

Name: _____

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Androcles and the Lion

Once, long ago, a shepherd was roaming the hot, desert land of Africa when he met a lion. He was frightened but when he saw the lion had a thorn in his paw and was in terrible pain he walked towards it, spoke to it gently and pulled out the thorn. From that time on, Androcles and the lion were great friends.

Sometime later some soldiers came and arrested Androcles. They took him far across the sea to the great city of Rome. The Emperor of Rome tried to make Androcles give up his faith and when he refused him he had him thrown into a huge arena to be torn apart and eaten by a fierce lion.

Androcles saw the lion spring towards him. Then, suddenly, the lion stopped, bowed his head and held out its paw. Androcles knew then that this lion was his friend from the desert of Africa who had captured by hunters and brought to Rome.

The Emperor was amazed. "You and your lion have been loyal and brave, Androcles," he said. "You shall both be released at once." So Androcles and the lion returned across the sea to their home in the desert land of Africa.

Please read the text carefully and use this to answer the questions

1. What genre is this text ? _____

2. What word in the first paragraph means wandering ?

3. How did Androcles feel when he first saw the lion ?

4. How did they become friends?

5. How did the Emperor punish Androcles?

6. Can you think of three adjectives to describe the character of the Emperor?

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7. Androlcles was loyal and brave. Can you think of what else he was and why you think this?

8. Why did the Emperor release Androlcles and the lion?

9. Define:

Capture: _____

Brave: _____

Arena : _____

Name: _____

Date: _____