

WORD WORK

# The Mascot

And Other Selections

3



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# What You Will Learn

Read this page with your teacher.

When you have read *The Bandman*, *The Mascot*, and *Milton's Problem*, you will be able to read two-syllable words where both the syllables are closed.

You will have learned that:

- There are a group of two-syllable words where both the syllables are closed.
- The first syllable in these words may begin with a vowel, for example, af/ter, a consonant, for example, bas/ket, a consonant digraph, for example, chil/dren, or a consonant blend, for example, trum/pet.
- The second syllable may begin with a consonant, for example, nap/kin, a consonant digraph, for example, en/chant, sand/wich, or a consonant blend, for example, hun/dred, den/tist.

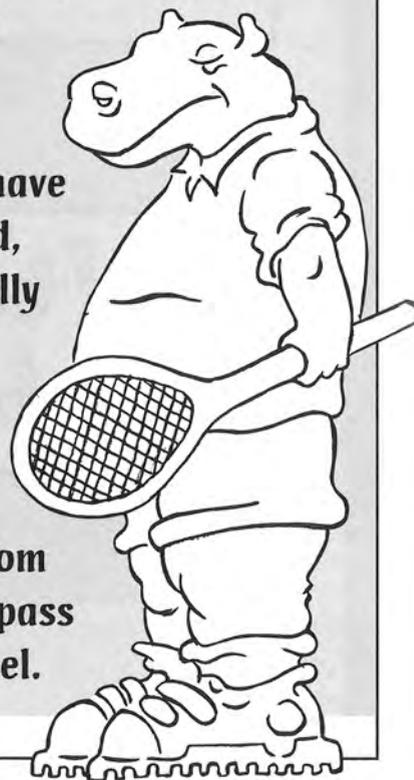
- These words are divided into syllables between the middle consonants so that there is a vowel in each syllable. Be sure to keep the medial blends and/or digraphs together.

- Most of these words will have a short vowel sound as in:

ab/sent tab/let pump/kin  
chip/munk blan/ket.

- However, there are some words that look like they would have a short vowel sound but instead they have a *schwa* sound, which is usually a short *u* sound. For example:

the o in cus/tom  
the a in com/pass  
the e in tun/nel.



# The Bandman



Did you see that band skit?  
And the man who has the smash hit?  
The bandman has a rabbit,  
A mascot he calls Dennis.  
I think that he should quit.

I think that he's fantastic,  
You just like to nitpick.  
He is playing at The Attic  
With *Pilgrim and the Magnets*.  
It will be hot and hectic.

# The Mascot

**1**

“You can be our mascot,” said Dennis to Mildred the ostrich. “We must have a mascot for our tennis and badminton.”

“I will not be your mascot,” said Mildred. “A fantastic actress like me will not be a mascot. That is an insult! I will not consent!”

You can be our mascot. We must have a mascot for our tennis and badminton.

I will not be your mascot. That is an insult!

**2**

Me, gallop and dash about?

“Do not have a fit,” said Dennis. “It was not an insult. We must have a mascot to dash and gallop about at our tennis and badminton.”

“Me, gallop and dash about?” said Mildred.

“We will be very glad if you consent,” said Dennis. “You could be our mascot. You are here. You are seldom absent.”

“A fantastic actress like me can go to a tennis match,” said Mildred. “And she can go to a badminton match, too. But not as a mascot. No! No! No! What an insult!”

We will be very glad if you consent. You could be our mascot. You are here. You are seldom absent.

**3**

Dennis was mad at Mildred. “You are not an actress. You are just a big hen,” he said. “In fact, you are not fantastic at all. I do not want you for a mascot.”

“I am not a big hen! I am an ostrich!” said Mildred. “A fantastic ostrich! A fantastic actress! I will not go to tennis and badminton and dash and gallop about when you are there. And that is that!”

“I am fed up with you,” said Dennis. “Go sit in the sand! Dallas the duck will be glad to come to tennis and badminton. I bet she would like to be our mascot, too!”

Dallas the Duck will be glad to come to tennis and badminton. I bet she would like to be our mascot, too!

**4**

I will be your mascot.

Dallas the Duck cannot dash and gallop about like I can. She cannot be your mascot!

“I will be your mascot,” said Mildred with a big grin. “It was a trick when I said I would not be your mascot. You see, I am a fantastic actress, and I will be a fantastic mascot, too. I will be glad to do the job. Dallas the duck cannot dash and gallop about like I can. She cannot be your mascot!”

# Milton's Problem



1 Put this napkin under your chin and let me take a look.

"So you have a problem, Milton?" said Dennis the dentist. "Put this napkin under your chin and let me take a look."

"I am frantic," said Milton the mantis. "But I will not let you look. I do not like the dentist."

I am frantic. But I will not let you look. I do not like the dentist.

"I cannot fix your problem if you do not let me look," said the dentist.



Your problem is that you seldom brush and floss.

2 So Milton let the dentist look.

"Your problem is that you seldom brush and floss," said Dennis.

"I do brush," said Milton. "And I do floss."

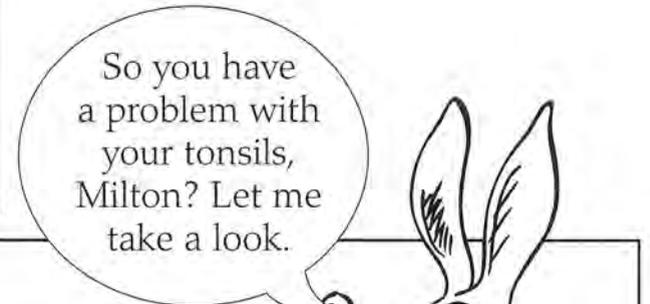
I do brush. And I do floss.



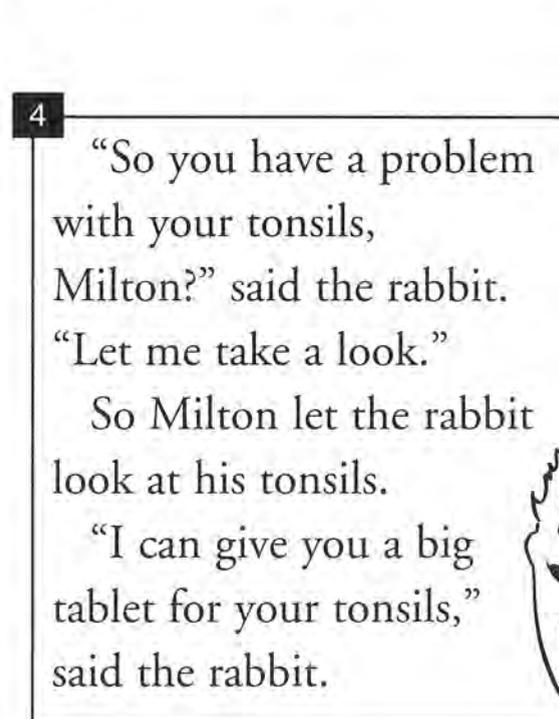
3 Go and see the rabbit in the canyon. She can give you a tablet for your tonsils.

"Then your problem could be your tonsils," said the dentist. "Go and see the rabbit in the canyon. She can give you a tablet for your tonsils."

So Milton the mantis went to see the rabbit in the canyon.



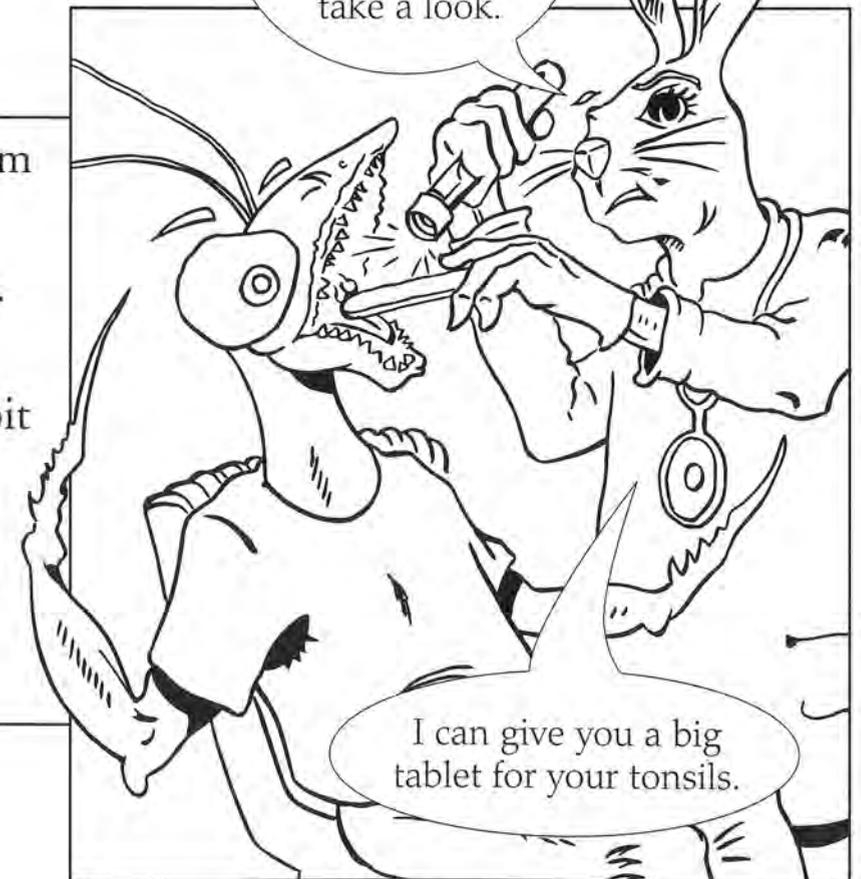
So you have a problem with your tonsils, Milton? Let me take a look.



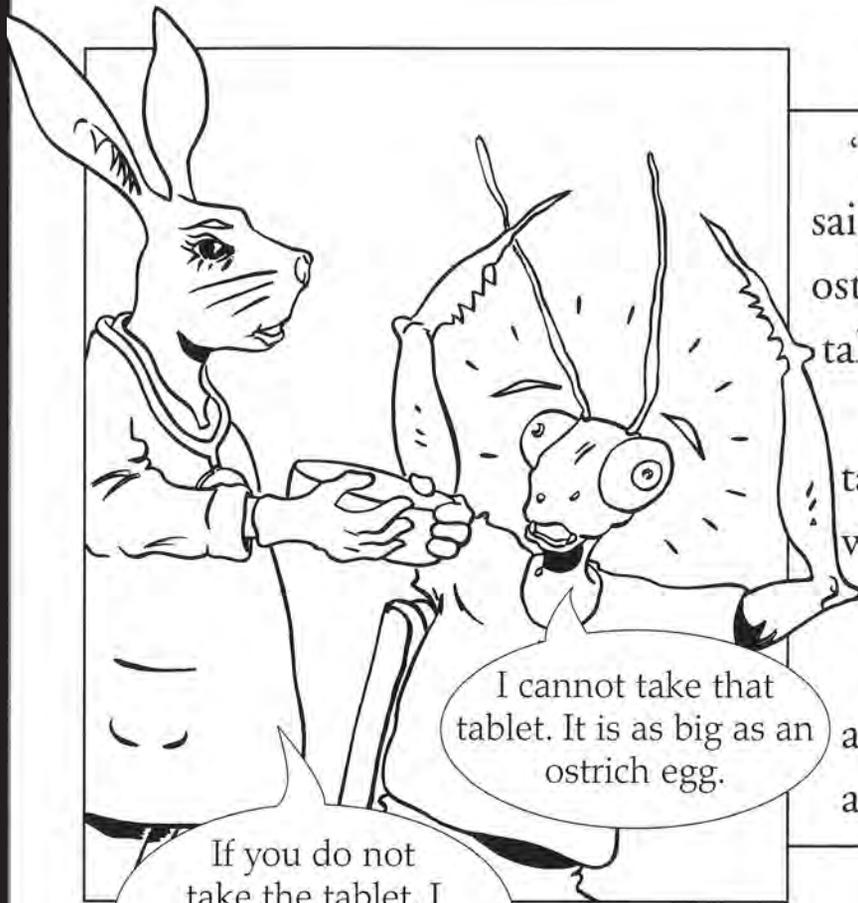
4 "So you have a problem with your tonsils, Milton?" said the rabbit. "Let me take a look."

So Milton let the rabbit look at his tonsils.

"I can give you a big tablet for your tonsils," said the rabbit.



I can give you a big tablet for your tonsils.



"I cannot take that tablet," said Milton. "It is as big as an ostrich egg. Insects cannot take ostrich-egg tablets."

"If you do not take the tablet, I cannot help you with your problem," said the rabbit.

So Milton left the rabbit and went back to Mildred and his children.

I cannot take that tablet. It is as big as an ostrich egg.

If you do not take the tablet, I cannot help you with your problem.

Here is a pretzel and a muffin.



Thank you, Mildred. You have fixed my problem.

"Here is a pretzel and a muffin," said Mildred.

"Pretzels and muffins will fix your problem, Milton."

"Thank you, Mildred," said Milton. "You have fixed my problem."