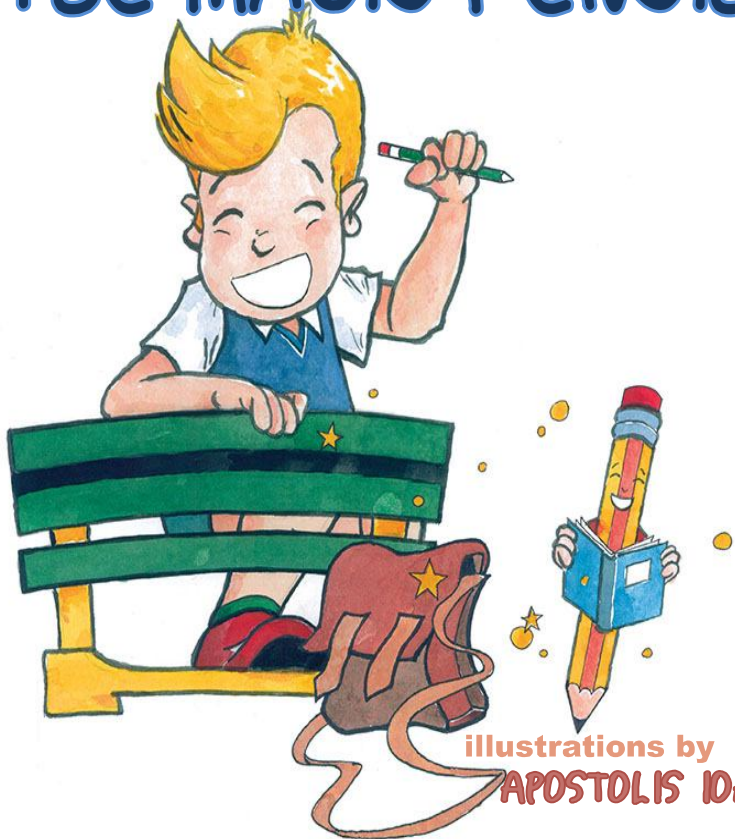
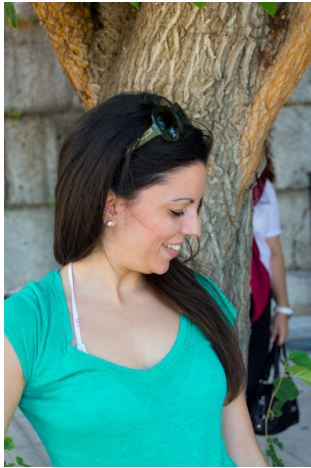


ANNA KONDIS

JORDAN AND THE LITTLE MAGIC PENCIL



illustrations by
APOSTOLIS IDANNOU



Anna Kondis was born and raised in Athens. She has studied Modern Greek Philology at the Kapodistrian University of Athens. She also holds a Master in Applied Linguistics from the University of Essex in the UK. She can speak English, French and play the keyboards piano professionally. For the last 4 years she has been writing children's books as long as her dream is to write stories and read them to little children at a bookstore where she can dedicate reading hours to them.

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Note: There are letters of the Greek alphabet on pages 7, 9, 22 and 37.
The pictures on pages 25, 27-31 are taken from the internet.

Jordan is a ten-year-old boy. He is raised by his parents in a neighbourhood where children love reading, spelling and grammar. Their houses look like the alphabet letters and there are reading rooms and libraries full of children's books on every corner.



He doesn't have many friends because he feels ashamed of his difficulty in reading and writing properly. So, he prefers sitting alone, even during breaks. One day, while he was returning from school and being disappointed because he didn't do well at spelling once again, he lost his way home.



After walking for a long time, he found himself in front of a colourful house.

- It must be one of the reading rooms, he thought.

All of a sudden the windows opened and sucked Jordan inside. He was surprised to find, that there was only a single desk in the room. He sat down and got his books ready without hesitation.

Then something magical happened! The desk opened and a huge LITTLE PENCIL came out!



- Hello Jordan! You are the luckiest kid of this neighbourhood! You have just sat on the magic desk which will make you love spelling and English.
- But... I'm not good at this course at all... said Jordan sadly. Every day I study the spelling we have for homework, but when I go to school, I misspell all the difficult words.
- Be patient, my little friend! I can make it all be easy! Are you ready?
- Yeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeees! he yelled happily.
- Then, listen to the song!

All of a sudden huge notes appeared in front of Jordan and his desk, and there was a song:



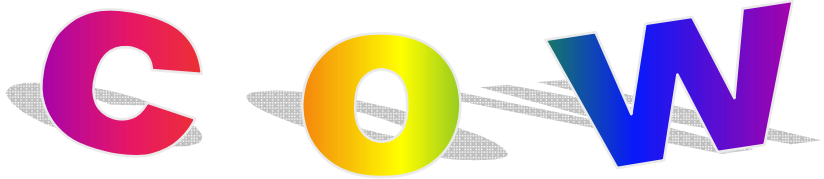
“Easy or hard?
Easy or hard?
For me it’s always easy!”

- Pay attention Jordan, said the little magic pencil. I'm going to reveal our first trick.

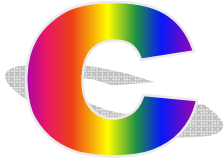
It's called:

"I jump from the easy to the hard"

Colourful letters from a flying book appeared and created the word



The o and w lowered



O W

EASY → HARD

There was the song again:



“Easy or hard?
Easy or hard?
For me it's always easy!”

- That is, my dear Jordan, we went from the easy **o** to the hard **w**.
- The same happens to other words too? asked Jordan tensely.
- Of course! Take a look at other words and see for yourself that it goes from easy to hard.

The little pencil began to write words...



Flower easy o hard w (not flaouer)

Shower easy o hard w (not shaouer)

Elephant easy p hard h (not elefant)

Fish easy s hard h (not fis)

Clock easy c hard k (not klok)

Jordan was relieved. He could memorise words with only a simple trick, just with a song. These words confused him all this time.

He went back home with indescribable joy.

- Mooooooooooooooooooooom!

Daaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaad! At last!

From now on I will study my homework for the next lesson easily!

- What are you talking about, Jordan? Are you crazy?

Go quickly upstairs to do your homework! said his mother in a strict voice.

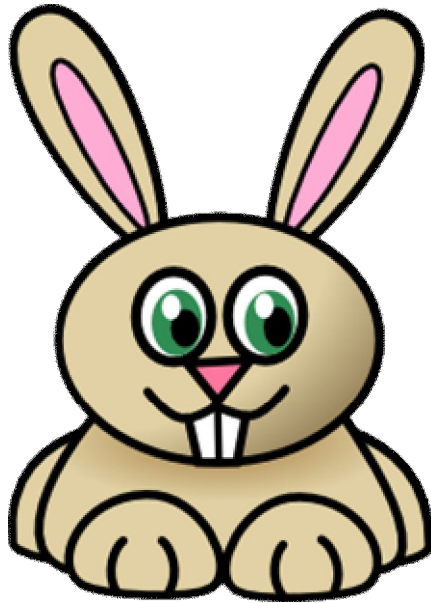


Disappointed for no one believed him and in a bad mood, he went to his room. He was looking forward to the next afternoon after school when he would go to that magic room again.



The next day came, the lesson was over and little Jordan took quickly his schoolbag and biked like crazy towards that colourful door of that room, he was enchanted with. He sat on his desk, prepared his books, and immediately the little magic pencil came out of the desk.

- Welcome! Today I have something more amusing for you! Do you like pictures?
- Yeeeeeeeeeeess! screamed Jordan thrilled.
- Pay attention, then! Think of a rabbit. How many teeth has it got?



A rabbit appeared before his very eyes!

- Hmmmm... Jordan thought.

Two?

- Well doooooooooone!

That is why the word rabbit is written with

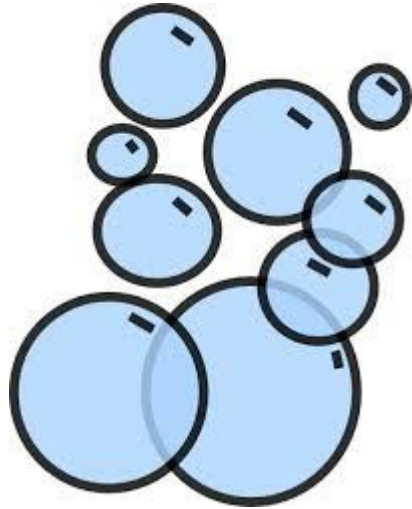
two "b". This is our second trick.

When you hear a word, you will think its

picture. Small pictures were starting to

appear in front of Jordan and the little

pencil explained everything.



Bubble

It is spelled with 2 b because bubbles are always many.



Cherry

It is spelled with 2 r because cherries
always come as a pair.



Mug

It is spelled with u because its shape reminds us a big and open u.



Pizza

It is spelled with 2 z because pizza comes with many pieces.



Scissors

It is spelled with 2 s because scissors
have 2 parts.

How lucky Jordan was! In two days
he had learnt how to write quite a few
words correctly,
with tricks impossible to forget! He
returned home happy
and went upstairs to his room.

He took all the books from the bookcase
and started practising the tricks,
that the little pencil had told him,
on difficult words.

The next day after school
he walked along the same road that led to
the magic room.
He entered but his favourite desk was not
there.

He waited for a long time.
Neither the little magic pencil appeared,
nor melodies were heard.

He got up and walked home in tears.
It was there, in the gap under the door,
where he found a letter.



Dear Jordan,

With this letter we would like to tell you

'Well done'!

You have learnt how to write quite a few
difficult words correctly!

You do not need our help any more.

You have realized that language is a game.

Spelling is easy, if you know the right tricks.

Keep up the good work!

Jordan smiled and felt confident for the
first time.

From that day on he wrote dictation
without a single mistake
because he remembered the tricks
that the little magic pencil had told him
in that magic room.





The idea of **Saita publications** emerged in July 2012, having as a primary goal to create a web space where new authors can interact with the readers directly and free.

Saita publications' aim is to redefine the publisher-author-reader relationship, by cultivating a true dialogue and by establishing an effective communication channel for authors and readers alike. **Saita publications** stay far away from profit, exploitation and commercialization of literary property.

The strong wind of **passion** for reading,
the sweet breeze of **creativity**,
the zephyr of **motivation**,
the sirocco of **imagination**,
the levanter of **persistence**,
the deep power of **vision**
guide the **saita** (paper plane) of our publications.

We invite you to let books fly free!

Apostolis Ioannou was born and raised in Trikala.

He has studied photography in Thessaloniki.

For the last 6 years he has been working professionally as an illustrator.

He illustrates posters, children's books and tales. He has worked with publishers in Greece, USA and Sweden. In the mean time he creates comic books. Comicdom press has published his comic titles "Deep Forest". He is also working with advertising companies. He lives in Trikala.

Through this fairytale
“Jordan and the Little Magic Pencil”
children will realise that language and
dictation are like a game.

Parents and teachers
should help them
understand the magical
world of language,
unlock it,
and love it.

In this effort
little Jordan will be their
assistant.



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