

Name: _____



Classroom Cereal

Story 3

Part 1 of 5

"The Speech"

Part 1 of 5: Orn in the USA

Rodgers was opening his locker when Principal Mellon appeared behind him.

"Mr. Rodgers, my boy," Principal Mellon began. "If my memory serves me correctly, your family comes from Iceland. And you speak Icelandic at home. Am I right?"

"Um, yes. Thats right," Rodgers replied. Rodgers noticed an undersized boy with combed hair and a crisply ironed shirt standing behind the principal. "Who's that?" Rodgers asked.

"This," said Mellon, putting his hand on the boy's shoulder, "is Orn. Orn and his family just move here from Iceland. I am hoping you, Mr. Rodgers, can show him around."

Rodgers looked at the boy small. From the look on Orn's face, you'd think he was changing a dirty diaper.

"On friday," Mellon said, "Orn is going to give a speech to our entire school. He'll say what he thinks of Fairview Middle and how it compares to his old school back in Iceland. I hope he says nice things. You see, Superintendent Chase visited our school a few weeks ago and, well, it did not go well. I hope Orn's speech can show Superintendent Chase how wonderful Fairview Middle can be."

With that, Mellon left and Rodgers stood with Orn in the hall. Orn still looked discusted.

Directions

1. Read the story
2. Find the five errors
3. Mark the errors using the key

Key

- Spelling error
- Add punctuation
- Capitalize letter
- Remove word
- Wrong word
- Move word
- Make letter lower case

Checklist

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.

Questions

Is Orn going to like Fairview Middle School?

Why do you say so?

Name: _____



Classroom Cereal

Story 3

Part 2 of 5

"The Speech"

Part 2 of 5: The Walk Home

After school, Rodgers and Orn walked home together. Rodgers usually only spoke Icelandic when his grandparents were around. Still, he understood Orn easily.

"So, what did you think of Principal Mellon?" Rodgers asked in Icelandic. "He's a little weird but I think he means well."

"*Hálfviti!*" Orn exclaimed. *Idiot!*

"What about your classes, How do you like your teachers and everything so far?"

"*Hrædilegt!*" Orn spat. *Awful!*

Orn went out of his way to crunch leaves newly fallen as he walked. It was november now and the boys felt the air's refreshing chill. Rodgers searched his brain for something Orn might like about Fairview Middle.

"The cafeteria pizza isn't so bad..." he offered.

"*Ógedslegt!*" Orn interrupted. *Disgusting!*

"There must be something you like about school," said Rodgers, crunching his own leaf.

Suddenly, Orn stopped walking and turned toward Rodgers. The corners of Orn's mouth slid up his face to form a sneaky smile. He looked like the Grinch.

"*Megan,*" Orn said slowly, staring into the clouds behind Rodgers's head. Rodgers didn't need to translate. He new the only thing Orn liked about Fairview Middle was Megan Zimmerman, the most popular girl in the seventh grade.

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Questions

What are three things Orn already hates about Fairview Middle?

What (or who) does he seem to like?

Name: _____



Classroom Cereal

Date: _____

Story 3

Part 3 of 5

“The Speech”

Part 3 of 5: Orn’s Poem

Megan Zimmerman sat behind Rodgers in world cultures class. She once asked Rodgers to move his big head so she could see the board. Rodgers felt like he new her well enough to introduce Orn. In the hallway the next day, Rodgers saw Megan at her locker.

“Megan, this is Orn,” Rodgers said. “He’s new.”

Orn’s mouth stretched up into his Grinch-like smirk. Megan’s eyes lifted from her cell phone for a millisecond. She flashed a flimsy smile.

Orn took a folded piece of paper from his pocket. He cleared his throat and began reading. It was a poem. Translating in his head, Rodgers heard lines like “*a bright candle in a dark room*” and “*a flower pretty in a wasteland*.” Orn spoke with passion. Megan, meanwhile, kept her head in her cell phone.

Orn finished his poem and gazed at Megan. Finally, Megan looking up.

“Aly!” Megan yelled. she bumped through Orn and Rodgers and ran toward her friend down the hall.

Orn’s face melted into the diaper changing scowl Rodgers recognized from their first meeting.

“Í rædu mínum á morgun mun ég hefna sín á þessum skóla!” Orn yelled. *In my speech tomorrow, I will have revenge on this school!*

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Question

What details from the text show how Orn feels about Megan?

Name: _____



Classroom Cereal

Story 3

Part 4 of 5

"The Speech"

Part 4 of 5: Orn's Speech

Rodgers sat in his room on Thursday night, thinking. In his speech the next day, Orn was going to attack Fairview Middle School. On one hand, Rodgers thought, this was good. Between hectic hallways, rude students, and teachers odd, Fairview Middle was a tough place to spend your days. It deserved to be criticized. On the other hand, Rodgers thought about Principal Mellon. He thought about the damage Orn's Speech might cause.

The next morning, Rodgers stood on the auditorium stage with Orn. Rodgers looked out at the ocean of students and teachers filling the seats in front of him. He spotted a sweaty Principal Mellon sitting next to a stern Superintendent Chase. He noticed Ms. Trotter, who worked in the cafeteria. Megan Zimmerman, of course, was looking at her cell phone.

Principal Mellon came to the stage and introduced Orn. The second Orn's fingers wrapped around the microphone, he launched into his tirade. Orn lashed out for five full minutes in biting Icelandic. "Uncivilized," "disturbed," and "monsters" were a few of the nicer words Rodgers heard. When Orn finished, the crowd stared at him. They had no idea what he'd just said. A pale Principal Mellon looked to Rodgers, waiting for the translation.

BONUS ACTIVITY

We know Principal Mellon loves to post on Instagram. We also know he's nervous about Orn's speech. Draw Principal Mellon's Instagram post from Orn's speech. Don't forget the caption!



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Questions

What do you think Orn said in his speech?

Do you think Rodgers is going to translate it accurately?

Name: _____



Classroom Cereal

Story 3

Part 5 of 5

"The Speech"

Part 5 of 5: Rodgers's Translation

Rodgers stood frozen on stage. Should he tell the crowd every sharp word Orn had said? The jerks deserved to hear the harsh truth. But then Rodgers looked at Principal Mellon who looked like he could pass out, and felt sorry for him. Finally, Rodgers started speaking.

"Orn has seen a lot so far at Fairview Middle School," Rodgers began. He looked at Mellon. "He has seen a principal who cares deeply about the reputation of his school. He has also seen a principal who should admit it when Fairview Middle isn't perfect."

Rodgers looked at Ms. Trotter. "Orn has seen a cafeteria that offers plenty of *interesting* options. Our cafeteria knows no boundaries when it comes to what can be considered food."

Finally, Rodgers looked at Megan Zimmerman. "Orn has seen kids who care about their friends. But he wishes some people would be kinder to *knew* friends. If someone is being nice to you, be nice back. If someone is trying to talk to you, put your phone down and talk to him."

Megan Zimmerman looked surprised. Principal Mellon looked relieved. Orn still looked angry. And Rodgers felt proud of his translation.

BONUS ACTIVITY

Do you agree with the way Rodgers translated Orn's speech?

YES

NO

UNDECIDED

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Question

Why do you think Rodgers translated the speech the way he did?