

Luyện đọc Tiếng Anh: The Monkey and the Crocodile

The Monkey and the Crocodile

Once there was a monkey who lived in a naval tree beside a river. This naval tree produced more fruit than any other tree in the jungle, and its fruit was fresher and sweeter than the fruit on all the other trees.

Every day when the monkey ate this fruit, he was very happy. Not only could he eat his fill, but he could throw some fruit into the river when his friend the crocodile came by. The crocodile and the monkey spent many hours sitting on the shore of the river and talking, and in time they became best friends.

The crocodile always took some fruit home to his dear wife. She loved the naval fruit so much that she became addicted to its taste and freshness. One day she thought, "If the monkey eats this fruit every day, then his flesh must also taste sweet, especially his liver. Oh, I want to taste the monkey's liver." She thought about it and thought about it until she couldn't stand it any longer.

Finally she said to her husband, "I want to taste the monkey's liver. Please bring him home, so I can satisfy my hunger."

The crocodile was shocked! "You want to eat the monkey's liver? But . . . he's my friend! I love him. And he's so generous to us. My dear, it's impossible."

The lady crocodile became angry. She demanded that he bring the monkey to her. She demanded that he let her taste the monkey's liver. Otherwise she would leave.

The crocodile was torn apart. He loved his wife, and didn't want to lose her. He loved his friend, and didn't want to lose him. Why did he have to make this difficult choice?

In the end, he decided to lose his monkey friend. With a heavy heart, he swam slowly back across the river and sat under the naval tree.

"Oh Monkey," he called, "It's a lovely night, and I feel like going for a ride on the river. Why don't you come along? I could show you the beauty of the river."

"I don't think so," said the monkey. "I don't think that's a good idea. And anyway, I can't swim, and I'm afraid of the water."

"I am the king of the river. You don't need to be afraid when you ride on my back. Besides, we've been friends for a long time. What a shame it would be if you can't trust me by now."

The monkey thought for a minute. Perhaps the crocodile was right. Who can you trust, if not your friends? "OK," he said, "I'll come with you." He jumped onto the crocodile's back, and they sailed into the river.

It was a wonderful ride, and the monkey was really happy, but the crocodile was quiet, and deep in thought.

"What's the matter?" asked the monkey.

The crocodile almost burst into tears. "I'm sorry, my friend. I lied to you. I am not doing this to entertain you. Rather, I am taking you to my wife. She wants to eat your liver."

"Eat my liver!!" The monkey was astonished. "Why does she want to eat my liver?"

"She knows that you eat the fruit of the naval tree every day. She thinks that your liver must be very sweet and tender, so she wants to eat it."

"I see," said the monkey. He saw that his life was in danger. He thought for a minute.

"My friend, don't feel bad on my account," he said. "I would be honored to give my liver to your wife. But you should have told me about this before we left the naval tree."

"Why?" asked the crocodile.

"Well, I always wash my liver in the river and then hang it on a branch of the tree."

"Oh?"

"If you take me back to the tree, I'll get it for you. Then you can take it to your wife."

The crocodile swam quickly back to the naval tree. When he got to the shore, the monkey jumped off his back and climbed up the tree.

"Hah! Crocodile! Don't you know that I can't give you my liver? This has been a good lesson to me about trust."

Story retold by Mary Mahoney

Exercise 1: Choose the correct answer.

1. Where did the monkey live?

- A. In the jungle.
- B. In a naval tree.
- C. Across the river.

2. What was special about the naval tree?

- A. It was very beautiful.
- B. It had a lot of fruit.

- C. It had the freshest and sweetest fruit.
3. Was the monkey generous? Why?
- A. Yes, because he could eat as much as he wanted.
- B. No, he just liked to eat a lot.
- C. Yes, because he gave fruit to the crocodile.
4. What does "eat his fill" mean?"
- A. He could eat until he was no longer hungry.
- B. He could eat so much he felt sick.
5. How did the monkey and the crocodile become friends?
- A. They went swimming together.
- B. They spent a lot of time sitting together and talking.
- C. They said hello to each other every day.
6. What did the crocodile always do with the fruit?
- A. He washed it before he ate it.
- B. He took some home to his wife.
- C. He ate it all.
7. What does "become addicted" to something mean?
- A. It means you can take it or leave it.
- B. You really like it a lot.
- C. You must have more and more.
8. What did the crocodile's wife want to do?
- A. She wanted to become addicted.
- B. She wanted to eat more and more fruit.
- C. She wanted to eat the monkey's liver.
9. When you "can't stand" something any longer, it means that...
- A. you hate it and you are going crazy because of it.
- B. you really like it.
- C. you don't want to do it, but you have to.
10. What was the crocodile's problem?
- A. He loved his wife, but he didn't love the monkey.
- B. He loved his friend, but he didn't love his wife.

C. He had to choose between his wife and his friend.

11. What did the crocodile decide to do?

A. To take the monkey across the river.

B. To tell the monkey about his problem.

C. To kill the monkey.

12. The crocodile had a "heavy heart." This means that...

A. He was very sad.

B. He wasn't healthy.

C. The monkey was heavy.

A. He didn't trust the crocodile.

B. He didn't know how to swim.

C. It was dark and he couldn't see much.

14. How did the crocodile get the monkey to climb onto his back?

A. He said he was king of the river.

B. He said the monkey didn't need to be afraid.

C. He talked about friendship and trust.

15. Which answer tells you that the crocodile felt bad about lying to the monkey?

A. He told the monkey the truth.

B. He burst into tears.

C. He was very quiet.

16. How did the monkey get the crocodile to go back to the naval tree?

A. He said that his life was in danger.

B. He said he would give his liver to the crocodile's wife.

C. He said his liver was hanging on the tree.

Đáp án:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
B	C	C	A	B	B	C	C	A	C	C	A	B	C	B	C

Exercise 2: The Monkey and the Crocodile: Summarizing the Story

This is a summary of the story. Complete the summary by typing the correct words into the gaps.

afraid	as	ate	back	because	best	branch
choose	chose	climbed	couldn't	crocodile	crocodile's	
didn't	do	eat	every	fast	friend	friends
fruit	give	he	his	home	it	leave
monkey	more	much	naval	off	river	sailed
save	taste	the	throw	together	told	tree
trust	wanted	was				

A monkey lived in a naval that had the fruit in the jungle. There was so fruit on the tree that the monkey was able to his fill every day, and then some into the water for a to enjoy. The crocodile ate as much as he and then took some fruit to his wife. After talking and sharing the fruit every day, the monkey and the crocodile became best . Everyone enjoyed the sweet of the naval fruit, but the wife became addicted to it. Not only did she want to eat more and fruit, but she also began to think about eating meat. She thought that, since the monkey the naval fruit day, his liver must taste as sweet and tender the fruit. She her husband to bring the monkey so she could eat it. The crocodile didn't want to do this thing, the monkey was his . She said that if he let her eat the monkey's liver, she would him. The crocodile had to between his wife and his friend the monkey. He very unhappy, but he his wife. That night he swam to the tree and invited the monkey to climb on his and go for a ride on the . The monkey didn't want to this because he swim, and was of the water. The crocodile said that friends could each other. So the monkey onto his back and they into the river. When they were in the river the crocodile apologised to the , and said that they were really going to the crocodile's home, where his wife wanted to eat the monkey's . The monkey understood that life was in danger. He had to think if he wanted to himself. He told the crocodile that he would be happy to his liver to the crocodile's wife, but it was hanging on a of the naval tree. If the crocodile took him home, would get , and give it to crocodile's wife. The crocodile swam back to the naval tree. The monkey jumped his back and climbed up the tree. Maybe he still lives there today.



Đáp án

A monkey lived in a naval tree that had the best fruit in the jungle. There was so much fruit on the tree that the monkey was able to eat his fill every day, and then throw some fruit off into the water for a crocodile to enjoy. The crocodile ate as much as he wanted and then took some fruit home to his wife. After talking together and sharing the fruit every day, the monkey and the crocodile became best friends. Everyone enjoyed the sweet taste of the naval fruit, but the crocodile's wife became addicted to it. Not only did she want to eat more and more fruit, but she also began to think about eating monkey meat. She thought that, since the monkey ate the naval fruit every day, his liver must taste as sweet and tender as the fruit. She told her husband to bring the monkey home so she could eat it. The crocodile didn't want to do this thing, because the monkey was his friend. She said that if he didn't let her eat the monkey's liver, she would leave him. The crocodile had to choose between his wife and his friend the monkey. He was very unhappy, but he chose his wife. That night he swam to the naval tree and invited the monkey to climb on his back and go for a ride on the river. The monkey didn't want to do this because he couldn't swim, and was afraid of the water. The crocodile said that friends could trust each other. So the monkey climbed onto his back and they sailed into the river. When they were in the river the crocodile apologised to the monkey, and said that they were really going to the crocodile's home, where his wife wanted to eat the monkey's liver. The monkey understood that his life was in danger. He had to think fast if he wanted to save himself. He told the crocodile that he would be happy to give his liver to the crocodile's wife, but it was hanging on a branch of the naval tree. If the crocodile took him home, he would get it, and give it to the crocodile's wife. The crocodile swam back to the naval tree. The monkey jumped off his back and climbed up the tree. Maybe he still lives there today.

