



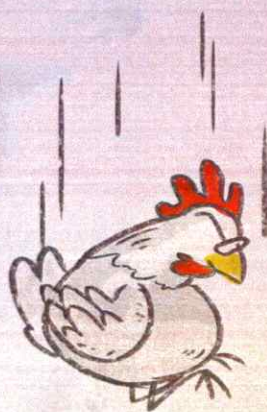
On the fourth day, the falling three
saw a dim, subtle glow, like gold,
like sunset unrolled,
far below. I mean far, like a star.

As Columbus spied land
so far to the west, these
three falling animals rapidly guessed
it was land way down there,
and they scanned to see where
they could land on that strand.
Had they planned?

Then up rushed the land
from under their feet.

“Here we come!” Sidney shouted
and suddenly cut in,
“**PRE means before!**”
but why did she butt in?

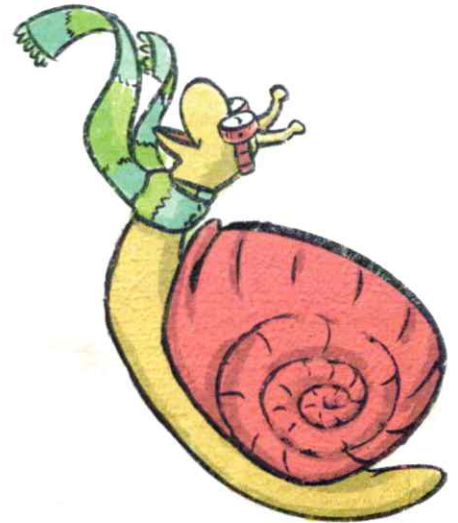
Poodle doubted
that PRE was important,
but his thinking clouded
as Sidney said, “PRE!
It starts an assortment
of word groups like these!”



And out of Sidney's mouth,
as they plunged toward their stop,
came a question asking how the
PRE word-part drops.

It has quirks—
here are some:

on the side
at the top
in the soup
beside the bird
after the cluck
before the bark



What's the trick?

It's that
on and *at* and *in*
and *beside* and *before* and *after*
come first, like a burst
of knowledge and laughter,
and Sidney was well-versed
in these starter words
that came in the PRE POSITION.

