

MAKE THEM SPEAK

Intent of the Story

Be aware of how you speak

Mind your language

Our language graces or disgraces us

A FABLE

Shepherds, up in the snowy mountains, could not figure out why the number of sheep coming to rest for night in the sheepfold kept increasing day by day. . They suspected that some animals, disguised like sheep, were coming to the sheepfold to save themselves from the cold wintry nights. However much the Shepherds tried to sort out which were true sheep and which were intruders, they couldn't succeed. . So cleverly the fakes disguised themselves!

One day, a new Shepherd told his confreres: "Leave it to me. Tonight I'll sort out for you which are the true sheep and which are the fake ones". "How will you manage"; they asked him "Very simple", he replied. "I'll make them speak. By their speech you will now them.

That night, our young shepherd stood at the gate of the sheepfold. When the first sheep was about enter sheepfold, he gave him a might kick. In pain, the sheep bleated aloud: "bee...bee.. bee..." He is a sheep, he told his companions, take him in the sheepfold.

When he kicked a second one, the sheep barked "vow, vow...vow..". This is not a sheep, he is dog! Chuck him out of the fold!

When kicked, a third sheep, he growled ..grrr....grrr..!"

Gosh, our young shepherd shouted: This is a pig! Kick him out of the fold...

That night only true sheep slept in the sheepfold, not fakes, no intruders, could come n.

Points for Reflection

1. How can we gage the education and upbringing of a person?
2. What are the dangers of keeping company with foul mouthed people? Explain.
3. What do you think of the quality of some books, stories and T.V. programs we are exposed to if we judge by their language?
4. If some of your friends give bad words or speak filth, what can you do?
5. Should we laugh when others crack dirty and smutty jokes?
6. Explain the following sentences
 - **By their speech you will know them.**
 - **Our speech betrays our character.**

- **Speak to me for a while and I 'll tell you who you are.**
- **Cosmetics and clothing can fake you, not your speech.**
- **He who stays in a pigsty, stinks**
- **Manners make the man.**
- **Good manners are the hallmark of a gentleman**
- **The goodness of your heart is seen in your speech.**
- **Speech is the breath of the heart.**