

## Story 17

### Two Men Who Fought

Once there were two men who fought each other. They both said, "It is your fault, not mine." They kept on arguing back and forth, back and forth.

They finally went to talk to an old man. They told him what happened, and why they couldn't agree. They asked him to solve their problem.

He listened to each side very carefully. He considered all the facts. Finally, he pointed to the one that seemed guilty. He said, "It is your fault. You need to stop causing the problem."

The accused man yelled, "No, you're taking the side of the guilty man." The old man laughed at him. He said, "Do you know a Somali saying that says that two men can't be guilty at the same time? Therefore, you must apologize."

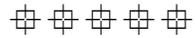
The accused man felt that this must be true. He went to the other man, and apologized to him. He said, "I accept the results of this." From that time on, the two men were friends.

Story 17  
SHEEKADA TODDOBA IYO TOBNAAD  
LABO NIN OO ISLAAYEY

Beri baa waxaa islaayey laba nin. Midba midkii kale ayuu ku yidhi, adiga ayaa gardaran iyo adiga ayaa gardaran. Markii muran koodii joogsan waayey kalana gar noqsan waayeen, ayey waxay u tageen nin weyn oo oday ah. Markaas ayey u sheegeen wixii dhacay, kana codsadeen inuu u gar qaado, una kala sheego ka gardaran. Odaygii ayaa yidhi, "Waa yahay ee nin walbowba ii sheeg waxa ka kale kaaga gardaran yahay." Waxay u sheegeen sidii ay wax u dhaceen, odaygii markii uu wada dhegaystay labadii nin ayuu mid ku yidhi. "Adiga ayaa gardaran ee waa in aad joojisaa gardarada."

Hase ahaatee ninkii lagu yidhi waad gardaran tahay wuu qayliyey oo yidhi. "Odayow waad iga eexatay." Markaas ayaa inta odaygii ku qoslay ku yidhi, "Gari laba nin kama wada qosliso," sidaa darteed ma dhici karto in aad wada garyeelataan, markaa waa in aad gartaada qaadataa ninka aad ka gardaran tahayna raali gelisaa. Odaygii markuu

maahmaahdaa sheegay ayuu ninkii ku qancay." Markaa ayuu ninkii kale ku yidhi, "Raali iga ahow aniga ayaa kaa gardaraaye." Sidaas ayaa labadii nin ku heshiiyeen.



*Dulucda sheekada:*

*Marka dhibaato noocan oo kale kugu dhacdo raadso qof garyaqaan ah oo gartaa qaadi kara.*

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A Play

**Time:** A long time ago

**Place:** Somalia

**Characters:** Narrator Omar  
Mohamed The wise man

**Narrator:** Once there were two men who fought over some sheep.

**Omar:** This sheep is mine. He was eating on my land, and he has been with my other sheep for a few days. That makes him my sheep.

**Mohamed:** Just because he went to eat on your land, doesn't make him yours. I paid good money for this sheep, and I fed him good food. Now you want to keep him. That isn't fair!

**Omar:** Fair! That sheep wandered over here on his own. He joined my flock and ate my food.

This sheep is mine! Mine! Did you hear me? He is MINE!

**Mohamed:** Are we going to keep fighting? Anyone could tell that this sheep is mine. I'm not going to let you have the sheep unless someone that we both trust says you should have the sheep.

**Omar:** Yes, let's go to the wise man of the village. He will listen to both of us, and he will solve the problem.

**Narrator:** Both men went together to talk to the wise man.

**Wise man:** Hello, Omar and Mohamed. What is your problem?

**Omar:** One of Mohamed's sheep wandered over to join my flock. It has been eating my grass for at least three days. Now that sheep is mine! I have been feeding it along with my other sheep.

**Mohamed:** No, my sheep simply got lost as so many sheep do. I tried to find my sheep. Finally, after three

days, I found my sheep with his flock. I asked him to return my sheep, but he wouldn't. Now, we're here for you to settle the matter.

**Narrator:** The wise man thought for a long time before he said anything. He looked at each man, and then he spoke.

**Wise man:** Omar, you must return Mohamed's sheep. Just because Mohamed's sheep got lost, doesn't mean you can keep it. What if one of your family got lost. Let's say that Mohamed found them and gave them food and drink. Does that make them his family? Of course not! Now, return the sheep to Mohamed at once.

**Omar:** Okay. I understand now. I'll return the sheep. I'm sorry Mohamed.

**Mohamed:** Thank you, Omar. I hope we can be friends.

**Mohamed and Omar:** Thank you, wise man.

**Wise man:** You're welcome.

Story 17  
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New Vocabulary

accused	fight/fought
agree	guilty
apologized	listened
argue	pointed
cause/causing	problem
considered	results
facts	solve
fault	

Background Vocabulary

blame  
decision  
guilty/innocent  
judge  
wise

Suggested Background Information,  
Activities and Questions

Before Reading

1. Talk about the Somali custom, especially in rural communities, of having an arbitrator to settle disputes.
2. Discuss natural predators and their prey.
3. Learn the new vocabulary words for the story, and put it in new sentences.
4. Have you ever gone to an adult to settle a dispute? Explain.
5. What are the qualities you would want in an arbitrator or judge?

After Reading

1. What is the main idea of this story?
2. What can we learn from this story?
3. Circle the new vocabulary words in the story text.
4. Dramatize this story.
5. Create an imaginary problem with another person. List the facts to support both sides of the argument.
6. Sequence the story
7. Do the cloz exercise.
8. Do the play.

Story 17  
Two Men Who Fought  
Cloz activity

Fill in the missing words in the story using the following words:

agree	facts	guilty	same
apologize	fault	happened	Somali
apologized	forth	man	two
arguing	fought	pointed	yelled
causing	friends	problem	

Once there were two men who \_\_\_\_\_ each other. They both said, "It is your \_\_\_\_\_, not mine." They kept on \_\_\_\_\_ back and forth, back and forth. They finally went to talk to an old \_\_\_\_\_. They told him what \_\_\_\_\_, and why they couldn't \_\_\_\_\_. They asked him to solve their \_\_\_\_\_.

He listened to each side very carefully. He considered all the \_\_\_\_\_. Finally, he \_\_\_\_\_ to the one that seemed \_\_\_\_\_. He said, "It is your fault. You need to stop \_\_\_\_\_ the problem.

The accused man yelled, "No, you're taking the side of the \_\_\_\_\_ man."

The old man laughed at him. He said, "Do you know a \_\_\_\_\_ saying that says-- \_\_\_\_\_ men can't be \_\_\_\_\_ at the \_\_\_\_\_ time? Therefore, you must \_\_\_\_\_."

The accused man felt that this must be \_\_\_\_\_. He went to the other man, and \_\_\_\_\_ to him. He said, "I accept the results of this." From that time on, the two men were \_\_\_\_\_.

Story 17  
Two Men Who Fought  
Cloz activity

Fill in the missing words in the story using the following words:

**ANSWER KEY**

agree	facts	guilty	same
apologize	fault	happened	Somali
apologized	forth	man	two
arguing	fought	pointed	yelled
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The old man laughed at him. He said, "Do you know a Somali saying that says-- guilty men can't be two at the same time? Therefore, you must apologize ."

The accused man felt that this must be true . He went to the other man, and apologized to him. He said, "I accept the results of this." From that time on, the two men were friends .

Story 17  
Two Men Who Fought  
Sequencing activity

Number the Sentences in the order they appear in the story.

- \_\_\_\_\_ The wise man pointed to the guilty man.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Finally, the guilty man apologizes, and the two men became friends.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Two men fought.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The wise man listened to them, and considered all the facts.
- \_\_\_\_\_ He said to the guilty man, "It's your fault! You must apologize."
- \_\_\_\_\_ The two men decided to go to a wise man to help solve their argument.

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Two Men Who Fought  
Sequencing activity

Number the Sentences in the order they appear in the story.

**ANSWER KEY**

\_\_\_4\_\_\_ The wise man pointed to the guilty man.

\_\_\_6\_\_\_ Finally, the guilty man apologizes, and the two men became friends.

\_\_\_1\_\_\_ Two men fought.

\_\_\_3\_\_\_ The wise man listened to them, and considered all the facts.

\_\_\_5\_\_\_ He said to the guilty man, "It's your fault! You must apologize."

\_\_\_2\_\_\_ The two men decided to go to a wise man to help solve their argument.