



## Level 4

<b>Suitable for:</b>	young learners who have completed up to 200 hours of study in English
<b>Type of English:</b>	American
<b>Headwords:</b>	800
<b>Key words:</b>	15 (see pages 2 and 6 of these Teacher's Notes)
<b>Key grammar:</b>	past simple of common irregular verbs, superlative (best), <i>can</i> for possibility, <i>must</i> for obligation, <i>going to</i> for prediction and intention, two clauses joined with <i>after</i>

## Summary of the story

While King Richard was out of the country, his brother – Prince John – governed England. He was a cruel, greedy man and people suffered under his rule. Robin Hood helped the poor people of Nottingham by robbing the rich, especially when they passed through Sherwood Forest, where he lived. He and Little John even robbed the prince, by disguising themselves as female fortune-tellers.

Prince John's friend, Sir Hiss, was wary of these "women" and warned the prince. But Prince John did not listen to his friend, and he was robbed. He was very angry and ordered the Sheriff of Nottingham to kill Robin Hood. One day, the Sheriff took a poor boy's birthday money for his family's taxes, but Robin compensated the boy and his family by giving them some money. He also gave his hat and a bow and arrow to the boy. Later, the boy and his friends met Maid Marian and her friend, Klucky, at a castle. Marian recognized Robin Hood's hat. She loved Robin, but she thought that he had forgotten her because she had been away in London. Robin still loved her too.

Robin and Little John went to a tournament. Maid Marian was there too. Robin and the Sheriff were the finalists, and Robin won. Robin was in disguise, but both Marian and Prince John recognized him. After a fight with the Sheriff, Robin ran into the forest with Marian.

The Sheriff took the church's money that Friar Tuck collected for the poor, and then imprisoned him in the castle. When everyone in the castle was sleeping, Little John freed all the prisoners and Robin broke into the prince's bedroom and took all his money. Robin was then trapped inside the castle. He fought the Sheriff. The castle caught fire, but he jumped into the moat below and survived.

When King Richard finally returned, he imprisoned his brother, the Sheriff, and Hiss, and people had hope again. Robin married Maid Marian.

## Background information

*Robin Hood* is the 21st Disney Animated Classic. The movie was first released in 1973.

The movie was inspired by stories of Robin Hood and his "merry men", which have been told for centuries. Robin Hood is a very popular legendary hero who steals from the rich to feed the poor.

The movie was nominated for an Academy Award® for Best Original Song, *Love*.

## Did you know ... ?

- Prince John is based on the real King John of England, whose brother was King Richard "The Lionheart".

## The characters

**Robin Hood** is the hero of the story and a supporter of King Richard of England. He steals from the rich to give to the poor.

**Little John** is Robin's friend. He lives in Sherwood Forest with Robin.

**King Richard** is the king of England. He is abroad for most of this story.

**Prince John** is the king's brother. He has the power while King Richard is away.

**Sir Hiss** is Prince John's friend and adviser.

**The Sheriff of Nottingham** is a supporter of Prince John.

**Maid Marian** is a lady who loves Robin.

**Klucky** is Marian's friend and maid.

**Friar Tuck** is a religious man, and a friend of Robin's.

## Topics and themes

**Hero or villain?** Robin Hood is a thief to some people and a hero to others. Ask the students why Robin steals. Does he profit from his crime? Does he do the right thing? Is stealing ever right?

**Legends** The story of Robin Hood is a legend. No one can be sure that the person ever really existed, but every British person knows about his adventures. Robin's adventures and the characters have changed over the centuries. Ask the students about well-known legends from their own culture. Can they tell the stories?

**Taxes** Prince John is unpopular because he demands more and more taxes from the poor people, who can't afford to pay them. Ask the students what taxes are for. Why don't people like paying them? What would happen to a town or a country if no one paid their taxes?

**Greed** Prince John is greedy for money and for power, so he is a very unpopular character. Ask the students if they know of any people like this. How do they feel about these people? What would they like to happen to them? Can you be rich and powerful if you are not greedy?

## Key words

(see page 6 of these Teacher's Notes for the Key words in context)

arrow (n)	prison(er) (n)
bow (n)	rob (v) / robber (n)
burn (v)	rope (n)
church (n)	sheriff (n)
disguise (n)	shoot (v)
fortune-teller (n)	taxes (n pl)
guard (n)	tournament (n)
king (n)	

**Tournaments** Robin Hood is very good with a bow and arrow. Ask the students if this kind of tournament still exists. What sporting competitions do they know about? Which ones, in their opinion, need the most skill?

**Lifestyles** Robin Hood lives in Sherwood Forest. Ask the students if they would like to live in the outdoors. Where can people sleep in a forest or outdoors? What can they eat and drink? What are the best and worst things about this kind of lifestyle? What are the advantages and disadvantages of life in a town?

## Class Activities (After Reading)

Here are some activities to do with your class after reading *Robin Hood*.

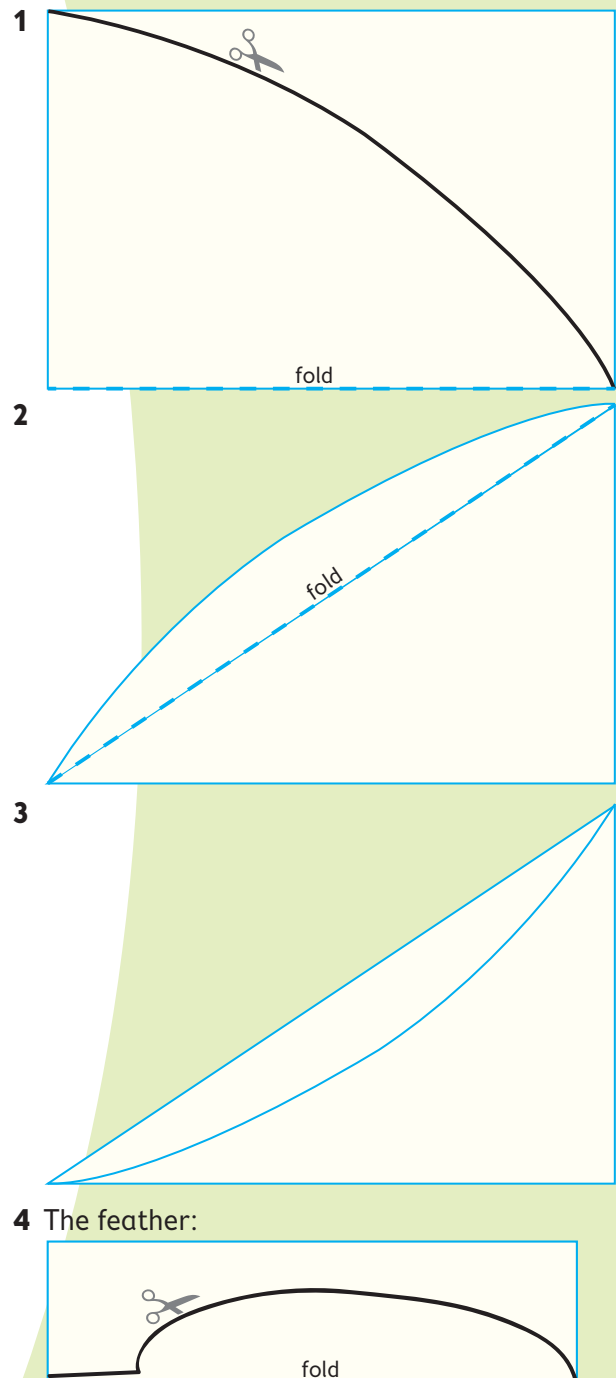
### 1. Make a Robin Hood hat

**Materials:** large sheets of green construction paper (or any type of paper as long as it is strong); small sheets of red / yellow construction paper; pencils; safety scissors; glue; feathers (optional); CD of medieval music (optional)

- If possible, before the session, make a Robin Hood hat following the instructions and diagrams 1–4. Tell the students that they are going to make Robin Hood hats.
- First, the students each fold a piece of green construction paper in half to form a rectangle 20cm by 30cm.
- Then they draw a curved line beginning at one corner of the fold on one short side and ending at the diagonally opposite corner on the other short side.
- Once you have checked that the students have carried out this stage correctly, they next cut out the curve with scissors. They will have a semi-circular shape with a long straight bottom edge when they unfold the paper – like a letter D.
- The students refold the paper and lay it flat on the table. Then they fold up one curved edge so that the overall shape is now triangular – with a straight line from one corner to the other at the bottom of the folded up curve. The students press the fold flat.
- The students then turn it over and repeat the process of folding up and pressing the fold on the other side. This makes the hat brim.
- The students open the paper back up and taking the two ends, one in each hand, they bring the ends together and overlap the edges all the way up from the bottom to the peak to create the flat back of the hat. Then they glue the edges together where they overlap. The hat should come to a point in the front and on top.
- The students can fix a feather in the brim of the

hat if they wish. If you do not have feathers, the students can fold a piece of red or yellow construction paper (10cm by 20cm) lengthways, and cut out a feather shape. They can then cut slits to create a feathered effect.

- Encourage the students to talk about what they are doing in English as much as possible while they are making their hats.



As an extension to this activity, tell the students to imagine they are Robin Hood. It is now the end of the story, have the students imagine what they are going to do next. Elicit the beginning of a sentence on the white board: *I am going to live / be / work / have / go / build / give / make ...* etc. The students write down their sentence on a piece of paper.

- Get the students to put on their hats and walk around the classroom telling each other their sentences. They should see if they can find another student with the same idea.

## 2. A sports tournament

**Materials:** possible materials depending on the sport: old clothes that are easy to put on and take off, e.g. hat, scarf, shirt (the disguises); hoops; beanbags; cones; boiled eggs and spoons; sacks; batons

- Talk to the students about the tournament in the story. What sport did Robin Hood and the other people play? What did they use? What happened at the tournament? Talk about the disguise that Robin wore.
- Tell the students that they are going to have a sports tournament (this would ideally take place in the gym / yard for additional space).
- Divide the class into teams of five or six students. The teams stand at one end of the gym / yard and compete in several timed sports events. The students in each team take it in turns to run one at a time.
- Pre-teach and practice language that the students can use to support their team. Encourage the students to use as much English as they can during the tournament, e.g. *Go! Quickly! Hurry up! Come on! Well done! We're winning! We're losing!*
- Possible tournaments include:
  - The students could run a few meters to a pile of clothes on the floor (the disguises) and put them on. Then they run on to a hoop and put their bodies through it (or run around a cone or a beanbag). Next, they run back again to

take the clothes off and then back to their team.

- The students could run a relay race with the batons / beanbags, do an egg and spoon race, a sack race, or a race with beanbags balanced on their heads.

- Variation: the students could walk or skip instead of running.

## 3. Project: United Kingdom

**Materials:** globe or map of the world; pictures of the UK downloaded from the internet (perhaps include a picture of the Major Oak in Sherwood Forest, England); large sheets of colored paper; sheets of white paper; colored pens / pencils; glue; safety scissors

- Before the session, find out some information about the United Kingdom (countries in the UK; big cities; famous buildings; important geographical features; languages; flag, and famous people, etc.).
- Explain that the story of Robin Hood takes place in Sherwood Forest, in England, which is a country in the United Kingdom. Ask the students where the United Kingdom is. Can they point to the UK on the map of the world or the globe?
- Ask the students what else they know about the UK. Tell the students some additional facts and information. Show them some pictures. Write some of the key vocabulary in English on the board.
- Divide the class into pairs. Tell them that they are going to make a poster about the UK.
- Give each student several small sheets of white paper. They then write some facts about the UK on the paper and draw / color some pictures. Next, give each pair a large piece of colored paper. The students cut out their facts and drawings and stick them onto the colored paper. They could also use pictures from the internet.

- Display the posters around the classroom.
- Variation: the students could find and write down ten facts about the UK for homework, before they make the poster in class.

#### 4. Find your partner / group

**Materials:** slips of white paper; safety scissors; card

- Before the session, make up cards with the name of a character from the story on them. There must be at least two cards for each character (or more, depending on the number of students in the class). The characters could include: Robin Hood; Maid Marian; Prince John; Sir Hiss; The Sheriff of Nottingham; Friar Tuck; Little John; a child. The characters could also include those without any actual dialogue in the book, if you feel the students are able to improvise dialogue (e.g. Klucky, a guard).
- Shuffle the name cards and give one to each student. Tell them not to show their cards to each other. Give out blank slips of paper.
- The students should think of a line of dialogue that their character says and write it down on the slip of paper. They can refer to the book and / or improvise a line.
- The students then walk around the classroom, saying their line of dialogue. Encourage the students to say their line without looking at their paper and to use the voice of the character. In this way, they find the other students in the class who have the same character.
- To play the game again, collect the name cards, reshuffle and hand them out for a second time (making sure each student gets a different character this time).

## Key words

- arrow**.....The little boy shot an arrow – into the yard of Prince John’s castle. (p. 9)
- bow** .....He gave the boy a bow and arrow, and his hat. (p. 8)
- burn** .....“Your plans never work,” Hiss told him, “and your castle is burning to the ground.” (p. 21)
- church** .....Then one fine day, in Friar Tuck’s church, Maid Marian became Robin Hood’s wife. (p. 22)
- disguise**.....Robin and Little John put on women’s clothes. Then they stood on the road in their disguises. (p. 5)
- fortune-teller** .....“Let’s find some women’s clothes. We’re going to be fortune-tellers.” (p. 4)
- guard**.....“But he has guards. Do you have a plan, Robin?” (p. 4)
- king**.....King Richard of England was away. (p. 3)
- prisoner** .....Then John cut off Robin’s disguise and Robin became his prisoner. (p. 12)
- rob** .....Robin and his friends robbed him and gave the money to the poor. (p. 3)
- rope** .....Then he sent the moneybags down the rope one at a time. (p. 18)
- sheriff**.....“Get Robin Hood!” Prince John told the Sheriff of Nottingham angrily. (p. 7)
- shoot** .....People shot their first arrows. They shot again and again – and Robin was the best. (p. 11)
- taxes** .....The poor people of Nottingham had to pay more taxes. (p. 15)
- tournament** .....Robin and Little John went to the tournament in disguise, but Marian knew Robin’s eyes. (p. 11)



## While-Reading activities

### Activity 1 (pages 3–6)

Order the sentences.

- a Robin and Little John put on disguises to be fortune-tellers. ☐
- b Robin and Little John took the prince's money. ☐
- c Prince John wanted to be king of England. ☐
- d Sir Hiss thought that they were robbers. ☐
- e One day, Robin Hood and Little John heard the prince in Sherwood Forest. ☐

### Activity 2 (pages 7–9)

Circle the correct words.

- 1 The poor people had to pay high **money** / **taxes** and Robin Hood wanted to help them.
- 2 The **Sheriff** / **Prince John** took birthday money from a little boy on his birthday.
- 3 Robin wore a **bow** / **disguise** to visit the little boy.
- 4 He gave the little boy **a bow and arrow** / **some money** as a present.
- 5 The little boy and his friends met **Maid Marian** / **Prince John** in the castle yard.
- 6 Maid Marian was away in **Nottingham** / **London**, and she thinks Robin doesn't remember her.

### Activity 3 (pages 10–14)

Check ☒ the correct answer.

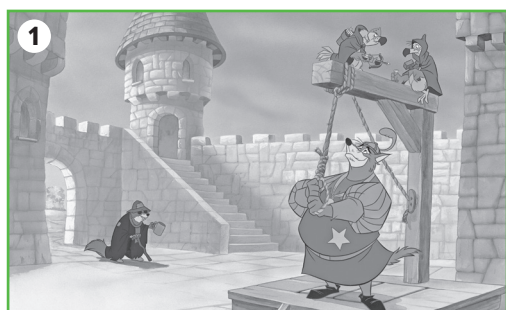
- 1 Where does Robin Hood hope to see Maid Marian?
  - a in Prince John's castle ☐
  - b at a tournament ☐
  - c in Sherwood Forest ☐
- 2 What did Marian give to Robin at the tournament?
  - a a flower ☐
  - b an arrow ☐
  - c his hat ☐
- 3 Who was the best at shooting their arrows?
  - a The Sheriff of Nottingham ☐
  - b Prince John ☐
  - c Robin Hood ☐
- 4 Who does Robin love?
  - a King Richard and Prince John ☐
  - b Maid Marian and King Richard ☐
  - c The Sheriff and Maid Marian ☐
- 5 Who did Robin save in the fight?
  - a Little John ☐
  - b the guards ☐
  - c Maid Marian ☐
- 6 What did Robin and his friends do back in Sherwood Forest?
  - a They sang and danced. ☐
  - b They cooked lunch. ☐
  - c They had a fight. ☐



## Activity 4 (pages 15–18)

Copy the correct sentences next to the pictures.

- a** Little John went to save the prisoners.
- b** Robin took the money from Prince John when he was asleep.
- c** The Sheriff took Friar Tuck to prison because he helped poor people.
- d** Robin Hood went to the prison in disguise.



.....

.....



.....

.....



.....

.....



.....

.....

## Activity 5 (pages 19–22)

**Match. Draw lines.**

- |   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| <b>1</b> He was the last prisoner in the castle.                    | <b>a</b> Robin       |
| <b>2</b> They ran after Robin.                                      | <b>b</b> Maid Marian |
| <b>3</b> He jumped into the water.                                  | <b>c</b> the guards  |
| <b>4</b> He watched and waited, and then he cried.                  | <b>d</b> a child     |
| <b>5</b> He was very angry with his friend and he tried to hit him. | <b>e</b> Little John |
| <b>6</b> She became Robin's wife.                                   | <b>f</b> Prince John |

## After-Reading activities

### Activity 1

Write *T* (True) or *F* (False).

- 1 Robin Hood and Prince John were friends. ☐
- 2 Robin Hood and Little John were friends. ☐
- 3 Robin Hood hated King Richard. ☐
- 4 Prince John and the Sheriff of Nottingham were friends. ☐
- 5 Maid Marian loved Robin Hood. ☐
- 6 Robin Hood and Friar Tuck were friends. ☐

### Activity 2

Order the words in the sentences.

- 1 wanted / king. / Prince / to / John / be  
.....
- 2 Hood / to / gave / the poor. / Robin / money  
.....
- 3 from / money / poor family. / The Sheriff / took / a  
.....
- 4 Robin / wore / Little John / and / to / disguises / the tournament.  
.....
- 5 sent / the moneybags / the rope. / Robin / down  
.....

### Activity 3

**Robin Hood often wore a disguise. When? Why?**

**Complete the words in the sentences.**

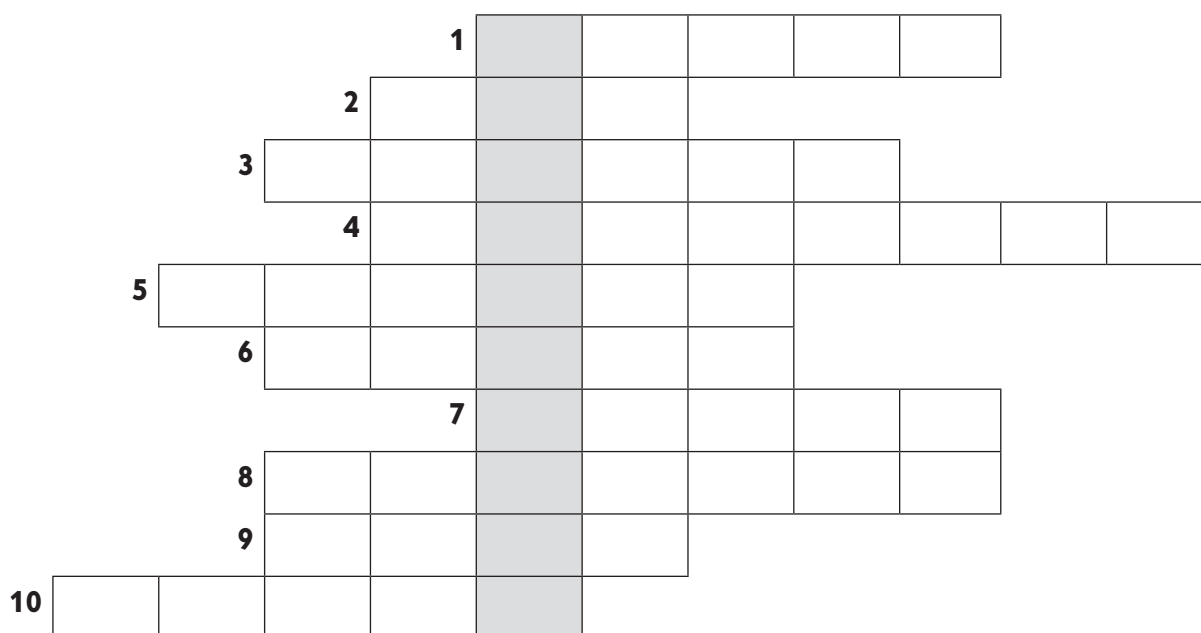
prisoner clothes tournament fortune-teller hat save climbed  
poor robbed guard's money bow fight

- 1 Robin put on a disguise before he \_\_\_\_\_. Prince John.  
Robin wore the clothes of a \_\_\_\_\_. Then he took Prince John's money and his \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2 Robin visited a large, \_\_\_\_\_ family in disguise after the Sheriff of Nottingham took a boy's birthday \_\_\_\_\_.  
He gave the boy a \_\_\_\_\_ and arrow, and his \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3 Robin went to a \_\_\_\_\_ in disguise. This time, the disguise didn't work and Prince John made Robin his \_\_\_\_\_.  
Then Little John saved his friend and he and Robin had a \_\_\_\_\_ with Prince John, his guards, and the Sheriff.
- 4 Robin wore a disguise again because he and Little John wanted to \_\_\_\_\_ Friar Tuck. Friar Tuck was in prison and Robin put on a \_\_\_\_\_ uniform. Then he \_\_\_\_\_ into the castle and took all the prince's money.

## Activity 4

Write the answers in the squares. What is the secret word?

- 1 The poor people had to pay high \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2 Robin Hood was very good with a \_\_\_\_\_ and arrow.
- 3 Friar Tuck was a religious man who worked in the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4 After the tournament, Robin became Prince John's \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5 The castle caught fire and \_\_\_\_\_ to the ground.
- 6 Robin wore the disguise of a \_\_\_\_\_ to save Friar Tuck.
- 7 Prince John had bags of \_\_\_\_\_ in his bedroom.
- 8 The \_\_\_\_\_ took a young boy's birthday money.
- 9 Robin and the poor people loved \_\_\_\_\_ Richard.
- 10 The young boy used his bow to \_\_\_\_\_ an arrow into Prince John's castle.



## Answer Key

### In the back of the Reader

#### Before You Read

- 1 Possible answers:
  - a He was a robber / thief (but only to help the poor people).
  - b He lived in Sherwood Forest, near Nottingham, in England.
  - c Because he could hide from Prince John and the Sheriff of Nottingham, who wanted to put him in prison.
  - d They took money from rich people and gave it to poor people.
- 2 **a tournament** = a sporting event in which the winner of each game play in the next game until there in only one winner / team left  
**sheriff** = like a police officer – in the past, the most important law officer in an English county  
**guard** = someone with the job of protecting a place or a person  
**bow** = a frame to shoot an arrow  
**arrow** = a thin, straight, pointy object to shoot through the air at a target  
**shoot** = to use a weapon, like a gun or a bow and arrow  
**rope** = a thick string used for pulling or tying things  
**b a** = Maid Marian (friend); **b** = Little John (friend); **c** = the Sheriff of Nottingham (wants to hurt Robin); **d** = Robin Hood; **e** = Friar Tuck (friend)

#### After You Read

- 1 **a** No, he wasn't. **b** Yes, they did. **c** No, they couldn't. **d** Yes, they were. **e** Yes, he did. **f** No, he didn't. **g** No, he didn't. **h** No, it didn't.
- 2 **a** Little John **b** Prince John **c** Robin Hood **d** Maid Marian **e** Robin Hood **f** Friar Tuck **g** Robin Hood **h** Sir Hiss
- 3 Possible answers:
  - a** ... they wanted to give the money to the poor people.

**b** ... the poor people had no money. or ... you must not rob people.

### In these Teacher's Notes

#### While-Reading activities

##### Activity 1

The correct order is: c, e, a, d, b

##### Activity 2

**1** taxes **2** The Sheriff **3** disguise **4** a bow and arrow **5** Maid Marian **6** London

##### Activity 3

**1** b **2** a **3** c **4** b **5** c **6** a

##### Activity 4

**1** d **2** c **3** b **4** a

##### Activity 5

**1** d **2** c **3** a **4** e **5** f **6** b

#### After-Reading activities

##### Activity 1

**1** F **2** T **3** F **4** T **5** T **6** T

##### Activity 2

- 1** Prince John wanted to be king.
- 2** Robin Hood gave money to the poor.
- 3** The Sheriff took money from a poor family.
- 4** Robin and Little John wore disguises to the tournament.
- 5** Robin sent the moneybags down the rope.

##### Activity 3

- 1** robbed, fortune-teller, clothes
- 2** poor, money, bow, hat
- 3** tournament, prisoner, fight
- 4** save, guard's, climbed

## Activity 4

		1	t	a	x	e	s
	2	b	o	w			
3	c	h	u	r	c	h	
	4	p	r	i	s	o	n
5	b	u	r	n	e	d	
	6	g	u	a	r	d	
		7	m	o	n	e	y
	8	s	h	e	r	i	f
		9	k	i	n	g	
10	s	h	o	o	t		