



Rob Becomes an Outlaw

RESPONSE NOTES

In the days of good King Harry the Second of England, there were certain¹ forests² in the north country³ used by the King to hunt. These forests were cared for⁴ and guarded⁵ by the King's Foresters⁶.

One of these royal⁷ forests was Sherwood, near the town of Nottingham. In this forest lived Hugh Fitzooth, Sherwood's head forester. He lived there with his wife and son Robert. The boy had been born in Lockesley town, so he was called⁸ Rob of Lockesley.

1. certain [ˈsɜːrtən] (a.)

2. forest [ˈfɒrɪst] (n.)

3. country [ˈkʌntri] (n.)

4. care for

5. guard [ɡɑːrd] (v.)

6. forester [ˈfɔːrɪstər] (n.)

7. royal [ˈrɔɪəl] (a.)

8. be called

9. delight in

10. longbow [ˈlɔːŋbəʊ] (n.)

11. noble [ˈnəʊbl] (a.)



He was a handsome and strong boy. As soon as he could walk, he delighted in⁹ going into the forest with his father. From his father, he learned to use the longbow¹⁰. His loving mother, who was from a noble¹¹ family, taught him to read and write. Rob learned these lessons well, but he was happiest walking in the forest with his bow in hand.



1. enemy [ˈenəmi] (n.)
2. convince [kənˈvɪns] (v.)
3. criticize [ˈkrɪtɪsaɪz] (v.)
4. in public
5. arrest [əˈrest] (v.)
6. treason [ˈtreɪzən] (n.)
7. jail [dʒeɪl] (n.)
8. kick out of
9. shock [ʃɑ:k] (n.)
10. soon after
11. prison [ˈprɪzən] (n.)
12. purpose [ˈpɜ:rpəs] (n.)
13. archery [ˈɑ:rtʃəri] (n.)
14. fair [fer] (n.)
15. prize [praɪz] (n.)
16. arrow [ˈærou] (n.)

Rob's happiness soon ended because his father had enemies¹. One of these enemies was the Sheriff of Nottingham.

One day, the Sheriff convinced² King Harry that Rob's father had criticized³ the King in public⁴. Hugh was arrested⁵ for treason⁶ and sent to jail⁷.

Rob and his mother were kicked out of⁸ their house. Rob's mother died of shock⁹, and Rob went to live with his uncle, Sir Gamwell. Soon after¹⁰, Rob got the news that his father had died in prison¹¹.

Sir Gamwell was a kind man who gladly took care of Rob. Many years later, he said, "Rob, there is a chance for you to use that bow for a good purpose¹². There is an archery¹³ contest at a fair¹⁴ in Nottingham. The first prize¹⁵ is a golden arrow¹⁶."

Rob's eyes lit up¹. "I would like a chance to compete²," he said. "And perhaps I could win a place as a forester even if I don't win first prize."

"Now I can see that you are more suited³ to spend⁴ your days walking under the trees," said Sir Gamwell. "Good luck to you, lad⁵."

The next day, Rob set off⁶. It was midmorning when he came across⁷ a group of men.

Immediately⁸, he saw the man who had replaced⁹ his father as head forester. He was a good friend of the Sheriff of Nottingham. Rob decided not to¹⁰ say anything and kept walking. But the head forester, who did not recognize¹¹ Rob, spoke up.

1. light up

2. compete [kəm`pi:t] (v.)

3. be suited

4. spend [spend] (v.)

5. lad [læd] (n.)

6. set off

7. come across

8. immediately [i`mi:diətli]
(adv.)

9. replace [ri`pleis] (v.)

10. decide to

11. recognize [ˈrekəgnəɪz] (v.)

12. sudden [ˈsʌdn] (a.)

13. rage [reɪdʒ] (n.)