

# The Hamster's Hard Day



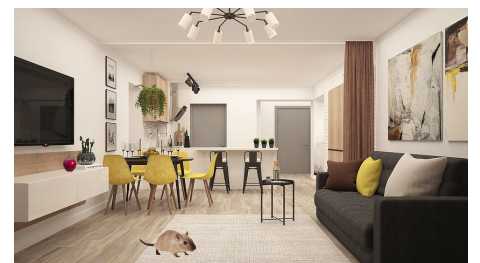
Today was an exciting day.  
Though, it started off like all the rest.  
I woke up in my small cage.  
Then had some breakfast.

When my mom went to work,  
I relaxed in my bedding.  
Little did I know  
just where this day was heading.



Suddenly, I heard from below  
the tiniest little sound.  
I searched high and low.  
I looked all around.

I was shocked to find  
something puny in my house.  
There, crawling and squeaking,  
was a minuscule mouse!



I just could not believe it.  
How could he be so bold?  
He ate my mom's peanuts  
that were only a day old.

He crawled in her basket  
that she kept on the highest shelf  
I was so mad at him that  
I grumbled to myself.





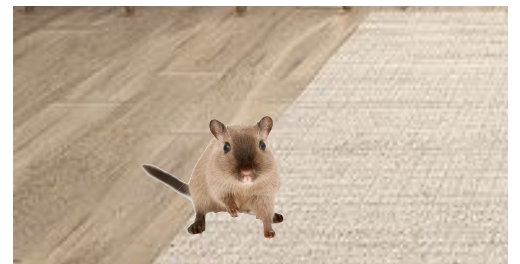
The mouse brushed against an apple  
and crawled over the floor.  
The rodent climbed in the drinking glasses  
then headed towards the door.



"Hey, mouse, stop destroying my house!"  
I shouted in a squeak.  
But he kept on crawling  
like he could not hear me speak.



"I'm not a mouse,"  
came his wee reply  
"I am a gerbil.  
Want to stop me? You can try."



Finally, my mom came home.  
I thought she'd be in a rage.  
But she scooped the gerbil up  
and put him in my cage!



"I got you this new friend,"  
my mom said after a while.  
"I hope you like him, Mr. Hamster,"  
she added with a smile.

I am not sure if hamsters and gerbils  
were meant to be friends.  
But mom gave us both a treat,  
so this is where my story ends.



## Synonyms for Small

Choose any word from the word bank and write it in a sentence. Read each sentence. Finally, write your own sentence using your favorite synonym for small.

**Word bank:** small, little, tiny, puny, minuscule, wee, teeny, mini, runty, petite

1. The hamster is \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The stars look \_\_\_\_\_ from Earth.
3. The baby stallion is \_\_\_\_\_.
4. This is not a \_\_\_\_\_ storm.
5. The sting left a \_\_\_\_\_ mark on my arm.
6. In the stable is a \_\_\_\_\_ key.
7. First, look at the \_\_\_\_\_ kitten.
8. Don't stare at the \_\_\_\_\_ jewel!
9. The ghost has a \_\_\_\_\_ voice.
10. On the stage, there is a \_\_\_\_\_ child.




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**Identify the narrator of each paragraph.**

1. My granddaughter, Tina, loves my stable. She pets the stallion every time she comes.

"Grandma," Tina says. "Can I pet the stallion?"

"Of course," I answer back. "The stallion loves it when you pet him."

Who is the narrator of this paragraph?

- A. Tina    B. the stallion    C. Grandma    D. unknown narrator

2. I hate being called a ghost. Sometimes kids stare at me in fear. But I'm not so bad really. I wish people would stop calling me scary. Ghosts can have hurt feelings too.

Who is the narrator of this paragraph?

- A. the ghost    B. the kids    C. people    D. unknown narrator



3. The ship captain sailed in the storm. He kept his eye on the north star twinkling brightly in the sky. Sailing alone was hard. He needed to stop at the next port. Then he would find a new first mate.

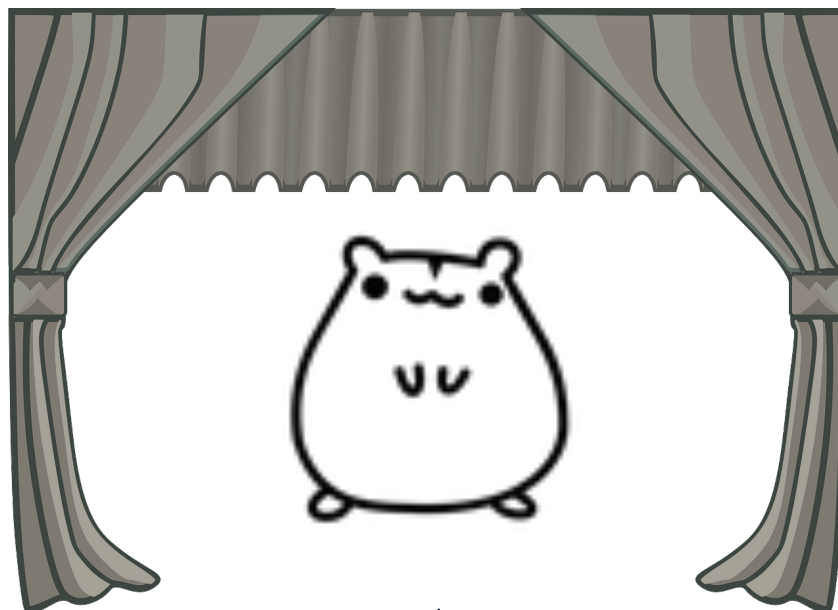
Who is the narrator of this paragraph?

A. the captain    B. the star    C. the first mate    D. unknown narrator

4. I always loved watching the stage. Acting was what I was meant to do. Some people say that hamsters shouldn't act. I say they are wrong. Everyone stares at me when I climb the stairs and take the stage. The crowd falls silent. A lady nearby screams as I start to speak.

Who is the narrator in this story?

A. people    B. a hamster    C. a lady    D. unknown narrator



# a Messy Classroom

Write the word and then draw a picture that can help you remember what the word means.

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# My Hamster Story

By \_\_\_\_\_

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