

The Emperor's New Clothes - Hans Christian Andersen

Choose the right article for each gap: *a, an, the, some, any or -*

Once upon ___ time, there was ___ vain and silly Emperor who ruled ___ land. The Emperor loved ___ clothes more than anything else. He ignored ___ duties of ruling ___ country and spent ___ most of his time buying ___ new suits of clothes, trying them on, and having ___ official parades where all ___ people could look at his clothes.

___ Emperor's vanity was known far and wide across ___ land. Two scoundrels from ___ distant town heard about ___ silly Emperor and made up ___ clever plan to fool him. ___ scoundrels made ___ loom from ___ wood and went to ___ Emperor pretending to be ___ weavers and tailors.

___ scoundrels told ___ Emperor, "We know ___ secret way to make ___ magical, golden cloth that is ___ most beautiful cloth ever created. ___ patterns are so intricate that they will amaze you. And ___ fabric is as light ___ feather. But, this incredible cloth is only visible to ___ people who are wise and worthy; it is fit only for ___ rulers who are worthy of their office -- ___ fools cannot even see this magical cloth. If you like, Sire, we could weave you ___ magical cloth and make you ___ suit of clothes that is suitable for ___ man of your distinction. It will take us ___ week.

___ Emperor said, "Yes, of course I want ___ suit made from ___ magical fabric. You must begin at once." The immediately began planning ___ parade to show off ___ new suit he would soon have. Soon ___ whole town was excited about ___ Emperor's new magical suit of clothes.

___ crooks gave ___ Emperor's men ___ list of supplies they would need, including many chests full of ___ gold and spools of ___ fine silk thread. After ___ gold and silk arrived, ___ scoundrels set up their loom in ___ room in ___ castle and pretended to weave, using ___ fake invisible thread.

After a few days, ___ Emperor sent his Prime Minister to check on ___ progress of ___ weavers. ___ Prime Minister entered ___ room but couldn't see ___ magical thread or magical fabric. ___ scoundrels were busy measuring and cutting and sewing ___ invisible cloth. ___ Prime Minister was very upset about this, and was afraid that he must be ___ fool and unworthy of his office because he couldn't see ___ magical fabric. When he reported back to ___ Emperor, he lied and said that ___ magical fabric had such ___ beautiful pattern that no words that could describe it and that ___

colors were brighter than ___ rainbow. ___ Emperor was very happy and could hardly wait for his new suit.

In a few more days, ___ Emperor's new suit was finished. ___ Emperor and his men happily entered ___ room. Neither ___ Emperor nor his men could see ___ magical clothing. But ___ people was afraid to admit it because that would mean they were foolish and unworthy of their position. So all ___ people said that ___ clothes were beautiful and amazing, even though no one could see ___ thing.

___ scoundrels told ___ Emperor to take off his clothes, and he did. Then ___ crooks pretended to dress him in ___ magical clothes. They carefully dressed ___ Emperor in ___ invisible trousers, shirt, and cloak. When they were done, each of ___ Emperor's men said that ___ suit was magnificent, and ___ Emperor in underwear nodded in agreement -- but ___ Emperor was only wearing his underwear!

___ Emperor in underwear and his men left ___ castle and walked through ___ town. He was very proud of ___ new, magical suit. At first, people gasped when they saw ___ nearly-naked Emperor in ___ underwear walking through ___ town. Then they remembered that only ___ fools couldn't see ___ magical clothes, so they began cheering and telling ___ Emperor that ___ clothes were absolutely amazing.

Suddenly, ___ small child spoke ___ truth. She pointed at ___ Emperor in ___ underwear and said, "___ Emperor is only wearing his underwear." Everyone in ___ crowd gasped. They knew it was true, and everyone cried out, "___ Emperor is only wearing his underwear." ___ Emperor turned red with embarrassment but he refused to admit that he had been fooled. He continued with ___ silly parade and eventually went back to ___ castle where he put on ___ real clothes.

He was angry with ___ men who made ___ suit and and asked to speak to them, but they had disappeared and taken all ___ gold and ___ silk with them.



a loom for weaving cloth



spools of thread