

Who moved my cheese?

Elementary English

Written by:

Spencer Johnson

Translated and compiled by:

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سرشناسه

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Introduction

The story *Who moved my cheese?* written by Dr. Spencer Johnson is about change. The setting is a maze with four characters (two mice and two Littlepeople) who live on the cheese available at the Cheese station. One day, they notice that their cheese is gone. The mice, Sniff and Scurry, immediately start out to look for new cheese, but the Littlepeople, Hem and Haw, hesitate. Finally, one of them decides to go out for the New Cheese. On his way, he earns different pieces of experience and carves them on the wall, hoping that his writings could be useful trails for his friend to follow. This story is, in fact, a story of determination and change.

Finding the story wonderfully effective in bringing change, I decided to prepare and revise it to some extent to suit it for teaching and learning English. Therefore, keeping the main text intact, I simply made some changes as follows:

1. The story was divided into eight parts. Some paragraphs were merged or divided.
2. Some words of the text were highlighted and a gloss was added to give the definitions in English and in some cases parts of speech of certain words were provided.
3. Some words were superscripted and defined at the footnotes.
4. On certain pages, a box named **Curiosity Box** was placed to raise the learners' curiosity to certain language features.
5. At the end of each part, reading Comprehension Questions were introduced in two types: Wh- Questions and True-False Statements.
6. Some vocabulary exercises were prepared to evaluate the learners' command of word knowledge.

7. Some grammatical explanations and exercises were given so that grammar knowledge could be reviewed.

8. Another section called **Build up your language knowledge** mainly focuses on lexical collocations, words which commonly go together, such a *say hello* or *tell the truth*.

9. A list of irregular verbs with their Persian equivalents was placed at the end of the book.

10. In defining words, *Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English* (2005) uses a 2000-word list. Learning these words is of prime importance when working with English definitions. The list can be found at the end of this book.

I hope this book can be a useful source for learning English. Comments and suggestions can be kindly sent to mandabooks2015@gmail.com

Mohammad Abdollahi-Guilani, 2016