big a factor is risk in the lives of people? How does greed affect people's judgment?

5. What do you think will happen next? What will Kasim's wife think when he doesn't return home? Will she look for him and where? Will she ask Ali Baba?



