

ENGLISH • GRADE 3

Reading Comprehension

The Wise Traveler

Read the passage

Long ago, a traveler arrived at the gates of a city she had never visited. An old man was sitting on the wall.

'Excuse me,' she asked, 'what are the people of this city like? I am thinking of staying here.'

The old man looked down. 'What were the people like in the city you came from?'

'Oh, they were dreadful,' the traveler replied. 'Selfish, mean, and rude.'

'Then I think you'll find them much the same here,' the old man said.

The traveler frowned and continued on her way. An hour later another traveler arrived at the gates. The old man asked him the same question.

'They were wonderful!' the man said warmly. 'Kind, generous, and welcoming.'

'Then,' said the old man with a smile, 'I think you'll find them much the same here.'

Retrieval

1. Where was the old man sitting?
2. What did the first traveler say about the people from her city?
3. What was different about the second traveler's answer?

Thinking deeper



1. Why do you think the old man gave the same answer to both travelers, in different words?
2. What is the LESSON of this parable? Write it in one sentence.
3. Who is wiser — the travelers or the old man? Why?

