

The North Wind and the Sun
Aesop's Fable
Adapted by Abbey Woelmer from My Reading Resources

Characters:

Narrators 1 and 2, the North Wind, and the Sun

The North Wind and The Sun

North Wind: I rule over winter. I am cold and powerful! I make people cringe and seek shelter. People hide indoors when I am about!

Sun: I rule over summer, but I am important everyday of the year. I give heat and light to the Earth. Without me, people, plants, and animals would die! There can be no doubt that I am more powerful.

Narrator 1: These two are always arguing with each other. I wonder which one is more powerful.

North Wind: I am greater than you!

Sun: That is not so. No one is as powerful as I am!

Narrator 2: One day they decided to settle the dispute once and for all.

North Wind: I will prove that I am more powerful than you. We shall have a contest. Do you see that traveler below us?

Sun: Do you mean that poor man plodding along that lonely and long trail down the mountain?

North Wind: Yes. Just watch me rip his coat away from him. That will prove that I am more powerful than you.

Narrator 1: The Sun smiled with pleasure.

Sun: Very well, North Wind, I will agree that whichever one of us separates the man from his coat is the greater and more powerful. You may have the first chance.

Narrator 2: The North Wind began to blow. He blew and blew. The bare branches on the trees shook and swayed in the blast of cold air. The man's coat swirled around him. Then his hands clutched his coat and held it tightly to his chest.

Narrator 1: But the North Wind would not give up. He only blew harder. His icy blasts caused the man to hunch forward as he walked. His grip on his coat only tightened. The more the North Wind blasted the man, the more firmly the man held on to his coat.

North Wind: I've tried my best, but the man will not let go of his coat! It's your turn, Sun. Let's see if you can do any better.

Sun: Very well. The force of your icy breath could not pull the coat from the man. Let me see if I can gently persuade him that he no longer needs it.

Narrator 2: The Sun beamed down on the poor, shivering man. Rays of sunlight warmed his body, and he no longer hunched forward. His hands loosened their tight grip on his coat.

Narrator 1: Under the Sun's steady rays, the man unbuttoned his coat. After a few more minutes of the Sun's gentle persuasion, the traveler removed his coat.

The End