

6A Ariel Lo Mei Yin

The Adventure of Eric and the Genie

Once upon a time, there was a little boy called Eric. He lived with his grandmother in a small hut. His classmates always laughed at him and bullied him because he was shorter than the other kids in his age. He felt sad about it.

One day, Eric was bored and decided to help his grandmother with the housework. When he was tidying up his closet, he found a box full of old things. There was a paper stuck on the box and it wrote,

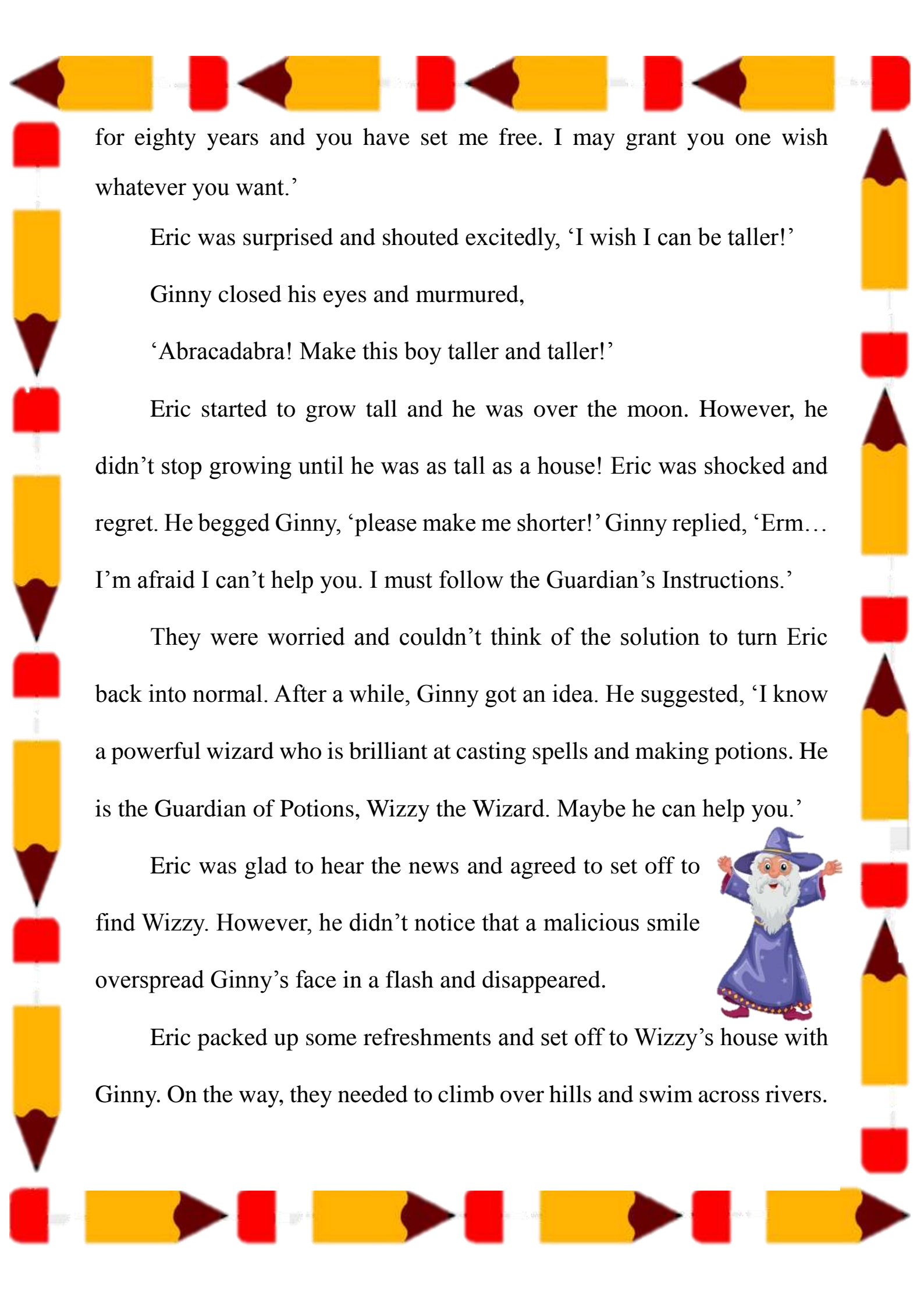
‘If you touch the things inside, you will get into big trouble!’

Eric was curious about the things inside and ignored the warning. He opened the box and saw a glass bottle with a handmade ship inside. It was too dark in the house, so Eric carried the box and the bottle outside.

When he went out, he didn’t notice that a pebble was in front of him and accidentally tripped over it. The bottle fell out and it was broken into pieces.



While Eric was thinking how to fix it, a genie appeared and said, ‘I’m the Guardian of the Sea, Ginny the Genie. I have been locked in this bottle



for eighty years and you have set me free. I may grant you one wish whatever you want.'

Eric was surprised and shouted excitedly, 'I wish I can be taller!'

Ginny closed his eyes and murmured,

'Abracadabra! Make this boy taller and taller!'

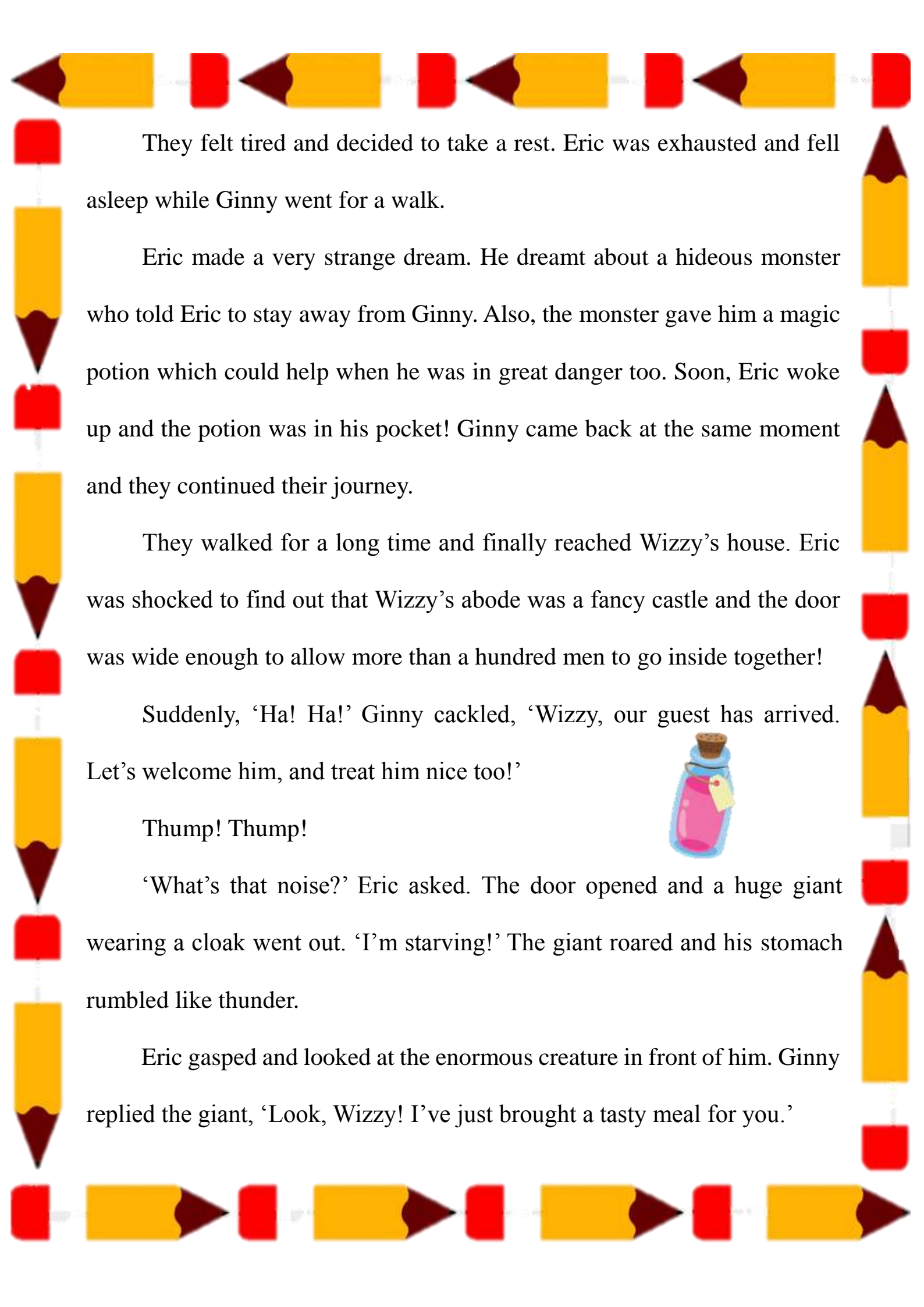
Eric started to grow tall and he was over the moon. However, he didn't stop growing until he was as tall as a house! Eric was shocked and regret. He begged Ginny, 'please make me shorter!' Ginny replied, 'Erm... I'm afraid I can't help you. I must follow the Guardian's Instructions.'

They were worried and couldn't think of the solution to turn Eric back into normal. After a while, Ginny got an idea. He suggested, 'I know a powerful wizard who is brilliant at casting spells and making potions. He is the Guardian of Potions, Wizzy the Wizard. Maybe he can help you.'

Eric was glad to hear the news and agreed to set off to find Wizzy. However, he didn't notice that a malicious smile overspread Ginny's face in a flash and disappeared.



Eric packed up some refreshments and set off to Wizzy's house with Ginny. On the way, they needed to climb over hills and swim across rivers.



They felt tired and decided to take a rest. Eric was exhausted and fell asleep while Ginny went for a walk.

Eric made a very strange dream. He dreamt about a hideous monster who told Eric to stay away from Ginny. Also, the monster gave him a magic potion which could help when he was in great danger too. Soon, Eric woke up and the potion was in his pocket! Ginny came back at the same moment and they continued their journey.

They walked for a long time and finally reached Wizzy's house. Eric was shocked to find out that Wizzy's abode was a fancy castle and the door was wide enough to allow more than a hundred men to go inside together!

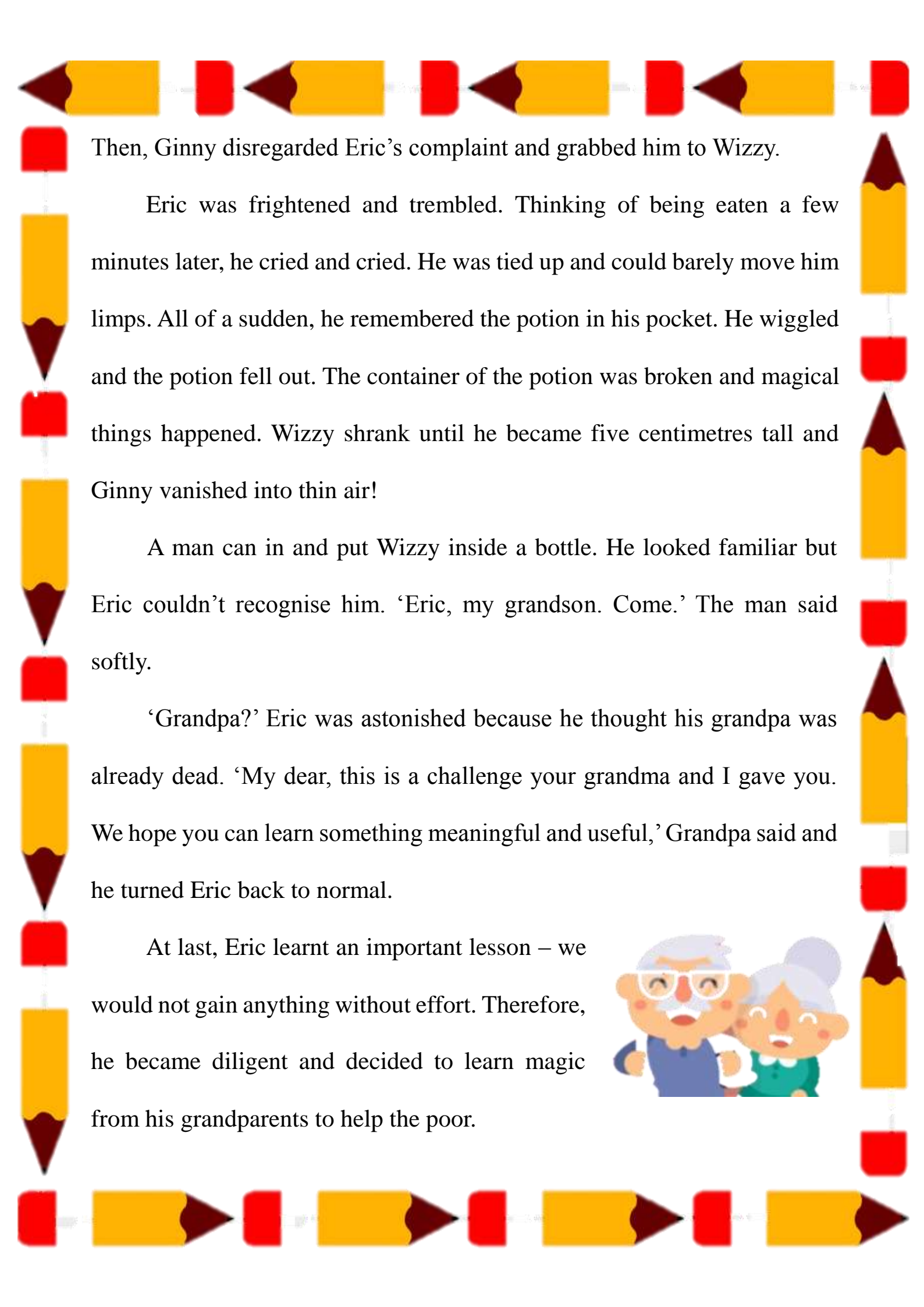
Suddenly, 'Ha! Ha!' Ginny cackled, 'Wizzy, our guest has arrived. Let's welcome him, and treat him nice too!'

Thump! Thump!



'What's that noise?' Eric asked. The door opened and a huge giant wearing a cloak went out. 'I'm starving!' The giant roared and his stomach rumbled like thunder.

Eric gasped and looked at the enormous creature in front of him. Ginny replied the giant, 'Look, Wizzy! I've just brought a tasty meal for you.'



Then, Ginny disregarded Eric's complaint and grabbed him to Wizzy.

Eric was frightened and trembled. Thinking of being eaten a few minutes later, he cried and cried. He was tied up and could barely move his limbs. All of a sudden, he remembered the potion in his pocket. He wiggled and the potion fell out. The container of the potion was broken and magical things happened. Wizzy shrank until he became five centimetres tall and Ginny vanished into thin air!

A man came in and put Wizzy inside a bottle. He looked familiar but Eric couldn't recognise him. 'Eric, my grandson. Come.' The man said softly.

'Grandpa?' Eric was astonished because he thought his grandpa was already dead. 'My dear, this is a challenge your grandma and I gave you. We hope you can learn something meaningful and useful,' Grandpa said and he turned Eric back to normal.

At last, Eric learnt an important lesson – we would not gain anything without effort. Therefore, he became diligent and decided to learn magic from his grandparents to help the poor.

