

The Princess and the Pea

Vocabulary Words

1. alas (exclamation) an expression of sadness or disappointment, especially when there is no hope that a situation will change:
Example: "Alas!" cried the man.
2. commotion (noun) a sudden, short period of noise, confusion, or excited movement:
Example: His arrival caused quite a commotion.
3. frighten (verb) to make someone feel fear:
Example: He frightens me when he drives so fast.
4. drag (verb) to move something by pulling it along a surface, usually the ground:
Example: Pick the chair up instead of dragging it behind you!
5. slush (noun) snow that is lying on the ground and has started to melt
Example: The city's streets were covered with dirty, gray slush
6. peasant (noun) a person who owns or rents a small piece of land and grows crops, keeps animals, etc. on it, especially one who has a low income, very little education, and a low social position. This is usually used of someone who lived in the past or of someone in a poor country:
Example: Tons of internationally donated food was distributed to the starving peasants.
7. black and blue (adjective) (of skin) have dark marks as a result of injury:
Example: The fall left her leg all black-and-blue.

Audio clip: [The Princess and the Pea.mp3](#)



Once upon a time, a young prince wanted to get married.

So he went around the world looking for the right princess to marry.

Alas! He found none!

There was always something wrong in all the princesses he met.



One stormy night after the prince came back home, he and his family were having their dinner when there was a **commotion** outside the castle door.

The king went to see what was going on.

When he got there he was surprised to see a young girl all wet from the rain.

He asked her who she was.

She said, "I am a princess, I was passing through the storm and the horses got **frightened** and **dragged** my carriage into **slush** and mud".



Nobody who looked at the young girl could believe that she was a princess.

She looked like a poor **peasant** girl.

The prince asked the queen whether she was really a princess.

The queen said we must wait till morning to know it.



The queen went to the room prepared for the princess.

The queen took out a pea from her pocket and placed it right in the middle of the princess's bed.

She ordered the maid to bring twenty mattresses and place them on top of the pea.

All night long the princess didn't get much sleep.

In the morning, the queen asked the princess whether she slept well.

The princess said, " My bed was really soft but something was not right and I got **black and blue** all over."



The queen was happy because she knew that the girl was a true princess.
Only a real princess who has lived all her life in comfort can feel a small pea kept under
20 mattresses.
The queen told her son, the prince, that the girl is the one he had long been looking for.
Soon the prince married the princess of his dreams and they lived happily ever-after in
the kingdom.

