



**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Group:** \_\_\_\_\_

# **Year 7**

## **KS3 English**

### **The Happy Prince**

### **Home Learning Booklet**

### **Autumn 1**

Achieving Excellence, Belonging Together, Challenging Mindsets

# Contents

|                                                              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Deadlines and key information</b> about the booklet ..... |
| Page 3-4                                                     |
| <b>Section One</b> – reading and answering questions .....   |
| Page 5-8                                                     |
| <b>Section Two</b> – reading and answering questions .....   |
| Page 9-11                                                    |
| <b>Section Three</b> – reading and answering questions ..... |
| Page 12-14                                                   |
| <b>Section Four</b> – reading and answering questions .....  |
| Page 15-17                                                   |
| <b>Section Five</b> – reading and answering questions .....  |
| Page 18-21                                                   |
| <b>Analytical Task</b> .....                                 |
| Page 22-23                                                   |
| <b>Creative Task</b> .....                                   |
| Page 24-26                                                   |

## Sources of Support

Your class teacher in English will help you if you have any questions.

If they are unavailable, please speak to Mrs Williams, head of KS3 English in E7.

(Animated version of the text on YouTube)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q3RZh1yaqxM>



# How To Use This Booklet

## THE WHY

### Types of home learning: Menu of Intentions

- A. RETRIEVAL PRACTICE e.g. vocabulary test, create flashcards
- B. DELIBERATE PRACTICE e, g. basic skills practice such as a quiz

### Purpose of this booklet:

- This booklet is designed for you to read and enjoy a short story written by a Victorian author, Oscar Wilde.
- The tasks will mainly focus on reading and comprehension questions. Other tasks will require to develop an opinion, write analytically and creatively.
- Attempt every question.
- Take your time on the writing tasks and make sure that you read through your work regularly.
- If you do get stuck, ask your teacher for help.
- Try your absolute best!
- We recommend watching the animated film version of 'The Happy Prince' first to help consolidate your knowledge, which can be found scanning the QR code at the bottom of the previous page.

## Home Learning Deadlines

|                        |                                      |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Section 1</b>       | <b>w/c 7<sup>th</sup> September</b>  |
| <b>Section 2</b>       | <b>w/c 14<sup>th</sup> September</b> |
| <b>Section 3</b>       | <b>w/c 21<sup>st</sup> September</b> |
| <b>Section 4</b>       | <b>w/c 28<sup>th</sup> September</b> |
| <b>Section 5</b>       | <b>w/c 5<sup>th</sup> October</b>    |
| <b>Analytical Task</b> | <b>w/c 12<sup>th</sup> October</b>   |
| <b>Creative Task</b>   | <b>w/c 19<sup>th</sup> October</b>   |

# The Happy Prince – What You Need to Know

## About the Story

- Oscar Wilde wrote *The Happy Prince*.
- It was first published in 1888 as part of a collection of fairy tales.
- The story is set in a European city (not named), during a time when there was a big gap between rich and poor.
- It is written in the style of a moral fairy tale — a story that teaches a lesson.

## Main Characters

- The Happy Prince – A golden statue who sees suffering and wants to help the poor.
- The Swallow – A small bird who becomes the Prince's helper and friend.
- The Poor Citizens – People in the city who are struggling: a sick boy, a tired mother, a writer, a little girl.

## Key Things to Understand Before Reading

- The Prince used to live a life of luxury, unaware of suffering.
- As a statue, he can now see poverty, hunger, and sadness everywhere.
- The Swallow is supposed to fly to Egypt for winter but stays to help.
- The story shows how kindness often requires sacrifice.

## Important Themes

- Kindness and Sacrifice – True goodness means helping others, even when it costs you something.
- Compassion – Understanding and caring about the suffering of others.
- Wealth vs Poverty – The rich ignore the poor; the Prince and the Swallow try to help them.
- True Beauty – Real beauty comes from actions, not appearance.

## Symbols to Know

- Gold and Jewels – Represent wealth and outward beauty. Giving them away shows generosity.
- The Broken Heart – Symbolises love, loyalty, and goodness that cannot be destroyed.
- The Swallow – Represents loyalty, friendship, and selfless love.
- The City – Shows the contrast between rich comfort and poor suffering.



## Section One

The **statue** of the Happy Prince stood high above the city. It was covered with gold, its eyes were bright blue **jewels**, and a red jewel hung from its waist. Everyone thought that it was very beautiful.

‘Why aren’t you like the Happy Prince?’ mothers said to their little boys when they cried.

Sad men looked at the statue and said, ‘I am glad that someone in the world is happy.’

One night a little bird flew alone over the city. The other birds were all in Egypt now. ‘Where can I stay tonight?’ he thought. Then he saw the statue. ‘I will stay there,’ he thought. ‘It is high up, so there is plenty of fresh air.’

He landed between the feet of the Happy Prince. ‘I have a golden bedroom!’ he thought. But as he put his head under his wing, a large drop of water fell on him.

He looked up. ‘That is very strange!’ he thought. ‘There is not a cloud in the sky, but it is raining!’

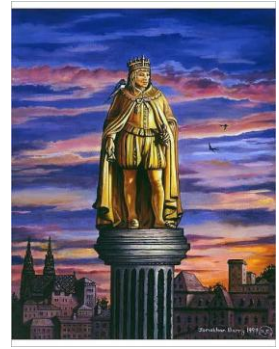
Then another drop fell. ‘I cannot stay on a statue that does not keep me dry,’ he thought. ‘I must find another place.’ And he decided to fly away. But as he opened his wings, a third drop fell. He looked up and saw — Ah! What did he see?

The eyes of the Happy Prince were full of tears. Tears ran down his golden face. The face was very beautiful in the moonlight, and the bird felt sorry for him.

‘Who are you?’ asked the bird.

‘I am the Happy Prince.’

‘Then why are you crying? I am wet with your tears.’



A **statute** is a figure made of stone or metal.



A **jewel** is a beautiful, valuable stone (like a diamond or ruby) that has been cut and polished to sparkle.

‘When I was alive,’ said the prince,’ I had a heart like every other man. But I did not know what tears were. I lived in a **palace** where there was no sadness. In the daytime I played with my friends in a beautiful garden, and in the evening I danced. There was a high wall round the garden. But I did not know what lay on the other side. So I was called the Happy Prince. I was pleased with my little world. Now I am dead, and they have put me up here. I can see all the unhappiness of my city. My heart now is made of a cheap metal. But even that poor heart can feel, and so I cry.’



A **Palace** is large, grand house where royalty live.

### Comprehension Questions

1. Why do people in the city admire the Happy Prince?

---

2. Why is the bird confused when water falls on him?

---

3. What does the bird discover when he looks up at the statue?

---

4. Why does the Happy Prince say he is crying?

---

5. How was the prince protected from sadness when he was alive?

---

6. What does the prince see now that he could not see before?

---

### Questions which make you read between the lines

**Why does the bird choose the statue as a place to rest? Tick the best answer.**

A: It looks warm and comfortable

B: It is high up with fresh air

C: It reminds him of other birds

D: He thinks it will protect him from rain

**Why do people call him the “Happy Prince”? Tick the best answer.**

A: He always smiled

B: He lived a life without sadness

C: He helped everyone in the city

D: He was known for his kindness

**Why does the bird feel sorry for the prince? Tick the best answer.**

A: The prince is crying

B: The prince is lonely

C: The prince is made of metal

D: The prince cannot move

### **Questions which make you think about the writer’s choice of words**

1. Why does the writer describe the prince’s face as “beautiful in the moonlight”?

---

---

2. Why does the writer keep reminding us that the prince was “happy” when alive?

---

---

### **Questions which make you develop an opinion**

How would you describe the Happy Prince in this section? Either use your own ideas or use one of the following and **explain why you think this.**

**Kind**

**Lonely**

**Sad**

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Section Two

‘Oh,’ said the bird to himself, ‘he is not all gold — he is only gold on the outside.’

‘Far away from here,’ said the Happy Prince in a low voice, ‘there is a poor house in a little street. Through an open window, I can see a woman at a table. Her face is very thin and she has rough, red hands. She is making a dress for one of the **queen’s ladies**, for a dance in the palace. Her little boy is lying on a bed in the corner of the room. He is very ill. He is crying because she can only give him water from the river. Little bird, will you take my red jewel to her? I cannot move from here.’

‘My friends are waiting for me in **Egypt**,’ said the bird.

‘Little bird, little bird,’ said the prince, ‘please stay with me for one night and do this for me. The boy is crying and his mother is so unhappy.’

The Happy Prince looked very sad, and the little bird was sorry for him. ‘It is very cold here,’ he said, ‘but I will stay with you for one night. Tomorrow I will take the jewel.’

‘Thank you, little bird,’ said the prince.

So the bird took the great red jewel from the prince’s waist and flew away with it over the roofs of the town. He passed the palace and heard the sound of dancing. A beautiful girl was at a window with her lover. ‘I hope my dress will be ready for the dance next week,’ she said. ‘Those women are so lazy.’

The bird passed over the river and flew and flew. At last he came to the poor little house and looked inside. The boy was lying on the bed. The mother was asleep; she was so tired. He flew in and put the great red jewel on the table. Then he flew round the bed, moving the air around the boy’s face with his wings.

‘Oh,’ said the boy, ‘my face does not feel so hot. I think I am getting better.’ And he fell asleep.



**Queen’s ladies** are women who work for or accompany the queen.



**Egypt** is a sunny, mostly desert country located mostly in North Africa.

Then the bird flew back to the Happy Prince. 'It is strange,' the bird said. 'It is very cold, but I feel quite warm.'

'That is because you have done a good thing,' said the prince. The little bird fell asleep.

### Comprehension Questions

1. What problems does the woman in the poor house face?

---

2. Why does the prince want the bird to take the red jewel?

---

3. Why does the bird hesitate to help at first?

---

4. What happens to the boy after the bird visits?

---

### Questions that make you read between the lines

**Why does the prince ask the bird to stay one more night? Tick the best answer.**

A: He is lonely

B: The woman and child need help

C: He wants company

D: He wants to give the bird a gift

**Why does the bird cool the boy's face? Tick the best answer.**

A: He wants to help

B: He thinks the boy is too hot

C: He wants to show kindness

D: He is curious about the boy

**Why does the mother fall asleep? Tick the best answer.**

A: She is exhausted

B: She is ill

C: She is waiting for the dress to dry

D: She doesn't know her son is crying

**Questions that make you think about the writer's choice of words**

1. Why does the writer describe the woman's hands as "rough, red"?

---

---

2. Why does the phrase "she can only give him water from the river" suggest?

---

---

**Questions which make you develop an opinion**

Does the prince ask too much of the bird? Why or why not?

(Clue: Think about how many difficult tasks the prince asks the bird to do, and how each one stops the bird from going where he wants to go.)

---

---

---

---

---

---

### **Section 3**

When day came, the bird flew down to the river for a bath. A clever man saw him. 'That is very unusual!' he said. 'That kind of bird, here in winter! I must write that down!'

'I will go to Egypt tonight,' thought the bird.

When the moon came up, he flew back to the Happy Prince. 'Can I do anything for you in Egypt?' he said.

'Little bird, little bird,' said the prince, 'please will you stay with me for one more night?'

'My friends are waiting for me,' answered the bird.

'Far away across the city,' said the prince, 'I can see a young writer in a little room at the top of a house. He is sitting at a table that is covered with papers. At his side there are some dead flowers. He is trying to finish a story. But he is very cold and he cannot write. There is no fire in the room, and he is weak and hungry.'

'I will wait with you for one more night,' said the bird kindly. 'What shall I take to him?'

'Take him one of my eyes,' said the prince. 'They are made of beautiful blue stones from which a young man can sell it and buy wood and food. He can finish his story.'

'Take out your eye, dear prince?' said the bird. 'I cannot do that!' And he began to cry.

'Do it!' said the prince.

So the bird took out the prince's eye and flew away to the young man's room. It was easy to get in because there was a hole in the roof. The young man was sitting with his head in his hands, so he did not hear the bird's wings. When he looked up, a beautiful blue jewel was lying on the dead flowers.

'Someone likes my stories!' he cried happily. 'This is a gift from someone who has read my books. Now I can finish writing this story!'

## Comprehension Questions

1. Why is the bird still in the city instead of Egypt?

---

2. What difficulties is the young writer facing?

---

3. Why does the prince offer one of his eyes?

---

## Questions that make you read between the lines

**Why does the writer struggle to finish his story? Tick the best answer.**

A: He is cold

B: He is hungry

C: He is tired

D: He has no inspiration

**Why does the prince give away his eye? Tick the best answer.**

A: He wants to help the writer

B: He doesn't need it

C: He wants the bird to stay

D: He thinks the jewel is useless

**Why does the bird agree to help again? Tick the best answer.**

A: He feels sorry for the prince

B: He wants to help the writer

C: He is too tired to fly

D: He likes the city

### Questions that make you think about the writer's choice of words

Why does the writer describe the flowers as "dead"?

---

---

### Questions which make you develop an opinion

Is the prince right to give away everything he has?

**(Clue:** Think about whether helping other people is worth the sacrifices the Prince has to make himself.)

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Section 4

On the next day the bird flew down to the river. He watched the **seamen** working on the ships. 'I am going to Egypt!' he cried, but no one listened to him.



**Seamen are people who work on ships or boats.**

When the moon came up, he flew back to the Happy Prince. 'I have come to say goodbye to you,' he said.

'Little bird, little bird,' said the prince, 'please will you stay with me for one more night?'

'It is winter,' answered the bird. 'The snow will soon come. In Egypt the sun is warm and the trees are green. Dear prince, I must leave you; but I will never forget you.'

'A little girl is standing there in the square below. She is selling eggs. Her eggs have fallen on the ground and they are broken. She has no money to take home. Her father will hit her. Take out my other eye and give it to her.'

'I will stay with you for one more night,' said the bird, 'but I cannot take out your other eye. You will not be able to see!'

'Do it!' said the prince.

So the bird took out the prince's other eye and flew down with it. He flew to the girl and put the jewel in her hand.

'This is a beautiful piece of glass!' cried the little girl. She ran home, laughing.

Then the bird flew back to the prince. 'You cannot see now,' he said, 'so I will stay with you.'

'No,' said the poor prince, 'you must go to Egypt.'

'I will stay with you,' repeated the bird, and he slept at the prince's feet.

## Comprehension Questions

1. Why does the bird want to leave?

---

2. Why does the prince give his other eye?

---

3. How does the girl react to the jewel?

---

## Questions that make you read between the lines

**Why does the girl drop her eggs? Tick the best answer.**

A: She slips

B: She is frightened

C: She is tired

D: She is careless

**Why does the prince insist the bird take his eye? Tick the best answer.**

A: He wants to help the girl

B: He doesn't need it

C: He wants the bird to stay

D: He thinks the jewel is worthless

**Why does the bird stay with the prince? Tick the best answer.**

A: He feels responsible

B: He cares for the prince

C: He is too cold to fly

D: He wants to help more people

### Questions that make you think about the writer's choice of words

What adjective does the writer use to describe Egypt?

---

---

What does the word 'laughed' suggest about how the little girl feels when she receives the jewel?

---

---

### Questions which make you develop an opinion

Is the bird becoming too attached to the Prince?

(Clue: Think about why the bird chooses to stay with the Prince even when he wants to go to Egypt. What does this tell you about their friendship?)

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Section Five

The next day he stayed with the prince. He told the prince stories about the strange lands that he knew.

‘Dear little bird,’ said the prince, ‘you are telling me about strange and wonderful things, but the suffering of men and women is stranger than anything. Fly over my city, little bird. Tell me what you see there.’

So the swallow flew over the great city. He saw the rich eating and drinking in their beautiful houses. He saw the poor people sitting at the gate. He flew into the dark streets and saw the white faces of hungry children with sad eyes. Under a bridge, two little boys were lying close together to keep warm. ‘We are so hungry!’ they said. ‘You cannot lie there!’ shouted a guard.

Then the bird flew back and told the prince.

‘I am covered with fine **gold**,’ said the prince. ‘Take it off, piece by piece, and give it to my poor people.’

The bird pulled off the gold, until the Happy Prince looked grey and ugly. The bird took the gold to the poor, and the children’s faces became brighter. ‘We have bread now!’ they cried.

Then the snow came. Ice followed the snow, and hung down from the roofs of the houses. Everyone wore thick coats.

The little bird became colder. He did not leave the prince, because he loved him too much. But he was dying.

‘Goodbye, dear prince!’ he said. ‘Can I kiss you?’

‘I am glad that you are going to Egypt,’ said the prince. ‘You have stayed too long. Kiss me, because I love you.’



**Gold** is a rare, shiny, and precious yellow metal.



The **House of Death** means the bird knows he is about to die.

‘I am not going to Egypt,’ said the bird. ‘I am going to the **House of Death**.’ He kissed the prince, and fell down dead at his feet. Then there was a strange sound inside the statue. CRACK — the metal heart broke into two pieces.

Early next morning, an important man in the city was walking below with two of his friends. He looked up at the statue. ‘The Happy Prince does not look very bright!’ he said. ‘The red stone has disappeared, his eyes are not there, and he is not golden. He looks like a beggar.’

‘Yes he does!’ said the man’s friends.

‘Here is a dead bird at his feet!’ said the officer. ‘We must make an order that birds cannot die here.’

They pulled down the statue of the Happy Prince and put it in the fire. A stream of bright metal ran out.

‘This is strange!’ said the workmen. ‘This broken piece in the middle of the statue has stayed hard. We must throw it away.’ So they threw it away with the dead bird.

God said to his servants, ‘Bring me the two best things in the city.’ They brought Him the broken heart and the dead bird.

‘Yes, you have brought the right things,’ God said. ‘This little bird will sing for ever in my garden, and the Happy Prince will stand in my city of gold.’

### **Comprehension Questions**

1. What does the bird see when he flies over the city?

---

2. How do the children react when they receive the gold?

---

3. What happens to the prince's heart when the bird dies?

---

4. What is the message of the story?

---

### Questions that make you read between the lines

**Why does the bird become weaker? Tick the best answer.**

A: It is too cold

B: It has stayed too long

C: It has not eaten

D: It is sad

**Why do the leaders remove the statue? Tick the best answer.**

A: It looks ugly

B: It is damaged

C: It no longer looks valuable

D: They want a new statue

**Why does the prince's heart break? Tick the best answer.**

A: The bird dies

B: The cold cracks the metal

C: The statue is pulled down

D: The prince is sad for the city

### Questions that make you think about the writer's choice of words

Why does the writer describe the heart as "breaking"?

---

---

What language device is 'I am going to the House of Death'?

---

---

**Questions which make you develop an opinion**

Which character shows the greatest bravery? Explain your opinion.

(**Clue:** think about the actions of both the bird and the Happy Prince).

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Analytical Task

### How does Wilde show that the Happy Prince is kind and caring?

In your response, you should:

- Explain why the Happy Prince wants to help people
- Explore how he helps the poor through the Swallow
- Discuss what Wilde wants readers to think about kindness
- Give your personal reaction to the ending

Use at least **two quotations** from the story.

You might begin with:

*In The Happy Prince, Wilde shows that the Prince is kind and caring because...*

**Write your response below:**

[illegible]

[illegible]

## Creative Task

### The Swallow's Secret Mission

Look carefully at the picture and write a description inspired by it.

Follow the structure below:

**DROP** – Drop your reader straight into the setting. Describe what can be seen, heard or felt.

**ZOOM** – Zoom in on one interesting detail from the picture (for example, the Swallow, the statue, a light in a window, or a precious jewel).

**SHIFT** – Shift your focus to another place or time. You could describe what is happening elsewhere in the city or imagine what happened earlier that day.

**LINK** – Link back to the opening image or suggest what might happen next.

**Try to include:**

- Ambitious adjectives
- At least one simile or metaphor
- Sensory description
- Varied sentence lengths

**You might begin with:**

*Snowy rooftops stretched across the city beneath a dark winter sky. High above the streets, a golden statue watched silently over the people below...*

### Challenge

Can you use the words: **gleaming**, **shadow**, **silent**, and **hope**?

**Write your response below:**

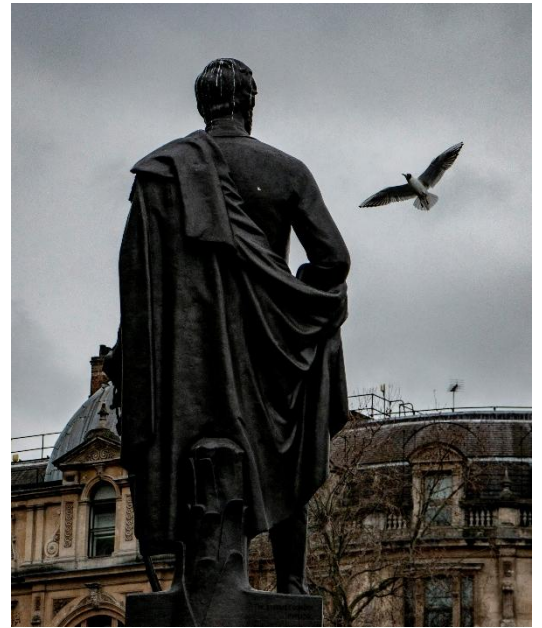
---

---

---

---

---



[illegible]

[illegible]