

Cinderella

In the classic fairy tale of Cinderella, the stepsisters are portrayed as evil and wicked. In one version of the tale, the older stepsister is meaner and crueler than the younger stepsister. How would the story of Cinderella be different if it were told by the stepsisters? Read the following passages and see if you can guess which stepsister is which. Then answer the questions below.

Version 1

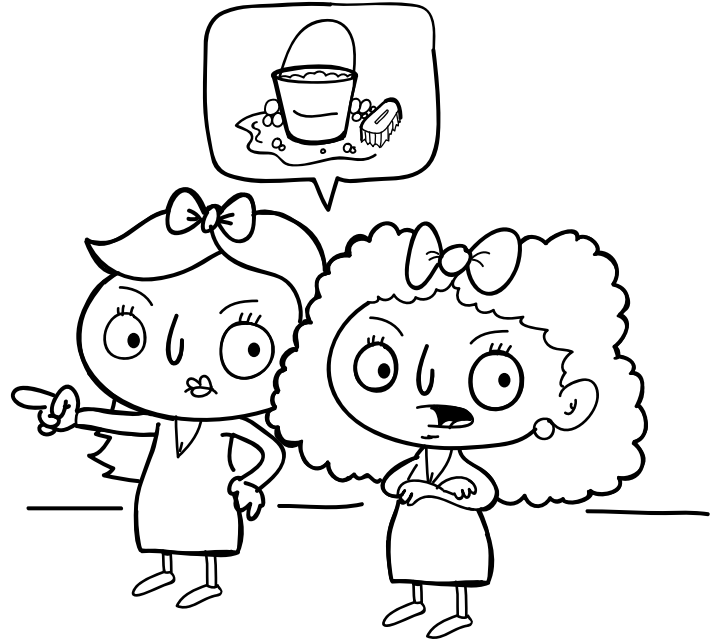
My dad died when I was really little and I barely even remember him. After my mom got married again, she, my sister, and I moved in with Cinderella and her dad.

I never got to know Cinderella very well. She was very shy. She seemed sad all the time. I tried to joke around with her, but she didn't get my jokes.

Sometimes I felt bad about the way my mom and sister treated Cinderella. My mom thought that the hard work she made Cinderella do was for her own good. She would always say, "Hard work builds character."

I didn't like that Cinderella never stood up for herself. When my sister picks on me or pushes me around, I say something back! I may be the baby of the family, but I think that you shouldn't let other people treat you badly and not say anything.

Things changed after the royal ball though. My mom said Cinderella couldn't go, but she found a way to attend the ball. I had no idea that she was the one dancing with the prince. We might have never found out that she went to the ball if she hadn't lost one of her slippers.



Eventually the prince discovered that Cinderella was the mysterious stranger because the slipper fit her foot perfectly. Now she's queen of all the land!

Version 2

A few years ago we moved in with Cinderella and her dad. I didn't like her. She was too quiet and really boring.

Cinderella started doing most of my chores. I didn't mind. I worked very hard for my mom for a long time. I deserved a break! Besides, it was nice to have someone to boss around.

All Cinderella did the whole time was cry and feel sorry for herself. It was pathetic!

Sometimes I teased Cinderella and called her names, but sisters do that all the time! I've picked on my sister since she was a baby, and she's not always nice to me either. Cinderella is way too sensitive

When the invitation for the royal ball arrived, I was so excited. If the prince fell in love with me I would become the queen! Even though my mom said Cinderella couldn't go to the ball, she went anyway. We didn't know she had gone to the ball at first. A few days later the prince showed up with that tiny slipper. When the slipper fit her, we realized Cinderella had tricked us!

Everyone always talks about how beautiful Cinderella is. I think she's pretty, but she's also annoying and had even tricked us. Nobody is perfect, but Cinderella thinks she is.

In Version 1 of the story, who is the narrator?

- a. Cinderella
- b. The older stepsister
- c. The younger stepsister
- d. The prince

In Version 2 of the story, who is the narrator?

- a. Cinderella
- b. The older stepsister
- c. The younger stepsister
- d. The prince

Talk About It!

Why does the older stepsister not like Cinderella?

Why does the younger stepsister not like Cinderella?

Handwriting practice lines consisting of four sets of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed middle line.

Sometimes people are mean because they are jealous or envious of what others have. Do you think Cinderella’s stepsisters are jealous of her? Why or why not?

Handwriting practice lines consisting of four sets of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed middle line.