



## Friends Forever (Ghana)

Once upon a time, Mouse and Frog were friends. They had been friends for a long time, but there was a problem. Mouse lived in a hole in a tree, which was dry enough for Mouse and damp enough for Frog. Whenever they saw each other, Frog would visit Mouse in his den.

Over time, Frog became annoyed at Mouse. “Why do we always have to go to Mouse’s house?” he would ask himself every night as he went to sleep.

### VIPERS QUESTIONS

**V**

Which word tells you that there was a bit of water in Mouse’s house?

**I**

Why was frog annoyed at Mouse?

**I**

Why do you think Mouse didn’t visit Frog in his pond?

Frog didn’t say anything to Mouse. For many weeks, they carried on acting like friends. Frog pretended that nothing was wrong and Mouse had no idea that his best friend was slowly becoming his enemy. Mouse was such a good friend that he didn’t notice Frog acting strangely.

**R**

For how long did they act as friends?

**P**

How could Frog have solved the problem at this point?

**V**

Write another word or phrase for strangely.

In the end, anger filled Frog’s veins and all he could think about was getting his revenge. Every night he would go to sleep and think about how he would teach Mouse a lesson. He was so happy when he devised the perfect plan that he couldn’t get to sleep.

**I**

What lesson do you think Frog wanted to teach Mouse?

**P**

Do you think Frog was doing the right thing trying to get revenge? Give a reason.

**V**

What does the word “devised” mean?

Mouse woke the next morning to find Frog sat at the foot of his bed. Mouse tried to move his legs but couldn't. Frog had tied them together with a length of string. The other end of the string was tied around Frog's waist. Frog didn't say anything. He jumped out of Mouse's house and dragged Mouse with him.

**P**

Where do you think Frog is taking Mouse?

It didn't take long for Mouse to realise where Frog was taking him. Frog was dragging Mouse to his pond. Mouse shouted at his friend that he couldn't swim, but Frog didn't listen. He was so determined to get his revenge that nothing else mattered.

They soon reached the pond and Frog jumped straight in. Mouse tried to free himself, but the string was too tight. All he could do was swim to the surface and try to catch his breath.

A shadow passed over the pond. Hawk was on the lookout for food and had spotted Mouse thrashing in the pond. Hawk swooped down and snatched up Mouse for his lunch. The string was still tied to Frog, and he was dragged up into the air as well. Suddenly, his revenge seemed like a bad idea. That day, Hawk had a tasty lunch of Mouse and Frog.

In Ghana, they have a saying. “Don't dig a deep pit for your enemy, you may fall into it yourself.”

**R**

Why didn't Frog listen to Mouse?

**R**

Who ate both of the animals for his lunch?

**E**

Why do you think the author has included this saying at the end?

Answers:

V: Damp

I: Because Mouse never visited Frog's house

I: Mice can't swim and he would drown in the pond.

R: Many weeks

P: He could have talked to Mouse about what was upsetting him

V: Differently, weird, out of the ordinary etc

I: That he should do what Frog wanted

P: Accept an explanation that is well reasoned

V: Came up with/thought of

P: Look for predictions that show understanding of Frog taking revenge and wanting Mouse to visit his pond

R: He was desperate for revenge

R: Hawk

E: It helps to explain the moral of the story.