

Tom had retired and lived by himself a long way from town. He hardly ever left his home, but one day he went into town to buy some things in the market, and after he had bought them, he went into a restaurant and sat down at a table by himself. When he looked around, he saw several old people put eyeglasses on before reading their newspapers, so after lunch he decided to go to a store to buy himself some glasses too. He walked along the road, and soon found a store.

The man in the store made him try on a lot of glasses, but Tom always said, "No, I can't read with these."

The man became more and more puzzled, until finally he said, "Excuse me, but can you read at all?"

"No, of course I can't!" Tom said angrily. "If I was already able to read, do you think I would have come here to buy glasses?"