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## Level 6

# Fairy tales could be 6,000 years old

24th January, 2016

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1601/160124-fairy-tales.html>

## Contents

The Article	2	Discussion (Student-Created Qs)	14
Warm-Ups	3	Language Work (Cloze)	15
Before Reading / Listening	4	Spelling	16
While Reading / Listening	5	Put The Text Back Together	17
Match The Sentences And Listen	6	Put The Words In The Right Order	18
Listening Gap Fill	7	Circle The Correct Word	19
Comprehension Questions	8	Insert The Vowels (a, e, i, o, u)	20
Multiple Choice - Quiz	9	Punctuate The Text And Add Capitals	21
Role Play	10	Put A Slash ( / ) Where The Spaces Are	22
After Reading / Listening	11	Free Writing	23
Student Survey	12	Academic Writing	24
Discussion (20 Questions)	13	Homework	25
		Answers	26

**Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).**

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# THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1601/160124-fairy-tales.html>

The famous 19th-century fairy tale collector Wilhelm Grimm suggested fairy tales dated back thousands of years. Scientists now support his theory and claim that many of the fairy tales we know and love could be over 4,000 years old. Anthropologist Jamshid Tehrani and folklorist Sara da Silva say the oldest known fairy tale dates back over 6,000 years to the Bronze Age. This is a time between the Stone Age and Iron Age when humans first started making tools from metal. Dr Tehrani studied the evolution of our early languages. He found strong links between a tale called "The Smith and the Devil" and the Proto-Indo-European language - an ancient common language that dates to around 6,000 years ago.

The two scientists analysed 275 tales for elements of culture that existed before modern languages like English, French and Italian. They say well-known tales like "Beauty and the Beast" and "Rumpelstiltskin" are at least 4,000 years old. Dr Tehrani said: "It's remarkable that these stories have survived so long without being written down. They are older than the English language and would have been first told in a language that is now extinct." Many of the fairy tales we know today were first written down in the 17th century. Dr Tehrani says the new findings suggest that: "A substantial number of magical tales have existed in Indo-European oral traditions long before they were written down."

Sources: <http://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/books/news/fairy-tales-could-date-back-thousands-of-years-research-says-a6822021.html>  
<https://www.sciencenews.org/article/no-fairy-tale-origins-some-famous-stories-go-back-thousands-years>  
<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-35358487>

# WARM-UPS

**1. FAIRY TALES:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about fairy tales. Change partners often and share your findings.

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

*famous / collector / theory / fairy tale / Stone Age / tools / metal / evolution / links / elements / culture / remarkable / survived / language / extinct / substantial / oral*

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

**3. MODERN FAIRY TALES:** What fairy tale could you write about these topics? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Characters	Story	Message
The Internet			
Global warming			
Immigration			
Terrorism			
Living on Mars			
Mobile phones			

**4. CHILDREN:** Students A **strongly** believe fairy tales are only for children; Students B **strongly** believe they are just as good for adults. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**5. ESSENTIALS:** Rank these with your partner. Put the most essential things for a fairy tale at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- a fairy godmother
- a topical world issue
- love
- an evil person
- a happy ending
- a moral message
- possibility for a Disney film
- a talking animal

**6. FAIRY:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "fairy". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1601/160124-fairy-tales.html>

## 1. TRUE / FALSE:

Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- |  |       |
|--|-------|
| a. A man called Wilhelm Grimm said fairy tales were 20,000 years old.  | T / F |
| b. Scientists say the oldest fairy tale is around 6,000 years old.     | T / F |
| c. The Bronze Age is before the Iron Age and after the Stone Age.      | T / F |
| d. The world's oldest known fairy tale is about the devil.             | T / F |
| e. Scientists looked at 2,750 fairy tales in their research.           | T / F |
| f. The fairy tale 'Beauty and the Beast' is less than 4,000 years old. | T / F |
| g. The earliest fairy tales were told in English.                      | T / F |
| h. Most fairy tales were written down before they were spoken.         | T / F |

## 2. SYNONYM MATCH:

Match the following synonyms from the article.

- |                |                  |
|----------------|------------------|
| 1. suggested   | a. traces        |
| 2. support     | b. development   |
| 3. theory      | c. considerable  |
| 4. evolution   | d. back          |
| 5. common      | e. extraordinary |
| 6. elements    | f. widespread    |
| 7. remarkable  | g. proposed      |
| 8. extinct     | h. spoken        |
| 9. substantial | i. vanished      |
| 10. oral       | j. hypothesis    |

## 3. PHRASE MATCH:

(Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- |  |                            |
|--|----------------------------|
| 1. fairy tales dated back                  | a. survived so long        |
| 2. the fairy tales we know                 | b. language                |
| 3. when humans first started making        | c. is now extinct          |
| 4. Dr Tehrani studied the evolution        | d. magical tales           |
| 5. an ancient common                       | e. tools from metal        |
| 6. culture that existed                    | f. known tales             |
| 7. well-                                   | g. thousands of years      |
| 8. It's remarkable that these stories have | h. before modern languages |
| 9. first told in a language that           | i. of our early languages  |
| 10. A substantial number of                | j. and love                |

# GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1601/160124-fairy-tales.html>

The famous 19th-century fairy tale (1) \_\_\_\_\_ Wilhelm Grimm suggested fairy tales (2) \_\_\_\_\_ back thousands of years. Scientists now support his theory and claim that many of the fairy tales we know and (3) \_\_\_\_\_ could be over 4,000 years old. Anthropologist Jamshid Tehrani and folklorist Sara da Silva say the oldest (4) \_\_\_\_\_ fairy tale dates back over 6,000 years to the Bronze Age. This is a time between the Stone Age and Iron Age when humans first started making (5) \_\_\_\_\_ from metal. Dr Tehrani studied the (6) \_\_\_\_\_ of our early languages. He found strong (7) \_\_\_\_\_ between a tale called "The Smith and the Devil" and the Proto-Indo-European language - an ancient (8) \_\_\_\_\_ language that dates to around 6,000 years ago.

*tools*  
*dated*  
*links*  
*collector*  
*known*  
*common*  
*love*  
*evolution*

The two scientists analysed 275 tales for (9) \_\_\_\_\_ of culture that existed before (10) \_\_\_\_\_ languages like English, French and Italian. They say well-known tales like "Beauty and the Beast" and "Rumpelstiltskin" are at (11) \_\_\_\_\_ 4,000 years old. Dr Tehrani said: "It's remarkable that these stories have (12) \_\_\_\_\_ so long without being written down. They are older than the English language and would have been first told in a language that is now (13) \_\_\_\_\_." Many of the fairy tales we know today were first written down in the 17th century. Dr Tehrani says the new (14) \_\_\_\_\_ suggest that: "A substantial (15) \_\_\_\_\_ of magical tales have existed in Indo-European (16) \_\_\_\_\_ traditions long before they were written down."

*survived*  
*modern*  
*number*  
*elements*  
*oral*  
*extinct*  
*least*  
*findings*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1601/160124-fairy-tales.html>

- 1) 19-century fairy tale collector Wilhelm Grimm suggested fairy \_\_\_\_\_ thousands of years
  - a. tales date it back
  - b. tales dated backed
  - c. tales dated backs
  - d. tales dated back
- 2) many of the fairy tales we \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. no and love
  - b. now and loved
  - c. know and love
  - d. known and love
- 3) Anthropologist Jamshid Tehrani and \_\_\_\_\_ Sara da Silva
  - a. florist
  - b. folk florist
  - c. folk law wrist
  - d. folklorist
- 4) a time between the Stone Age and Iron Age when humans first started making \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. tools from metal
  - b. tools from metals
  - c. tools for metal
  - d. tool from metal
- 5) an ancient common language that dates to \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. about 6,000 years ago
  - b. around 6,000 years ago
  - c. around 60,000 years ago
  - d. about 60,000 years ago
- 6) The two scientists analysed 275 tales for \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. elementals of culture
  - b. elements of culture
  - c. elements for culture
  - d. elements of cultures
- 7) It's remarkable that these stories have survived so long without \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. been written down
  - b. being writing down
  - c. being written dawn
  - d. being written down
- 8) older than the English language and would have been first told in a language that \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. is now extinction
  - b. is now extinct
  - c. is know extinct
  - d. is known extinction
- 9) Many of the fairy tales we know today were first written down \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. in the 17th century
  - b. in the 18th century
  - c. on the 17th century
  - d. on the 18th century
- 10) A substantial number of magical tales have existed in Indo-European \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. aural traditions
  - b. or all traditions
  - c. oral traditions
  - d. awe all traditions

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1601/160124-fairy-tales.html>

The famous 19th-century (1) \_\_\_\_\_ Wilhelm Grimm suggested fairy tales dated back thousands of years. Scientists now support his (2) \_\_\_\_\_ that many of the fairy tales we know and love could be over 4,000 years old. Anthropologist Jamshid Tehrani and folklorist Sara da Silva say the oldest known fairy tale (3) \_\_\_\_\_ 6,000 years to the Bronze Age. This is a time between the Stone Age and Iron Age when humans first started making (4) \_\_\_\_\_. Dr Tehrani studied the evolution of our early languages. He found strong (5) \_\_\_\_\_ tale called "The Smith and the Devil" and the Proto-Indo-European language - (6) \_\_\_\_\_ language that dates to around 6,000 years ago.

The two scientists analysed 275 tales (7) \_\_\_\_\_ culture that existed before modern languages like English, French and Italian. They say well-known tales like "Beauty and the Beast" and "Rumpelstiltskin" are at least 4,000 years old. Dr Tehrani said: "It's (8) \_\_\_\_\_ stories have survived (9) \_\_\_\_\_ being written down. They are older than the English language and would have been first told in a language that (10) \_\_\_\_\_." Many of the fairy tales we know today were first written down in the 17th century. Dr Tehrani says the new (11) \_\_\_\_\_: "A substantial number of magical tales have existed in Indo-European (12) \_\_\_\_\_ long before they were written down."

# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1601/160124-fairy-tales.html>

1. When was Wilhelm Grimm alive?

---

2. What field of study / research is Jamshid Tehrani in?

---

3. What is between the Stone Age and Iron Age?

---

4. What did Jamshid Tehrani study the evolution of?

---

5. When does the Proto-Indo-European language date back to?

---

6. How many fairy tales did scientists analyse?

---

7. How old is the fairy tale 'Beauty and the Beast'?

---

8. What did Dr Tehrani say the fairy tales were older than?

---

9. When were today's fairy tales first written down?

---

10. How many magical tales existed before they were written down?

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# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1601/160124-fairy-tales.html>

1. When was Wilhelm Grimm alive?
  - a) 1767-1829
  - b) 1922
  - c) some time between 1900-1999
  - d) the 19th century
2. What field of study / research is Jamshid Tehrani in?
  - a) archaeology
  - b) anthropology
  - c) literacy
  - d) English literature
3. What is between the Stone Age and Iron Age?
  - a) the Fairy Tale Age
  - b) the Copper Age
  - c) the Digital Age
  - d) the Bronze Age
4. What did Jamshid Tehrani study the evolution of?
  - a) humans
  - b) Rumpelstiltskin
  - c) our early languages
  - d) metal
5. When does the Proto-Indo-European language date back to?
  - a) 1901
  - b) 4,000 years ago
  - c) 3,000 BC
  - d) around 6,000 years ago
6. How many fairy tales did scientists analyse?
  - a) 274
  - b) 276
  - c) 275
  - d) 277
7. How old is the fairy tale 'Beauty and the Beast'?
  - a) over 4,000 years old
  - b) exactly 4,000 years old
  - c) around 4,000 years old
  - d) just under 4,000 years old
8. What did Dr Tehrani say the fairy tales were older than?
  - a) language
  - b) Stone
  - c) English
  - d) metal
9. When were today's fairy tales first written down?
  - a) 1752
  - b) the 17th century
  - c) 4,000 years ago
  - d) 6,000 years ago
10. How many magical tales existed before they were written down?
  - a) a substantial number
  - b) just a few
  - c) 275
  - d) over 10,000

# ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1601/160124-fairy-tales.html>

## **Role A – Fairy godmother**

You think a fairy godmother is most important for a fairy tale. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as good. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): a happy ending, a moral message or a topical world issue.

## **Role B – A happy ending**

You think a happy ending is most important for a fairy tale. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as good. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): fairy godmother, a moral message or a topical world issue.

## **Role C – A moral message**

You think a moral message is most important for a fairy tale. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as good. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): a happy ending, fairy godmother or a topical world issue.

## **Role D – A topical world issue**

You think a topical world issue is most important for a fairy tale. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as good. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): a happy ending, a moral message or fairy godmother.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1601/160124-fairy-tales.html>

**1. WORD SEARCH:** Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'fairy' and 'tale'.

<b>fairy</b>	<b>tale</b>
--------------	-------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS:** Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**3. GAP FILL:** In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

**4. VOCABULARY:** Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

**5. TEST EACH OTHER:** Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• famous</li><li>• claim</li><li>• known</li><li>• metal</li><li>• early</li><li>• ago</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• modern</li><li>• least</li><li>• without</li><li>• extinct</li><li>• 17</li><li>• number</li></ul>
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# FAIRY TALES SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1601/160124-fairy-tales.html>

Write five GOOD questions about fairy tales in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

# FAIRY TALES DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- 1) What did you think when you read the headline?
- 2) What springs to mind when you hear the term 'fairy tale'?
- 3) How important are fairy tales?
- 4) What fairy tales are important in your culture?
- 5) What fairy tales did you like as a kid?
- 6) What do you think about what you read?
- 7) What do you think that fairy tales are over 4,000 years old?
- 8) Do you think it's OK that Disney makes movies of fairy tales?
- 9) Are fairy tales still being written? Do you know any modern ones?
- 10) What are the similarities between many fairy tales?

*Fairy tales could be 6,000 years old – 24th January, 2016*  
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# FAIRY TALES DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- 11) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- 12) How important are fairy tales to you?
- 13) What do fairy tales teach us?
- 14) Why are the same fairy tales told in many different cultures?
- 15) What do you know about the fairy tale 'Beauty and the Beast'?
- 16) Why are fairy tales good for people?
- 17) What do you know about the early history of your language?
- 18) At what age should people stop reading fairy tales?
- 19) Who is your favourite fairy tale character and why?
- 20) What questions would you like to ask the scientists?

# DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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# DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

# LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1601/160124-fairy-tales.html>

The famous 19th-century fairy tale (1) \_\_\_\_\_ Wilhelm Grimm suggested fairy tales dated back thousands of years. Scientists now support his theory and (2) \_\_\_\_\_ that many of the fairy tales we know and love could be over 4,000 years old. Anthropologist Jamshid Tehrani and folklorist Sara da Silva say the oldest known fairy tale dates (3) \_\_\_\_\_ over 6,000 years to the Bronze Age. This is a time between the Stone Age and Iron Age when humans first started (4) \_\_\_\_\_ tools from metal. Dr Tehrani studied the (5) \_\_\_\_\_ of our early languages. He found strong links between a tale called "The Smith and the Devil" and the Proto-Indo-European language - an (6) \_\_\_\_\_ common language that dates to around 6,000 years ago.

The two scientists analysed 275 tales for elements (7) \_\_\_\_\_ culture that existed before modern languages like English, French and Italian. They say well-known tales like "Beauty and the Beast" and "Rumpelstiltskin" are (8) \_\_\_\_\_ least 4,000 years old. Dr Tehrani said: "It's remarkable that these stories have survived (9) \_\_\_\_\_ long without being written down. They are older than the English language and would have been first told in a language that is now (10) \_\_\_\_\_." Many of the fairy tales we know today were first written down in the 17th century. Dr Tehrani says the new findings suggest that: "A (11) \_\_\_\_\_ number of magical tales have existed in Indo-European (12) \_\_\_\_\_ traditions long before they were written down."

## Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- |     |                 |                 |                 |                 |
|-----|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1.  | (a) collect     | (b) collective  | (c) collection  | (d) collector   |
| 2.  | (a) claims      | (b) claimed     | (c) claiming    | (d) claim       |
| 3.  | (a) past        | (b) back        | (c) before      | (d) gone by     |
| 4.  | (a) made        | (b) makes       | (c) making      | (d) make        |
| 5.  | (a) evolution   | (b) devolution  | (c) revolution  | (d) convolution |
| 6.  | (a) ancient     | (b) prehistoric | (c) elderly     | (d) out-of-date |
| 7.  | (a) at          | (b) on          | (c) by          | (d) of          |
| 8.  | (a) at          | (b) by          | (c) to          | (d) for         |
| 9.  | (a) very        | (b) such        | (c) so          | (d) last        |
| 10. | (a) forever     | (b) evermore    | (c) extinct     | (d) perpetual   |
| 11. | (a) consequence | (b) standards   | (c) substantial | (d) escalating  |
| 12. | (a) voiced      | (b) oral        | (c) by mouth    | (d) aural       |

# SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1601/160124-fairy-tales.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. The famous 19th-century fairy tale letoorclc
2. Grimm tsdeggeus fairy tales
3. Scientists now support his oyhetr
4. gptsohaintlroo Jamshid Tehrani
5. the loouitevn of our early languages
6. an ncitnea common language

## Paragraph 2

7. The two scientists seldaayn 275 tales
8. neeltesm of culture that existed before
9. It's aarbrlmkee that these stories have survived
10. first told in a language that is now ctxinet
11. A tiaubltasns number of magical tales
12. existed in Indo-European oral insartiodt



# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1601/160124-fairy-tales.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

( )	of magical tales have existed in Indo-European oral traditions long before they were written down."
( )	The two scientists analysed 275 tales for elements of culture that existed before modern languages
( )	back over 6,000 years to the Bronze Age. This is a time between the Stone Age and Iron Age when humans first
( )	long without being written down. They are older than the English language and would have been first told in a
( )	languages. He found strong links between a tale called "The Smith and the Devil" and
( )	language that is now extinct." Many of the fairy tales we know today were first written
( )	started making tools from metal. Dr Tehrani studied the evolution of our early
( )	down in the 17th century. Dr Tehrani says the new findings suggest that: "A substantial number
( )	like English, French and Italian. They say well-known tales like "Beauty and the Beast" and "Rumpelstiltskin" are at
( <b>1</b> )	The famous 19th-century fairy tale collector Wilhelm Grimm suggested fairy tales dated back thousands of
( )	years. Scientists now support his theory and claim that many of the fairy tales we know and love could be over
( )	4,000 years old. Anthropologist Jamshid Tehrani and folklorist Sara da Silva say the oldest known fairy tale dates
( )	least 4,000 years old. Dr Tehrani said: "It's remarkable that these stories have survived so
( )	the Proto-Indo-European language - an ancient common language that dates to around 6,000 years ago.

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1601/160124-fairy-tales.html>

1. and Many fairy know the we love of tales .

---

2. tale oldest years dates known back fairy The 6,000 over .

---

3. first metal started making When tools humans from .

---

4. the our studied of languages Tehrani evolution early Dr .

---

5. that language ago Common 6,000 years around to dates .

---

6. existed Elements before of modern culture languages that .

---

7. long remarkable stories so It's these survived that have .

---

8. told language now First a is in that extinct .

---

9. first know fairy Many written today tales of down were we the .

---

10. have number existed of magical A tales substantial .

---

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1601/160124-fairy-tales.html>

The famous 19th-century fairy tale *collective* / *collector* Wilhelm Grimm suggested fairy tales *dated* / *dating* back thousands of years. Scientists now support his *theorise* / *theory* and claim that many of the fairy tales we know and *love* / *loving* could be over 4,000 years old. Anthropologist Jamshid Tehrani and folklorist Sara da Silva say the oldest *knowing* / *known* fairy tale dates back over 6,000 years to the Bronze Age. This is a *time* / *timely* between the Stone Age and Iron Age when humans first started *made* / *making* tools from metal. Dr Tehrani studied the *evolutionary* / *evolution* of our early languages. He found strong *links* / *link* between a tale called "The Smith and the Devil" and the Proto-Indo-European language - an ancient *commonly* / *common* language that dates to around 6,000 years ago.

The two scientists analysed 275 tales for *elementary* / *elements* of culture that existed before modern languages like English, French and Italian. They say well-known tales *like* / *similar* "Beauty and the Beast" and "Rumpelstiltskin" are at *last* / *least* 4,000 years old. Dr Tehrani said: "It's remarkable that these stories have *survival* / *survived* so long without *being* / *been* written down. They are older than the English language and would have been *first* / *fast* told in a language that is now *extinct* / *extinction*." Many of the fairy tales we know today were first written down in the 17th century. Dr Tehrani says the new *finds* / *findings* suggest that: "A *substantial* / *substance* number of magical tales have existed in Indo-European *aural* / *oral* traditions long before they were written down."

**Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.**

# INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1601/160124-fairy-tales.html>

Th\_ f\_m\_\_s 19th-c\_nt\_ry f\_\_ry t\_l\_ c\_ll\_ct\_r W\_lh\_lm  
Gr\_mm s\_gg\_st\_d f\_\_ry t\_l\_s d\_t\_d b\_ck th\_\_s\_nds \_f  
y\_\_rs. Sc\_\_nt\_sts n\_w s\_pp\_rt h\_s th\_\_ry \_nd cl\_\_m  
th\_t m\_ny \_f th\_ f\_\_ry t\_l\_s w\_ kn\_w \_nd l\_v\_ c\_\_ld b\_  
\_v\_r 4,000 y\_\_rs \_ld. \_nthr\_p\_l\_g\_st J\_msh\_d T\_hr\_n\_  
\_nd f\_lkl\_r\_st S\_r\_ d\_ S\_lv\_ s\_y th\_ \_ld\_st kn\_wn  
f\_\_ry t\_l\_ d\_t\_s b\_ck \_v\_r 6,000 y\_\_rs t\_ th\_ Br\_nz\_  
\_g\_. Th\_s \_s \_t\_m\_ b\_tw\_\_n th\_ St\_n\_ \_g\_ \_nd \_r\_n  
\_g\_ wh\_n h\_m\_ns f\_rst st\_rt\_d m\_k\_ng t\_\_ls fr\_m  
m\_t\_l. Dr T\_hr\_n\_ st\_d\_\_d th\_ \_v\_l\_t\_\_n \_f \_\_r \_\_rly  
l\_ng\_\_g\_s. H\_ f\_\_nd str\_ng l\_nks b\_tw\_\_n \_t\_l\_ c\_ll\_d  
"Th\_ Sm\_th \_nd th\_ D\_v\_l" \_nd th\_ Pr\_t\_-nd\_-  
\_\_r\_p\_\_n l\_ng\_\_g\_ - \_n \_nc\_\_nt c\_mm\_n l\_ng\_\_g\_  
th\_t d\_t\_s t\_\_r\_\_nd 6,000 y\_\_rs \_g\_.

Th\_ tw\_ sc\_\_nt\_sts \_n\_ly\_s\_d 275 t\_l\_s f\_r \_l\_m\_nts \_f  
c\_lt\_r\_ th\_t \_x\_st\_d b\_f\_r\_ m\_d\_rn l\_ng\_\_g\_s l\_k\_  
\_ngl\_sh, Fr\_nch \_nd \_t\_l\_\_n. Th\_y s\_y w\_ll-kn\_wn t\_l\_s  
l\_k\_ "B\_\_ty \_nd th\_ B\_\_st" \_nd "R\_mpl\_st\_ltsk\_n" \_r\_  
\_t l\_\_st 4,000 y\_\_rs \_ld. Dr T\_hr\_n\_ s\_\_d: "\_t's  
r\_m\_rk\_b\_l\_ th\_t th\_s st\_r\_s h\_v\_ s\_rv\_v\_d s\_l\_ng  
w\_th\_\_t b\_\_ng wr\_tt\_n d\_wn. Th\_y \_r\_ \_ld\_r th\_n th\_  
\_ngl\_sh l\_ng\_\_g\_ \_nd w\_\_ld h\_v\_ b\_\_n f\_rst t\_ld \_n\_  
l\_ng\_\_g\_ th\_t s\_n\_w\_xt\_nct." M\_ny \_f th\_ f\_\_ry t\_l\_s  
w\_ kn\_w t\_d\_y w\_r\_ f\_rst wr\_tt\_n d\_wn \_n th\_ 17th  
c\_nt\_ry. Dr T\_hr\_n\_ s\_ys th\_ n\_w f\_nd\_ngs s\_gg\_st  
th\_t: "\_ s\_bst\_nt\_\_l n\_mb\_r \_f m\_g\_c\_l\_t\_l\_s h\_v\_  
\_x\_st\_d \_n \_nd\_-\_\_r\_p\_\_n \_r\_l tr\_d\_t\_\_ns l\_ng b\_f\_r\_  
th\_y w\_r\_ wr\_tt\_n d\_wn."

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1601/160124-fairy-tales.html>

the famous 19th-century fairy tale collector wilhelm grimm suggested fairy tales dated back thousands of years scientists now support his theory and claim that many of the fairy tales we know and love could be over 4000 years old anthropologist jamshid tehrani and folklorist sara da silva say the oldest known fairy tale dates back over 6000 years to the bronze age this is a time between the stone age and iron age when humans first started making tools from metal dr tehrani studied the evolution of our early languages he found strong links between a tale called "the smith and the devil" and the proto-indo-european language - an ancient common language that dates to around 6000 years ago

the two scientists analysed 275 tales for elements of culture that existed before modern languages like english french and italian they say well-known tales like "beauty and the beast" and "rumplestiltskin" are at least 4000 years old dr tehrani said "it's remarkable that these stories have survived so long without being written down they are older than the english language and would have been first told in a language that is now extinct" many of the fairy tales we know today were first written down in the 17th century dr tehrani says the new findings suggest that "a substantial number of magical tales have existed in indo-european oral traditions long before they were written down"

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1601/160124-fairy-tales.html>

The famous 19th-century fairy tale collector Wilhelm Grimm suggested fairy tales dated back thousands of years. Scientists now support this theory and claim that many of the fairy tales we know and love could be over 4,000 years old. Anthropologist Jamshid Tehrani and folklorist Sarada Silva say the oldest known fairy tale dates back over 6,000 years to the Bronze Age. This is a time between the Stone Age and Iron Age when humans first started making tools from metal. Dr Tehran studied the evolution of four early languages. He found strong links between a tale called "The Smith and the Devil" and the Proto-Indo-European language - an ancient common language that dates to around 6,000 years ago. The two scientists analysed 275 tales for elements of culture that existed before modern languages like English, French and Italian. They say well-known tales like "Beauty and the Beast" and "Rumpelstiltskin" are at least 4,000 years old. Dr Tehran said: "It's remarkable that these stories have survived so long without being written down. They are older than the English language and would have been first told in a language that is now extinct." Many of the fairy tales we know today were first written down in the 17th century. Dr Tehran says the new findings suggest that: "A substantial number of magical tales have existed in Indo-European oral traditions long before they were written down."







# HOMework

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find out more about fairy tales. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. YOUR CULTURE:** Make a poster about fairy tales specific to your culture. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. FAIRY TALES:** Write a magazine article about how important fairy tales are. Include imaginary interviews with people who think they are very important, and with people who think they are not so important.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

**5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?** Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**6. LETTER:** Write a letter to an expert on fairy tales. Ask him/her three questions about fairy tales. Give him/her three reasons why they are so important. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a F    b T    c T    d T    e F    f F    g F    h F

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- |                |                  |
|----------------|------------------|
| 1. suggested   | a. proposed      |
| 2. support     | b. back          |
| 3. theory      | c. hypothesis    |
| 4. evolution   | d. development   |
| 5. common      | e. widespread    |
| 6. elements    | f. traces        |
| 7. remarkable  | g. extraordinary |
| 8. extinct     | h. vanished      |
| 9. substantial | i. considerable  |
| 10. oral       | j. spoken        |

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. In the 19th-century.
2. Anthropology.
3. The Bronze Age.
4. Our early languages.
5. Around 6,000 years ago.
6. 275.
7. At least 4,000 years.
8. English.
9. The 17th century.
10. A substantial number.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. d    2. b    3. d    4. c    5. d    6. c    7. a    8. c    9. b    10. a

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.  
(It's good for your English ;-)