

SERIOUS PROBLEMS TO AVOID

PROBLEM 1

ENTRY 1

Theme: Food

Salt, mustard, vinegar, pepper,

French almond rock..

Bread and butter for your supper,

That's all mother's got.

Fish and chips and coca-cola,

Put them in a pan,

Irish stew and ice-cream soda,

We'll eat all we can.



ENTRY 1

Theme: Food (Cont'd)

Salt, mustard, vinegar, pepper,
French almond rock..
Bread and butter for your supper,
That's all mother's got.
Eggs and bacon, salted herring,
Put them in a pot.
Pickled onions, apple pudding,
We will eat a lot.



What's the problem with Entry 1?

Ans: Lack originality/plagiarism.

This poem has been published.
Student probably has just
downloaded it from the internet
and made slight amendment.



PROBLEM 2

ENTRY 2

Theme: Once upon a time

Once upon a time, on a fine summer's day,
There stood a cottage, in a land far away.
Inside the house lived Little Red Riding Hood.
She lived with her mother, and was indeed very good.
“My little girl, your grandma's sick,” she said,
“She's running a fever, and is staying in bed.
You can take her a few cakes and buns,
There are some in the pantry, those chocolate ones.
And sweetheart, don't talk to strangers on the way,
Keep your eyes on the road and don't go astray!”



ENTRY 2

Theme: Once upon a time (Cont'd)

Little Red Riding Hood nodded and set off meekly,
Not knowing that behind a tree, a Wolf was watching her sneakily.
“Ho!” The evil creature sniggered to himself,
“I’ll have this nice, juicy girl all for myself!”
He stepped out and said, “Excuse me, young lady, where are you
going to?
I know a shortcut where you can go through.”
“That’s a fabulous idea,” she said without bothering to ponder,
“Where I’m going is that house yonder.
Inside lives my grandmother, who’s very ill.”
“Ha!” thought the Wolf, “I’ll eat her first, I will.”
The Wolf slipped away as quietly as a mouse
And ran all the way to Granny’s house.



ENTRY 2

Theme: Once upon a time (Cont'd)

The Wolf barged in and gobbled her whole –
Every single finger and every single toe.

Little Red Riding Hood then stepped through the door,
Took off her shoes and laid them on the floor.

The Wolf in Granny's night gown was lying in bed,
He looked at her greedily, and in Granny's voice he said,
“Little Red Riding Hood, dear, it's me.

Thank goodness you're here, I'm so bored, you see.”

“What enormous ears you've got, Granny,” she cried.

“All the better to hear you with, honey,” the Wolf lied.

“What a massive mouth you've got, Granny,” she gasped.

The Wolf grinned devilishly and in a terrible voice he rasped,
“All the better to eat you with, you stupid girl!”

The Wolf flung himself off the bed and on her he hurled.



ENTRY 2

Theme: Once upon a time (Cont'd)

A woodcutter passing by saw this happen and came to her aid.
And of the fearsome Wolf he wasn't a bit afraid.
With a single swing of his axe, he chopped off the Wolf's head.
The wolf dropped down; it was dead.
Then with his great gleaming axe, he sliced open the Wolf's belly.
Out climbed Granny, petrified, shivering like jelly.
The girl and her granny thanked the woodcutter again and again.
They cheered, "Thank goodness the wolf has been slain!"
The house pealed with their mirthful laughter.
And so they lived happily ever after.



What's the problem with Entry 2?

Ans: **Originality.**

This poem is a **mere reproduction** of a classic fairy tale “The Little Red Riding Hood” in a poetic form.

Remarks for Teachers:

Teachers are advised to guide students to be more creative and to produce original entry, e.g. by changing the characters or the ending of the fairy tale.

