



Saint Vincent School  
Sister of Charity of Ste J.A.  
Besançon – Baskinta

### Comprehension text

**Class** : grade7  
**Teacher** : Mrs Christiane Abou Nader  
**Duration** :  
**Date** :

**Permitted Documents :**

#### Reading comprehension exercise grade 7



A water bearer\* called Tshepiso lived in the village of Osaka. He had the important task of bringing fresh water to his family. He carried two large pots, on a pole, across his shoulders. One pot had a crack while the other was a perfect, proud pot. At the end of the walk, the cracked pot arrived with only half the water. For a full two years this went on every day with Tshepiso bringing fresh water in the pots to his family. They were not very happy with the half full, cracked pot.

Now the perfect pot was proud of its accomplishments in carrying out the job for which it had been made. This pot felt as important as a human being and selfishly ignored the other pot. Its boasting made the cracked pot feel ashamed of its own imperfection and misery, because it leaked half the water from the stream to the village. The cracked pot asked the perfect pot to help it mend its crack, but the perfect pot was always too busy.

After two years the cracked pot expressed his feelings of being useless and it spoke to Tshepiso. "I am ashamed of myself because of the crack in my side; it leaks water all the way to your house. I have no value and should be thrown away."

Tshepiso felt sad, he did not know how miserable the cracked pot felt. He smiled and gently said, "Did you notice that there are pumpkins only on your side of the path, and not on the other pot's side? I always knew about your weakness and so I planted pumpkin seeds on your side of the path. You have been watering the seeds every day. Without your weakness, I could not have grown the pumpkins."

Bearer: holder

**1-Answer the questions below**

- a- Give a title for the story?
- b- Who are the main characters in this story?
- c- What is the main idea of the story?
- d- Where does the story take place?
- e- What lesson can be learnt from this story?

**2- Number the four sentences in the order in which they happened in the story.**

- a-Tshepiso explains that he plants pumpkin seeds.
- b-The cracked pot talks to the water bearer.
- c-The cracked pot feels better.
- d-Tshepiso walks to the stream for water every day.

**3-Fill in with the present simple or continuous.**

- a-Jerry is very sociable. He\_\_\_(know) lots of people.
- b-We've got plenty of chairs. We \_\_\_(want/not) anymore.
- c-Who\_\_\_Michel/talk to) on the phone?
- d-Richard is finding life in Paris a bit difficult. He\_\_\_(speak/not) French.
- e-We\_\_\_ (Try) to organize a disco for next week.
- f-We live quite close to the school, so the children \_\_\_(walk) there.
- g- I've got my sports kit a bit dirty. This shirt\_\_\_ (need) a good wash.
- h-They\_\_\_ (Wait for) another holiday to celebrate their success.