



Twist

Handwriting

Jimmy Prune sat at his desk. With a stab of his pencil, he put a period at the end of a story.

“My prize-winning story is finished,” he said and took it up to the teacher’s desk

Mrs. Friendly looked at the paper and frowned. “Your handwriting is very sloppy, Jimmy Prune,” she said. “What’s this story about?”

“When I had cold hands,” said Jimmy Prune.

“That’s a good idea, Jimmy Prune,” said the teacher. “But please rewrite the story so I can read it.”

Jimmy Prune began writing again. A half-hour later, he brought a new story up to Mrs. Friendly.

“My prize-winning story is finished,” he said. “It’s about when I swept the sidewalk.

The teacher frowned again. “Jimmy Prune, this story is sloppier than the first one,” she said. “Please write it neater.”

For the third time Jimmy Prune began to write.

“My prize-winning story is finished,” he said a half-hour later.

Mrs. Friendly frowned at this story, too. “Jimmy Prune, this is the sloppiest story of all,” she said.

“It’s about my goose bump experiment,” said Jimmy Prune.

The teacher just shook her head and handed the story back.

Jimmy Prune started a new story. This one took him much longer to write. When he showed it to Mrs. Friendly, the teacher smiled.

“Jimmy Prune, your handwriting is beautiful,” she said. “I had no idea you could write so neatly.”

“This story is about my noisy stomach,” said Jimmy Prune.

“But this story is still hard to read,” said the teacher. “Almost every word is misspelled.”

Jimmy Prune looked at the floor. “I knew this would happen,” he said. “If I made my handwriting neater, you’d discover what a crummy speller I am.”