

Improving Your Reading with Rex Retriever: The Woodman's Wishes



Many years ago, a poor woodman lived in a great forest. Every day, he would chop down trees. Just as she did every day, the woodman's wife filled his backpack with food and drink before he went to work. The woodman walked through the forest and found a huge, old oak tree for cutting down. He took his axe in his hand and swung it. Just before he hit the tree, the woodman heard a small cry. Suddenly, a fairy appeared and begged him not to chop down the tree.

Amazed and surprised, the woodman could not speak for a few minutes. He finally agreed not to cut down the tree. "You've done better for yourself than you know," answered the fairy. "To say thank you, I will grant your next three wishes, whatever they may be." With that, the fairy disappeared before the woodman's eyes.



1. What did the fairy beg for? Tick **one**.

- the woodman's wife's help
- a new home for her family
- the tree not to be cut down
- the woodman to head home

2. What did the woodman's wife do every day?

3. **Circle** the correct option to complete the sentence.

The text ends with...

the woodman
returning home.

the woodman's
wife
making food.

the woodman
cutting down
a tree.

the fairy
disappearing.

4. Tick **one** box in each row to show whether each statement is **true** or **false**.

Statement	True	False
The woodman's food was prepared by his children.		
The woodman had chosen to cut down an oak tree.		
The fairy gave the woodman's wife one wish.		
The fairy went to the woodman's house.		



Answers

1. What did the fairy beg for? Tick **one**.

- the woodman's wife's help
 a new home for her family
 the tree not to be cut down
 the woodman to head home

2. What did the woodman's wife do every day?

Every day, the woodman's wife would fill his backpack with food and drink.

3. **Circle** the correct option to complete the sentence.

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Statement	True	False
The woodman's food was prepared by his children.		✓
The woodman had chosen to cut down an oak tree.	✓	
The fairy gave the woodman's wife one wish.		✓
The fairy went to the woodman's house.		✓