

Diagramming Sentences: Identifying Verbs and Verb Clauses

Read the following chapter from Carlo Collodi's book, *The Adventures of Pinocchio*, published in 1883. The author was very good at using verbs to set the scene and create action in this chapter. In each sentence, underline the verb and verb clauses.

Chapter 3

Little as Geppetto's house was, it was neat and comfortable. It was a small room on the ground floor, with a tiny window under the stairway. The furniture could not have been much simpler: a very old chair, a rickety old bed, and a tumble-down table. A fireplace full of burning logs was painted on the wall opposite the door. Over the fire, there was painted a pot full of something which kept boiling happily away and sending up clouds of what looked like real steam.

As soon as he reached home, Geppetto took his tools and began to cut and shape the wood into a Marionette.

"What shall I call him?" he said to himself. "I think I'll call him PINOCCHIO."

After choosing the name for his Marionette, Geppetto set seriously to work to make the hair, the forehead, the eyes. After the eyes, Geppetto made the nose, which began to stretch as soon as finished. It stretched and stretched and stretched till it became so long, it seemed endless.

Poor Geppetto kept cutting it and cutting it, but the more he cut, the longer grew that impertinent nose. In despair he let it alone.

Next he made the mouth. After the mouth, he made the chin, then the neck, the shoulders, the stomach, the arms, and the hands.

The legs and feet still had to be made. As soon as they were done, Geppetto felt a sharp kick on the tip of his nose.

He took hold of the Marionette under the arms and put him on the floor to teach him to walk.

Pinocchio's legs were so stiff that he could not move them, and Geppetto held his hand and showed him how to put out one foot after the other.

When his legs were limbered up, Pinocchio started walking by himself and ran all around the room. He came to the open door, and with one leap he was out into the street. Away he flew!



The Adventures of Pinocchio, by Carlo Collodi, Translated by Carol Della Chiesa