# The Missing Key

Read the story slowly first, then check the new words and answer the questions.

## الْمِفْتَاحُ الضَّائِعُ

يُوسُفُ يَبْحَثُ عَنِ الْمِفْتَاحِ. الْقِطَّةُ نَائِمَةٌ عَلَى الْأَرِيكَةِ.

يُوسُفُ: أَيْنَ الْمِفْتَاحُ؟

مَرْيَمُ: هَلِ الْمِفْتَاحُ عَلَى الطَّاوِلَةِ؟

يُوسُفُ: لَا، لَيْسَ عَلَى الطَّاوِلَةِ.

مَرْيَمُ: هَلْ هُوَ تَحْتَ الْكُرْسِيِّ؟

يُوسُفُ: لَا، لَيْسَ تَحْتَ الْكُرْسِيِّ.

الْأُمُّ: هَلْ هُوَ فِي الْحَقِيبَةِ؟

يُوسُفُ: لَا، لَيْسَ فِي الْحَقِيبَةِ!

مَرْيَمُ: وَمَاذَا تَحْتَ الْقِطَّةِ؟

يَرْفَعُ يُوسُفُ الْقِطَّةَ.

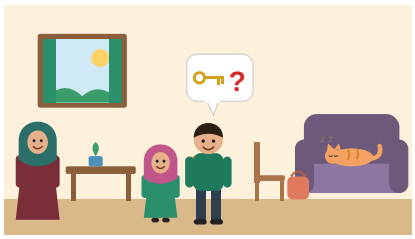
يُوسُفُ: هُنَا! الْمِفْتَاحُ هُنَا!

الْأُمُّ: الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ!

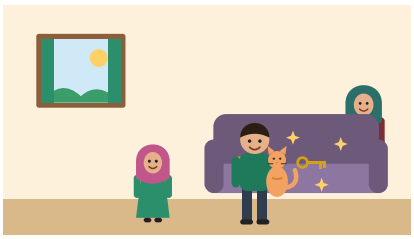
تَضْحَكُ مَرْيَمُ وَتَقُولُ: «الْقِطَّةُ تُحِبُّ الْمِفْتَاحَ!»

يُوسُفُ: شُكْرًا يَا قِطَّتِي!

## Story pictures



*1. Yusuf cannot find his key. The cat is sleeping on the sofa.*



*2. Under the cat: the key!*



*3. Yusuf is happy. Thank you, little cat!*

## Vocabulary | المُفْرَدَات

| Arabic | Transliteration | English |
|---|---|---|
| مِفْتَاحٌ | miftāḥ | key |
| يَبْحَثُ | yabḥath | he looks for, searches |
| قِطَّةٌ | qiṭṭa | cat |
| نَائِمَةٌ | nāʾima | sleeping (she) |
| أَرِيكَةٌ | arīka | sofa |
| أَيْنَ | ayna | where |
| هَلْ | hal | is…? / does…? (yes-no question) |
| طَاوِلَةٌ | ṭāwila | table |
| لَا | lā | no |
| لَيْسَ | laysa | is not |
| عَلَى | ʿalā | on |
| تَحْتَ | taḥta | under |
| كُرْسِيٌّ | kursī | chair |
| هُوَ | huwa | he, it |
| فِي | fī | in |
| حَقِيبَةٌ | ḥaqība | bag |
| مَاذَا | mādhā | what |
| يَرْفَعُ | yarfaʿ | he lifts |
| هُنَا | hunā | here |
| تَضْحَكُ | taḍḥak | she laughs |
| تُحِبُّ | tuḥibb | she loves, likes |
| شُكْرًا | shukran | thank you |
| خَلْفَ | khalfa | behind |
| مَطْبَخٌ | maṭbakh | kitchen |
| بَابٌ | bāb | door |

## Grammar note | مُلَاحَظَةٌ نَحْوِيَّةٌ

This story is a conversation, so learn the place words: **عَلَى (on)، تَحْتَ (under)، فِي (in)، خَلْفَ (behind)**. The word after them ends with a kasra sound: عَلَى الطَّاوِلَةِ, تَحْتَ الْكُرْسِيِّ, فِي الْحَقِيبَةِ. Question words: أَيْنَ = where, مَاذَا = what, هَلْ = a yes/no question.

## Comprehension questions | أَسْئِلَةُ الفَهْمِ

**1.** عَنْ مَاذَا يَبْحَثُ يُوسُفُ؟

*(What is Yusuf looking for?)*

**2.** هَلِ الْمِفْتَاحُ عَلَى الطَّاوِلَةِ؟

*(Is the key on the table?)*

**3.** هَلِ الْمِفْتَاحُ فِي الْحَقِيبَةِ؟

*(Is the key in the bag?)*

**4.** أَيْنَ الْمِفْتَاحُ؟

*(Where is the key?)*

## Answers

**1.** يَبْحَثُ عَنِ الْمِفْتَاحِ.

*(He is looking for the key.)*

**2.** لَا، لَيْسَ عَلَى الطَّاوِلَةِ.

*(No, it is not on the table.)*

**3.** لَا، لَيْسَ فِي الْحَقِيبَةِ.

*(No, it is not in the bag.)*

**4.** الْمِفْتَاحُ تَحْتَ الْقِطَّةِ.

*(The key is under the cat.)*

## Practice tip

Read the story aloud three times with the vowels. Then read it again without looking at the vowel marks, and finally cover the English column of the vocabulary table and test yourself.

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