

EDCTR209B

George Eliot

Silas Marner

LEVEL 2



EDCON
Publishing Group

WORDS USED

Story 81

Story 82

Story 83

Story 84

Story 85

KEY WORDS

angry
believe
Christmas
family
hurt
strange

fence
hunt
love
own
secret
sell

feel
himself
hole
place
policeman
shout

brother
care
push
unhappy
wait
wife

carry
everyone
mud
sad
same
sister

NECESSARY WORDS

church
cloth
gold
scared
thief
thread
weaving
well

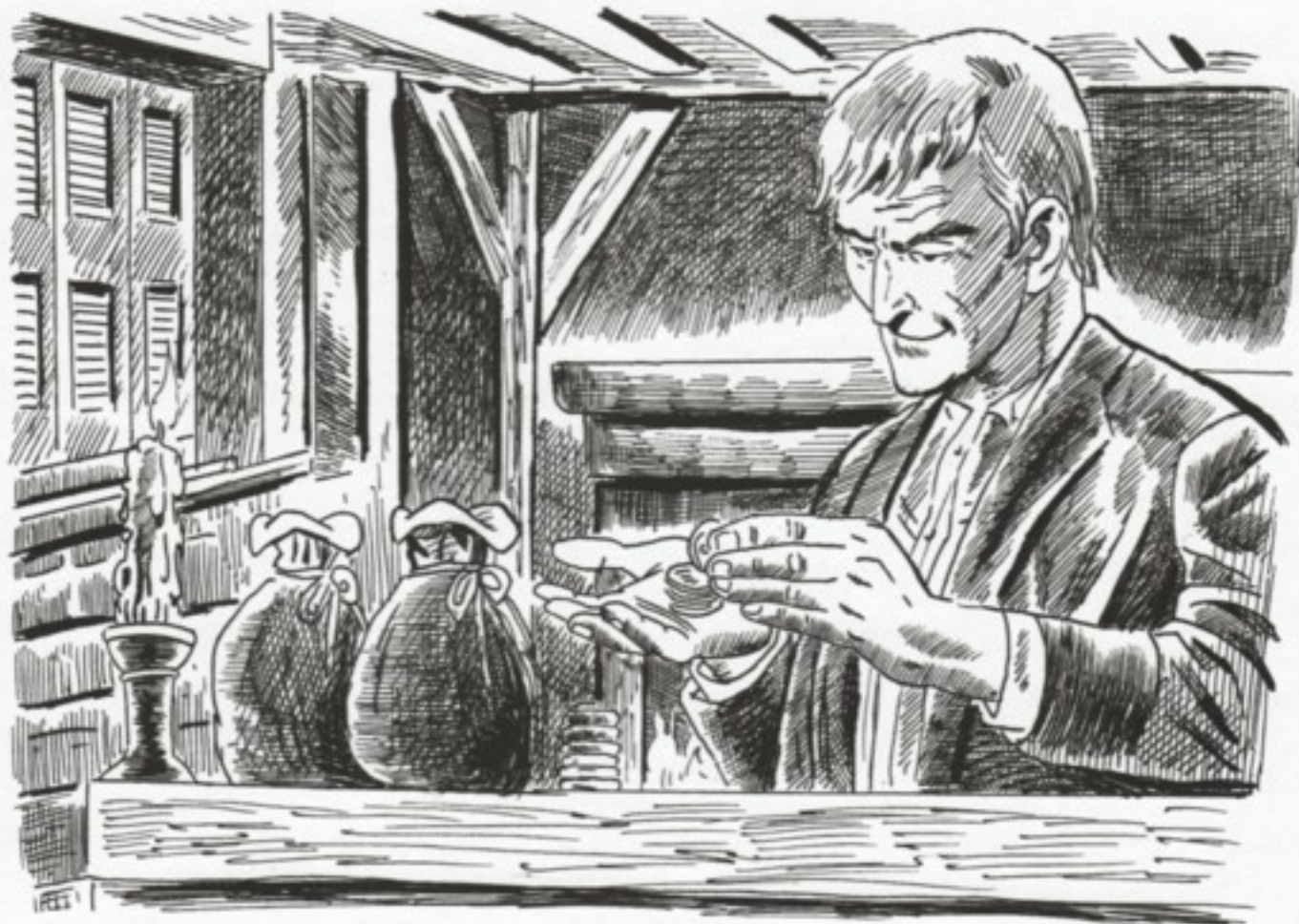
brick
courage
dead
drinks
lie
married
rich
squire

accuse
bar
been
begins
doctor
lock
rainbow
wrong

breakfast
chance
decide
pay
peddler
problem
quiet
struggles
truth

chapel
dance
hem
husband
really
song
suit
Sunday
ugly

A Man Called Silas



Every night, Silas plays with his money.

- Preview:**
1. Read the name of the story.
 2. Look at the picture.
 3. Read the sentence under the picture.
 4. Read the first three paragraphs of the story.
 5. Then answer the following question.

You learned from your preview that Silas is a

- a. family man.
- b. little man.
- c. strange man.
- d. good man.

Turn to the Comprehension Check on page 10 for the right answer.

Now read the story.

Read to find out why Silas went to Raveloe.

A Man Called Silas

This is the story of a good man. His name is Silas Marnier. He lives alone in a little house in the town of Raveloe. Silas has lived here for 15 years. He makes his living weaving thread into cloth. He has no friends, children, or family. But, he has much money.

People know very little about Silas, so they stay away from him. He knows things other people do not know. That is why people think he is strange. They think he may hurt them or play tricks on them. People want Silas to be just like them.

Silas works all day and plays with his money at night. The money is in gold. Silas works hard for it, but he does not buy much. He does not want much. He just works, eats, and sleeps. And he eats very little.

Before Silas came to Raveloe, he lived in Lantern Yard. He was a happy man. He went to church in town, and he talked to others. He liked a girl. Her name was Sarah. And he had a best friend, William Dane. They were like family to him. Silas and his friend did many fun things with each other.

One day his friend called him a thief. "He took money from another man," William told others. Now the people in town began to believe Silas was a thief. Silas was hurt and scared. He talked to people and told *his* side of the story. But, no one believed him.

"Look in my home," said Silas. "You will not find the money."

So they looked in his house. To the surprise of Silas, they found the money. Then all the people stopped being friends with Silas. And he lost his girl. She began to like his friend better.

Sometimes Silas would cry. He would get angry too. And he began to look old. Then he began thinking, *I must go away. It is time to walk away from this town. I will never be happy here again.*

So Silas said good-by to Lantern Yard and walked to Raveloe.

In Raveloe, Silas never laughs or has fun. He talks to people, but just about weaving and cloth.

People do not like Silas. They are scared of him and where he comes from. They think he has strange looks and ways. And they do not like that he has so much money.

Another thing people do not like about Silas? He *never* goes to church.

But, no one but Silas can weave thread into cloth. So when people want to buy cloth, they talk to him. Other than that, they do not come to see him.

Every night Silas gets the gold bags that he hides near his bed. He sits by the fire and holds his money. He looks at it and it makes him happy. He knows how much money he has—right down to the penny!

For a little time, people in Raveloe wanted to believe that

Silas made people well. Once, Silas gave a woman brown water and she got better. Soon, many people came to his home. They asked them to make their children well.

But, Silas did not know how. He said, "I can't make your children better."

The people got angry. They did not believe Silas. Many people said angry words. "Silas is no friend. He will not help our children!"

People stopped coming to Silas' house. Now, Silas is alone again. No one comes around to eat with him. No one comes around to talk with him. No one asks him to go to a party. No one asks him to take a walk.

But Silas got used to all that. Now he wants to be alone. He sees his money grow. It makes him happy. Every day he puts more money in his bag of gold. To him, money is like a fine, spring day. He likes it as much as a pretty flower garden or a parade.

But around Christmas time, Silas will get something much better than money. Around Christmas time, he will get a surprise. It will bring him many friends.

A Man Called Silas

VOCABULARY CHECK

angry	believe	Christmas	family	hurt	strange
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I. Sentences to Finish

Fill in the blank in each sentence with the correct key word from the box above.

1. Do you _____ in Santa Claus?
2. Has your _____ been to the circus?
3. Jamie found a little dog under the tree last _____.
4. It was very _____ to see the cat and squirrel getting along.
5. Mother was _____ with Luther for painting the cat.
6. "Don't pull the puppy's tail, you can _____ him," said Mother.

II. Words of the Same Meaning

From the box above, choose the word which means the same as the one(s) underlined in the sentence. Write the correct word on the line after the sentence.

1. Billy looks odd; unusual in his mother's dress. _____
2. I want to think something's real that all people are good. _____
3. Tom was mad with Philip for going to the game without him. _____
4. We are going to help Aunt Lucy put up her December 25th tree. _____
5. Ricky caused pain to the kitten when he stepped on its tail. _____
6. There are twin girls in Heather's people who live together. _____

Check your answers with the Key on page 69.