

The Rules of Wand-Making

Story By: Andrew Frinkle

Meerfus sat in front of the fire, warming himself on a cold winter day. The wind was chilly outside, and the mug of hot tea in his hands was very pleasant in comparison. Duncan sat before the fire, watching the fire light dance. He had his knees hugged to his chest with his head resting on them. Meerfus smiled and began reciting the rules of magic wand-making, a common lesson that Duncan had learned to recite by heart.

“First, never make a wand with the direct purpose of being a weapon. Why, Duncan?”

Duncan looked up from the fire and smiled. He knew this answer by heart, but he understood it, too. “We try to make tools that help, not hurt.”

Meerfus nodded and continued. “Second, use materials chosen for their purpose, not for their ease of finding. Why?”

“Quality materials make quality wands, while convenient materials make poor wands, unless they are exactly what are needed for the making.” Duncan recited.

“Right again, Duncan. Now what is the third rule?”

“Third, focus on the making when the words are spoken to bind the magic to the wand.”

“And how many words are spoken?” Meerfus asked. This was an important point.

“Three.” Duncan answered.

“Why are there three?”

This time, Duncan had to think carefully before answering. “One is for opening the magic, the second is for expressing intent, and the third is for binding the magic to the wand.”

Meerfus smiled broadly, showing his approval. “Perfect.”

“Is there a fourth rule?” Duncan asked.

“It is a special rule, the last one: let your conscience guide you to do what is right. If you do this, then you’ll never make the wrong kind of wand or give it to the wrong person.” Meerfus explained, looking again into the fire. He grew silent and thoughtful.

After a few quiet moments, Meerfus began telling stories of long ago, when he was a student himself, working for a wizard named Benjamin the Brown. Duncan listened closely, trying to learn lessons from what his master explained. Someday, he might pass these same stories down to a student of his own.



The Rules of Wand-Making

Story By: Andrew Frinkle

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. Why are Duncan and Meerfus sitting around the fire?
 - A. It's cold outside.
 - B. It's night time.
 - C. It's lunch time.
 - D. They're bored.

2. How many rules are there for wand-making?
 - A. 1
 - B. 2
 - C. 3
 - D. 4

3. Which rule explains the use of magic words in wand-making?
 - A. 1
 - B. 2
 - C. 3
 - D. 4

4. Which rule explains the use of materials in wand-making?
 - A. 1
 - B. 2
 - C. 3
 - D. 4

5. Which rule explains what kind of wands not to make?
 - A. 1
 - B. 2
 - C. 3
 - D. 4

The Rules of Wand-Making

Story By: Andrew Frinkle

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. Why are Duncan and Meerfus sitting around the fire?
A. It's cold outside.
B. It's night time.
C. It's lunch time.
D. They're bored.
2. How many rules are there for wand-making?
A. 1
B. 2
C. 3
D. 4
3. Which rule explains the use of magic words in wand-making?
A. 1
B. 2
C. 3
D. 4
4. Which rule explains the use of materials in wand-making?
A. 1
B. 2
C. 3
D. 4
5. Which rule explains what kind of wands not to make?
A. 1
B. 2
C. 3
D. 4