

HONORABLE MINU

A WEST AFRICAN FOLKTALE



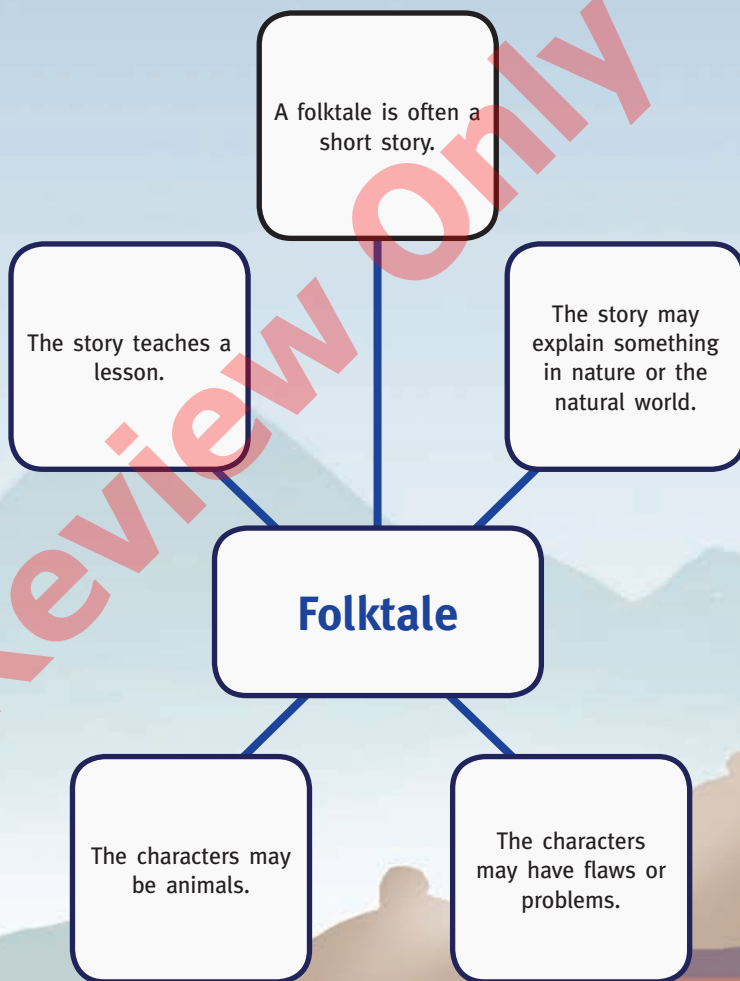
FOLKTALE
LITERATURE

Level L/24
Lexile® 570L

This story is a retelling of a West African folktale. It originated in the region of Ghana.

Folktale

Look for the genre features noted below as you read this book. Use the features to help you understand the text.



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There once was a farmer named Kofi. Each week he traveled to the busy city of Accra on the coast of Ghana. There, he sold the maize, yams, and cassavas that he grew on his farm.



Kofi dreamed of one day becoming a rich man.

Rich men had large farms full of cattle. They had beautiful houses surrounded by gardens. They also had big ships to sail around the world.



Everyone in the village knew about Kofi's dream. They waved goodbye to him as he set out to sell his crops.

"There goes Kofi," said the villagers.
"He's always dreaming of being rich. Maybe one day he'll find the wealth he seeks."



On his way to the market in Accra, Kofi met a group of men. They were traveling with a large herd of cows.

Kofi was very impressed.

“Who owns all of these cows?” he asked the men.



The men spoke a different language than Kofi. They didn't understand Kofi's words. They looked at him, puzzled.

“Minu,” they replied in their language, which meant “I don't understand.”



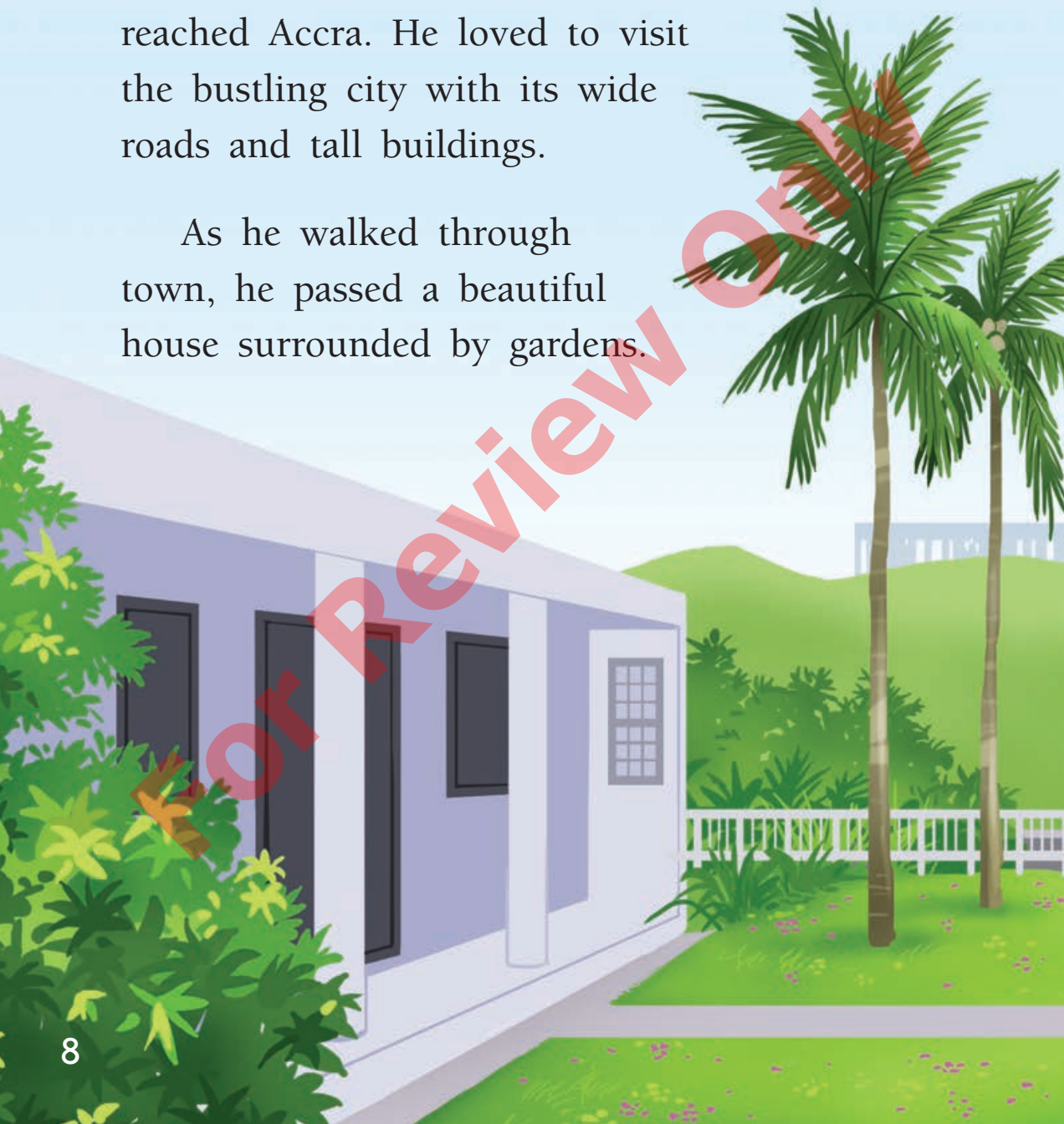
This Minu must be a very lucky man to have so many cows, Kofi thought.

He waved goodbye to the men and continued on his way.



A short while later, Kofi reached Accra. He loved to visit the bustling city with its wide roads and tall buildings.

As he walked through town, he passed a beautiful house surrounded by gardens.



It was just like the house in his dreams!

Kofi asked a passerby who owned the house. The woman spoke a different language. She didn't understand Kofi's words.

"Minu," she replied.

