The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse

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OXFORD
Before you read, can you match the words with the pictures?

1. Town Mouse
2. Country Mouse
3. bed
4. cow
5. home
6. cart
7. food
THIS is Country Mouse’s home. One day his friend, Town Mouse, comes to see him. ‘Hello, Country Mouse!’ says Town Mouse. ‘Hello, my friend!’ says Country Mouse.
There’s a lot to eat. But Town Mouse thinks the food is strange. He doesn’t like it very much. So he only eats a little bit. ‘Please have some more,’ says Country Mouse. ‘It’s very nice,’ says Town Mouse, ‘but no thank you.’
Country Mouse gives Town Mouse his bed. ‘You can have my bed tonight,’ he says. ‘Thank you,’ says Town Mouse.

But Country Mouse’s bed is strange. Town Mouse doesn’t like it very much. He can’t go to sleep. It’s very dark and quiet.
In the morning Town Mouse is tired. But Country Mouse isn’t tired. ‘Come on!’ he says. ‘Let’s go and get some food.’
The grass is long and wet.
Town Mouse's feet and trousers are wet.
He doesn't like the country very much!

There's a cow in the field.
'Oh!' cries Town Mouse 'What's that?'
'It's only a cow!' laughs Country Mouse.
a Let's go and get some food.

b You can have my bed tonight.

c It's only a cow!

d It's very nice, but no thank you.

e Hello, my friend
Fill in the gaps.

Country Mouse lives in the country.

Town Mouse sleeps in his bed.

Town Mouse can't go to sleep.

There's a cow in the field.

It's dark in night in the country.
'Do you like the country?' asks Country Mouse.
'It's very strange here,' says Town Mouse. 'It's very interesting.
It's different.
But I think I like the town best.'
‘Life is good in the country,’ says Country Mouse. ‘Yes,’ says Town Mouse. ‘But I like the town better. It’s nice and warm and dry in the town. It isn’t dark at night and there’s a lot to see. It’s very interesting. And the food! Oh, there’s a lot of food! Let’s go there. Come with me and see.’
The next day the two mice see a cart.
It’s going to town.
‘Hurry up you sheep!’ says the man.
‘I want to go to town.’
‘Listen,’ says Town Mouse. ‘That cart’s going to town. Come on.’
Soon Town Mouse is home.
‘Ah!’ he says, happily. ‘It’s good to be home again.’

But Country Mouse thinks:
‘What a lot of noise!
What a lot of people!’
Tick (✓) the correct word.

1. Town Mouse sleeps in Country Mouse's ...
   a  garden  b  ✓ bed  c  field

2. It's very ... in the country at night.
   a  noisy  b  quiet  c  dry

3. In the morning, Town Mouse is ...
   a  tired  b  warm  c  happy

4. They get some food in a ...
   a  shop  b  field  c  house

5. The grass is long and ...
   a  blue  b  dry  c  wet

6. Town Mouse wants to go back to ...
   a  the country  b  the town  c  the sea

7. The two mice go to town ...
   a  on a cart  b  ✓ in a car  c  on a bus
What's this?

1. Is this the country? **No.**
   Is it quiet here? ________

2. Is this a house? ____________
   Is it small? _______________
   Does Country Mouse like it? ______

3. Is this a cow? _____________

4. Who's this? _______________
   Is he happy? ______________
   Does he like it here? ______
The house is very big.
Country Mouse doesn’t like it very much.

Suddenly there’s a strange noise.
‘Oh! What’s that?’ he says.
‘It’s only the clock,’ laughs Town Mouse.
‘Look! I live there. Let’s go and eat. Come on!’
There’s a lot to eat. But Country Mouse thinks the food is strange. He doesn’t like it very much. So he only eats a little bit. ‘Please have some more,’ says Town Mouse. ‘It’s very nice,’ says Country Mouse, ‘but no thank you.’
Town Mouse gives Country Mouse his bed. ‘You can have my bed tonight,’ he says. ‘Thank you,’ says Country Mouse.

But Town Mouse’s bed is strange. Country Mouse doesn’t like it very much. He can’t go to sleep. It isn’t dark in the room and the street is very noisy.
In the morning Country Mouse is tired. But Town Mouse isn’t tired. ‘Come on!’ he says. ‘Let’s go and get some food.’

But there’s a cat and they can’t go out.
Write the words.

clock  food  mice  people
sheep  street  tired

1. mice

2. sheep

3. people

4. street

5. clock

6. die

7. do
Order the words.

1. gives Town Mouse bed him his.
   Town Mouse gives him his bed.

2. Mouse's Town is strange bed.

3. noisy street The very.

4. go Country can't to Mouse sleep.

5. morning the In tired Mouse Country is.

6. Mouse strange Country thinks is food the.
At last the cat goes away.
The two mice are very hungry.

Suddenly, Country Mouse sees something.
'Look!' he shouts. 'Cheese!'
'STOP!' shouts Town Mouse.
'Don't touch that! It's a trap!'
Do you like the town? asks Town Mouse.
'It's very strange here,' says Country Mouse.
'It's interesting. It's different.
But I think I like the country best.'
'Life is good in the town,' says Town Mouse. 'Yes,' says Country Mouse. 'But I like the country better. It's nice and quiet in the country.' 'I understand,' says Town Mouse. 'We like different things.'
The next day they see a cart. It's going to the country.
‘Hurry up you children,’ says the driver.
‘I want to go to the country.’
‘Listen,’ says Country Mouse.
‘That cart’s going to the country.
Goodbye my friend. Thank you.’
‘Write to me,’ says Town Mouse.
Soon Country Mouse is home.
He's in the country.
He sits by the fire.
‘Ah!’ he says happily. ‘It’s good to be home again.’
Tick (√) the correct word.

1. Who can't go to sleep in the dark?
   a  Country Mouse  c  the cat
   b  Town Mouse

2. What is long and wet?
   a  the cow  b  the food  c  the grass

3. Where is it warm and dry?
   a  in the field  c  in the town
   b  in the country

4. What makes a strange noise at five o'clock?
   a  the cat  b  the trap  c  the clock

5. There's a ... so the mice can't go out.
   a  cat  b  trap  c  dog

6. What is in the trap?
   a  a mouse  b  a cat  c  some cheese

7. Country Mouse is happy ...
   a  by the fire  b  in the town  c  on the cart