

### **The Fox and the Crow**

A fox once saw a crow fly off with a piece of cheese in its beak and land on a tree branch.

“That’s for me, as I am a fox,” said Master Reynard. He walked towards the tree. “Good day, Ms. Crow,” he said with a smile. “You look very beautiful today. Your feathers are very attractive. Your eyes are so bright. I feel sure that you have a wonderful voice. Your figure is better than all the other birds’ figures, and I’ll bet your voice is better than all the other birds’ voices. Let me hear you sing a song, and I will always call you the Queen of Birds.” The crow lifted up her head and began to sing as best as she could. The moment she opened her mouth, the piece of cheese fell to the ground, and the Fox grabbed it. “That will do,” said the fox. “That was all I wanted. In exchange for your cheese, I will give you a piece of advice for the future: Don’t trust people who flatter you too much.” – “Don’t trust flatterers.”

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Answer the following. If you write your answers, use another piece of paper.

1. Does the fox believe all of the complimentary things he says about the crow? How do you know that?
2. Do you think the fox would’ve been successful if he had threatened the crow in order to get the cheese? Why do you say that?
3. If you were the crow, what would you have done?
4. The fox is clever. The fox outsmarted the crow. The fox outwitted the crow. How do you think the crow felt after losing the piece of cheese to the fox? Why?
5. Complete the following sentences:
  - A. The crow said, “If I ... ..”
  - B. The crow said, “I should’ve ... ..”
  - C. The crow said, “I shouldn’t have ... ..”
  - D. The crow said, “I could’ve ... ..”
  - E. The crow said, “I wish I ... ..”
  - F. The crow said, “If only I ... ..”
6. Think of another way the fox could’ve gotten the cheese. Tell about it.
7. Do you have a story to tell? Have you ever been tricked? Have you been outwitted? Have you ever been outsmarted?