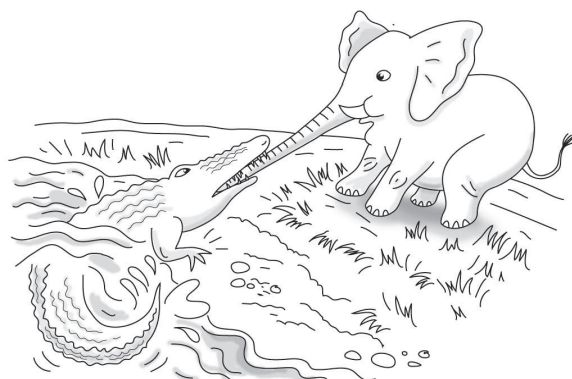


The Elephant's Child

Rudyard Kipling

- 1 Then the Elephant's Child grew all breathless, and panted, and kneeled down on the bank of the great grey-green, greasy Limpopo River, all set about with fever-trees, and said, "You are the very person I have been looking for all these long days. Will you please tell me what you have for dinner?"
- 5 "Come hither, Little One," said the Crocodile, "and I'll whisper."
- 6 Then the Elephant's Child put his head down close to the Crocodile's musky, tusky mouth, and the Crocodile caught him by his little nose, which up to that very week, day, hour, and minute, had been no bigger than a boot, though much more useful.
- 10 "I think," said the Crocodile – and he said it between his teeth, like this – "I think to-day I will begin with Elephant's Child!"
- 12 At this, O Best Beloved, the Elephant's Child was much annoyed, and he said, speaking through his nose, like this, "Led go! You are hurtig be!"
- 14 Then the Bi-Coloured-Python-Rock-Snake scuffled down from the bank and said, "My young friend, if you do not now, immediately and instantly, pull as hard as ever you can, it is my opinion that your acquaintance in the large-pattern leather ulster" (and by this he meant the Crocodile) "will jerk you into yonder limpid stream before you can say Jack Robinson."
- 19 This is the way Bi-Coloured-Python-Rock-Snakes always talk.
- 20 Then the Elephant's Child sat back on his little haunches, and pulled, and pulled, and pulled, and his nose began to stretch. And the Crocodile floundered into the water, making it all creamy with great sweeps of his tail, and he pulled, and pulled, and pulled.
- 24 And the Elephant's Child's nose kept on stretching; and the Elephant's Child spread all his little four legs and pulled, and pulled, and pulled, and his nose kept on stretching; and the Crocodile threshed his tail like an oar, and he pulled, and pulled, and pulled, and at each pull the Elephant's Child's nose grew longer and longer – and it hurt him!
- 31 Then the Elephant's Child felt his legs slipping, and he said through his nose, which was now nearly five feet long, "This is too butch for be!"



Name:	Class:	Date:
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1 Look at paragraph 1, beginning “*Then the Elephant’s Child*”.

Where does the Elephant’s Child kneel?

Tick **one**.

in the river

under a fever-tree

on the riverbank

in a river of grease

2b

1 mark

2 **Find** and **copy** **four** words from paragraph 1, beginning “*Then the Elephant’s Child*”, which tell you that the Elephant’s Child has been searching for the crocodile for a while.

2d

1 mark

3 Look at paragraph 6, beginning “*Then the Bi-Coloured-Python-Rock-Snake*”.

a) **Find** and **copy** **two** words that mean the same as “*now*”.

b) Why does the Snake use all three words?

2a, 2g

2 marks

4 Look at paragraph 8 (beginning “*Then the Elephant’s Child*”) and paragraph 9 (beginning “*And the Elephant’s Child’s nose kept on stretching*”).

Why is the reader given so much information about what the Crocodile is doing in the water?

2f

1 mark

5 Look at the last paragraph. Why does the Elephant’s Child say, “*This is too butch for be!*”

2g

1 mark

6 Explain what the Elephant Child’s nose is like before and after the meeting with the Crocodile.

2h

1 mark

7 What impression do you get of the Crocodile in this extract?

Give **two** impressions, using evidence from the text to support your answer.

2d

3 marks

Name:	Class:	Date:
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8 Number the actions to show the order in which they happen in the story.

- The Snake spoke to the Elephant’s Child.
- The Crocodile caught the Elephant’s Child by the nose.
- The Elephant’s Child asked the Crocodile a question.
- The Elephant’s Child sat back on his haunches.

2c

1 mark

9 Tick **one** box in each row to show whether each statement is **true** or **false**.

	True	False
At the beginning of the story, the Elephant’s Child was frightened of the Crocodile.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Crocodile lived near the Limpopo River.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Snake tried to help the Crocodile.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Elephant’s Child tried to pull the Crocodile out of the river.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2b

1 mark