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SL52. Short Film: *The Legend of the Scarecrow*

Student Name: _____ Student ID Number: _____

Instructor: _____ Level: _____ Date: _____

For media links in this activity, visit [the LLC ESL Tutoring website for Upper Level SDLAs](#). Find your SDLA number to see all the resources to finish your SDLA.

Section 1: Introduction

Myths, legends, folktales, fairytales, and fables. All of these words describe stories that are passed down from generation to generation. Many of these stories include elements of magic and fantasy, like talking animals. Many of them include a lesson, or *moral*, that people are supposed to learn from reading or hearing the story. Some even give reasons (real or unreal) for basic everyday things, like why the sun rises and sets or why roses have thorns. [Watch the video](#) to learn more about folktales.



Can you think of any folktales from your culture? Explain one here.

In this SDLA, you will watch a short film called *The Legend of the Scarecrow*. This story is not a true folktale—it was written in 2005, not passed from generation to generation. However, it is presented in the style of a folktale, and offers many of the same elements: talking animals, a moral, and mythical answers to everyday questions.





Section 2: Vocabulary

Match the words with the pictures below. If you need help, you can look up the words at learnersdictionary.com.

wheat
forbidden
shiver
starving

frighten
mourn
scatter
ashes

windmill
devil
crow



1. _____

5. _____

9. _____



2. _____

6. _____

10. _____



3. _____

7. _____

11. _____



4. _____

8. _____





Section 3: Before You Watch



The Legend of the Scarecrow was created by Spanish filmmaker Marco Besas in 2005. It tells the story of a lonely scarecrow who desperately wants to make friends. It also gives a legendary answer to the question “Why are crows black?”

The *Legend of the Scarecrow* was nominated (made a formal candidate) for many awards, including Goya Award (Spain’s top film award) for Best Animated Short Film in 2006. It won Best Animation at the LA Shorts Fest in 2005. You will watch *The Legend of the Scarecrow* in Section 4.

Predict the Plot

[Watch the following clip \(section\)](#) of the film without sound. What do you think is happening? Write your prediction in space below.



Section 4: Watch the Film

Part 1: [Watch the Film](#)





Part 2: Discussion Questions

Write your answers to the following questions and be ready to discuss them with the tutor.

What is the film about? Write a short summary here.

Compare your prediction from Section 3 to what actually happened in the film. Was your prediction close to what actually happened? Explain.

According to the film, why are crows black?





Both the crows (in the beginning) and the townspeople (in the end) believe the scarecrow is evil even though he is not. What do you think the moral (lesson) of the story is? What does the film want to teach us?





Section 5: What Did I Learn

Complete this table BEFORE meeting with a tutor.

Communication Skill	I can't do this YET. 	I can do this WITH help. 	I can do this WITHOUT help. 	I can TEACH this to a classmate. 
I can talk about a folk tale from my country.				
I can make predictions by watching a film without sound.				
I can talk about the story and ideas in a short film.				

Here are some words/phrases I need to practice.

Good job!

Now go to the [LLC Tutoring Website](#) and make an appointment with a tutor.

Visit the [Virtual LLC](#) at the time of your appointment.








Section 6: Practice with a Tutor!

After completing the self-assessment, meet with a tutor and give this completed SDLA to the tutor. The tutor will give you feedback.

Grading Rubric

Possible Points	Need Practice  (0-1 Point)	Good Job  (2-3 Points)	Excellent Work  (4-5 Points)
Content	Not enough information provided in responses and often does not use correct vocabulary.	Provides most important information in responses and some of the time uses correct vocabulary.	Provides all necessary information in responses and most of the time uses correct vocabulary.
Skill: Speaking	More than 6 mistakes saying words; needs guessing more than 3 times.	Not more than 5 mistakes saying words; needs guessing on 1-2 words or sentences.	Not more than 2 mistakes saying words; needs no guess about meaning.
Oral Fluency	Speaks mostly in phrases, individual words; many pauses.	Sometimes speaks in complete sentences; several pauses.	Speaks in complete sentences; a couple pauses okay.

*Students must receive at least 10 points to move on

Possible Points: _____ / 15

Tutor Comments:

☐ **Congratulations! Keep going.**

You have successfully completed this SDLA and are ready to continue to the next.

☐ **Work on this more.**

You have not yet mastered this SDLA. It is recommended that you complete it again.

Tutor Signature: _____

Date: _____

