



evropský
sociální
fond v ČR



EVROPSKÁ UNIE



MINISTERSTVO ŠKOLSTVÍ,
MLÁDEŽE A TĚLOVÝCHOVY



OP Vzdělávání
pro konkurenceschopnost

INVESTICE DO ROZVOJE VZDĚLÁVÁNÍ

Lesson 04:

A Clever Villager

Conversation Lesson with a Story,
Vocabulary Practice,
Questions and Activities

Content

- The Story
 - Vocabulary Practice
 - Questions for Discussion
 - Activities
 - A Related Idiom
- Role Play
 - Ideas to Help You
 - Useful vocabulary/phrases

The Story

Some villagers were going to celebrate an important wine festival in a few days' time, so they borrowed a huge barrel from the nearest town, put it in the village square and determined that each of them should empty a bottle of the best wine he had into it, so that there should be plenty at the feast.

One of the villagers thought he would be very clever. 'If I pour a bottle of water in, instead of wine, no one will notice it,' he said to himself, 'because there will be so much excellent wine in the barrel that the water will be lost in it.'

The night of the feast arrived. Everybody gathered in the village square with jugs and their glasses for the wine. The tap on the barrel was opened - but what came out was pure water.

Source: [ESL Short Stories](#)



Vocabulary Practice

Choose the best answer.

1) **'Barrel'** here means ...

- a) a round wooden container with a flat top and bottom, used for storing liquids
- b) a unit for measuring crude oil
- c) the part of a gun that a bullet is fired through

Content

Story

Vocabulary Practice

Choose the best answer.

2) **'Determine'** here means ...

- a) to vote
- b) to officially decide
- c) to calculate

Content

Story

Vocabulary Practice

Choose the best answer.

3) **'Tap'** here means ...

- a) the action or sound of touching someone or something gently
- b) electronic equipment used for listening secretly to someone's telephone conversations
- c) an object used for controlling how much liquid comes out from a pipe or container

Content

Story

Vocabulary Practice

Choose the best answer.

4) **'Pure'** here means ...

- a) very clear and beautiful
- b) without any ingredients / additives
- c) dealing only with theory

Content

Story

Questions for Discussion

- 1) How is it possible that what came out from the barrel in the end was pure water? Explain.
- 2) What does the story reveal about the villagers?
- 3) Do you think the situation would be different or the same where you live?

Content

Story

Activities

- Now tell your friend(s) the story in your own words.
- Pronounce the following words several times:
 - a) determine
 - b) notice
 - c) feast
 - d) pure

Content

Story

A Related Idiom

‘To pour cold water on something’

- What does the idiom mean?
- Is there an idiom in your mother tongue which bears the same meaning?

Content

Story

A Related Saying

‘To pour cold water on something’

- i.e. to be critical of a plan that others thought was exciting or great

*I really don't want to **pour cold water on your plan**, but I really don't think it will work.*

Content

Story

Role Play

Imagine the following situation:

Next year you are going to **study in Britain**. **You and your English speaking friend** would like to **rent a flat or a house**. Talk about **whether** you would prefer to live in a flat in the city centre or in a house in a village and discuss the details.

Person B will play the role of **your English speaking friend** and **will start** the conversation.



Role Play:

Ideas to Help You

The following ideas may help you:

- *Size*
- *Costs*
- *Transport*
- *Culture and sport facilities*
- *Shops*
- *Other*