NEW

Classic Tales

Oxford Read and Imagine

Dominoes

Oxford Bookworms Library

Oxford Graded Readers 2017

Read your way to better English

www.oup.com/elt/gradedreading

For more information about Oxford Graded Readers please contact your local OUP office: www.oup.com/elt/contact
or write to: elt.enquiry@oup.com

OXFORD GRADED READERS 2017

Read your way to better English

www.oup.com/elt/gradedreading
NEW

Classic Tales

Oxford Graded Readers 2017

Oxford Read and Imagine

Dominoes

...and more!

Oxford Bookworms Library

For more information about Oxford Graded Readers please contact your local OUP office: www.oup.com/elt/contact

or write to: elt.enquiry@oup.com

www.oup.com/elt/gradedreading

Read your way to better English

www.oup.com/elt/gradedreading
Read your way to better English

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Teaching with an OUP coursebook?

Recommended Readers for your course


What are Recommended Readers?

Recommended Readers are selected to match the language level and topic of units in the coursebook.

How does this help you?

It’s quick and easy to choose the readers that best support your course, and add variety to your lessons.
## Preparing for international exams?

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Dolphin Readers

Series Editor: Craig Wright

BEGINNER TO PRE-INTERMEDIATE • CEFR: A1–A2
FICTION/NON-FICTION: 5 LEVELS

From shapes and baby animals to students in space, Dolphins’ cross-curricular stories capture imaginations. With activities for every page of reading, the stimulating ‘read and do’ approach engages learners, practises language, and encourages critical-thinking skills.

> Fiction and non-fiction
> Photos and illustrations support reading comprehension
> Audio helps build reading and listening skills
> Picture Dictionary in every book

Speak to us
www.oup.com/elt/contact
Oh no! It’s raining. We can’t go outside to play.
I wish I was a duck.
A duck! Why?
Ducks like to play in the rain.
What animals don’t like the rain?

Wonderful Wild Animals, Level 3
Classic Tales
Retold by: Sue Arengo & Rachel Bladon

BEGINNER TO INTERMEDIATE • CEFR: A1–B1
FICTION: 5 LEVELS

Bring the magic of Classic Tales to your classroom. This award-winning series builds language skills and introduces young students to the joy of reading.

> Develop creativity and imagination through reading, writing and drama activities

> Support reading with picture dictionaries, glossaries and illustrations

> Engage all your learners with an Activity Book and Play for every story

Speak to us
www.oup.com/elt/contact
Activity Books and Plays available for every story

Free teaching resources
Download the Teacher’s Handbook, photocopiable worksheets and answer keys
www.oup.com/elt/teacher/classictales

All titles available as e-books via the Oxford Learner’s Bookshelf
www.oxfordlearnersbookshelf.com
See page 98

Bambi and the Prince of the Forest, Level 3

The summer went, and soon it was cold, and snow danced in the air.
At first Bambi liked the snow, and played in it with his friends. But the animals couldn’t find food, and they were hungry.
Gobo was the smallest of the deer, and he was weak and tired from the cold.
The deer were always together now, cold and hungry. One day, Bambi’s mother suddenly looked up.
‘The birds are calling,’ she said. ‘And they are flying out of the forest. Something is not right.’
Read the tale of the man who pulls, and pulls, and pulls the enormous turnip, but cannot move it.

In summer, Grasshopper sings and sleeps, but Ant works hard, carrying food to her store. Enjoy this famous tale and find out what happens when winter comes.

Enjoy the tale of the hard-working hen and her three unhelpful friends.

Find out how Lownu mends all the holes in the day sky and in the night sky.

Enjoy the tale of the hungry little girl, her mother, and the magic cooking pot.

Word count: 346
The Enormous Turnip
Sue Arengo

Word count: 554
The Lazy Grasshopper
Rachel Bladon

Word count: 506
The Little Red Hen
Sue Arengo

Word count: 611
Lownu Mends the Sky
Sue Arengo

Word count: 562
The Magic Cooking Pot
Sue Arengo

100 HEADWORDS • CEFR A1
• Average word count: 540
• Cambridge English: Starters
The Magpie and the Milk
Rachel Bladon
Enjoy this tale from Morocco, and find out how the hungry old donkey helps Mansour.

Mansour and the Donkey
Sue Arengo
Enjoy this tale from Turkey about a farmer, the milk from her cow, and a magpie…

Peach Boy
Sue Arengo
Enjoy the famous Japanese tale of Momotaro – Peach Boy – and his friends. Can they fight the ogres?

The Princess and the Pea
Sue Arengo
Enjoy the famous tale of the prince who isn’t happy. How can he find a real princess?

Rumpelstiltskin
Sue Arengo
Enjoy the famous tale of the miller’s daughter and the little man who can spin gold.

The Shoemaker and the Elves
Sue Arengo
Read the famous tale of the old shoemaker. How do the elves help him?

Three Billy-Goats
Sue Arengo
Enjoy the famous tale of the three clever goats and the hungry troll.

Word count 491
The Magpie and the Milk
ISBN 978 0 19 423988 2
Activity Book & Play
ISBN 978 0 19 423994 3
Audio Pack
ISBN 978 0 19 408474 9

Word count 643
Mansour and the Donkey
ISBN 978 0 19 423854 0
Activity Book & Play
ISBN 978 0 19 423855 7
Audio Pack
ISBN 978 0 19 400816 7

Word count 584
Peach Boy
ISBN 978 0 19 423858 8
Activity Book & Play
ISBN 978 0 19 423859 5
Audio Pack
ISBN 978 0 19 400818 1

Word count 584
The Princess and the Pea
ISBN 978 0 19 423878 6
Activity Book & Play
ISBN 978 0 19 423879 3
Audio Pack
ISBN 978 0 19 401394 9

Word count 629
Rumpelstiltskin
ISBN 978 0 19 423862 5
Activity Book & Play
ISBN 978 0 19 423863 2
Audio Pack
ISBN 978 0 19 400820 4

Word count 527
The Shoemaker and the Elves
ISBN 978 0 19 423882 3
Activity Book & Play
ISBN 978 0 19 423883 0
Audio Pack
ISBN 978 0 19 401396 3

Word count 444
Three Billy-Goats
ISBN 978 0 19 423886 1
Activity Book & Play
ISBN 978 0 19 423887 8
Audio Pack
ISBN 978 0 19 401395 5

Available for each reader:
• Audio Pack
• Activity Book & Play
• e-Book, Teaching notes, and answer keys available online
Amrita and the Trees
Sue Arengo

Read the tale of Amrita and the forest trees. What happens when the king’s men want to chop down the trees?

Big Baby Finn
Sue Arengo

Enjoy the tale of the Irish giant Finn MacCool and his clever wife Oonah.

The Fisherman and his Wife
Sue Arengo

Read the tale of the fisherman’s wife who always wants more.

The Gingerbread Man
Sue Arengo

Find out what happens when the old woman makes a gingerbread man and he jumps out of the oven.

Jack and the Beanstalk
Sue Arengo

Follow Jack’s adventures when he climbs the magic beanstalk.

King Arthur and the Sword
Rachel Bladon

Enjoy this famous English tale of King Arthur and the sword in the stone.

Rainforest Boy
Rachel Bladon

Meet Curupira, the Amazon Rainforest boy with strange feet. Read this tale from Brazil to find out how he loves the forest and keeps its animals safe.

Word count 717
Amrita and the Trees
ISBN 978 0 19 423890 8
Activity Book & Play
ISBN 978 0 19 423895 3
Audio Pack
ISBN 978 0 19 4 01400 7

Word count 619
Big Baby Finn
ISBN 978 0 19 423894 6
Activity Book & Play
ISBN 978 0 19 423895 3
Audio Pack
ISBN 978 0 19 4 01402 1

Word count 878
The Fisherman and his Wife
ISBN 978 0 19 423902 8
Activity Book & Play
ISBN 978 0 19 423903 5
Audio Pack
ISBN 978 0 19 4 01404 5

Word count 675
The Gingerbread Man
ISBN 978 0 19 423906 6
Activity Book & Play
ISBN 978 0 19 423907 3
Audio Pack
ISBN 978 0 19 4 01404 5

Word count 712
Jack and the Beanstalk
ISBN 978 0 19 423899 9
Activity Book & Play
ISBN 978 0 19 423895 0
Audio Pack
ISBN 978 0 19 4 01406 9

Word count 760
Rainforest Boy
ISBN 978 0 19 423890 8
Activity Book & Play
ISBN 978 0 19 423896 8
Audio Pack
ISBN 978 0 19 4 01406 9

150 HEADWORDS • CEFR A1
• Average word count: 700
• Cambridge English: Movers

All titles available as e-books through the Oxford Learner’s Bookshelf
Follow the adventures of Thumbelina, the little girl who comes from inside a flower.

Find out what happens when Town Mouse comes to the country and Country Mouse goes to the town.

What happens when a poor, kind man helps a swallow? And what does his rich, bad brother do? Find out in this tale from Korea...

Follow the adventures of the famous duckling. Why is he big, strange, and ugly?

Enjoy the famous tale of Aladdin and the wonderful old lamp.

Enjoy this beautiful story of the fawn Bambi’s first year of life in the forest...

Find out what happened when a little girl called Goldilocks went into the three bears’ house.

Word count 702
Thumbelina
ISBN 978 0 19 423918 9
Activity Book & Play
ISBN 978 0 19 423919 6
Audio Pack
ISBN 978 0 19 401414 4

Word count 662
The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse
ISBN 978 0 19 423910 3
Activity Book & Play
ISBN 978 0 19 423911 0
Audio Pack
ISBN 978 0 19 401398 7

Word count TBC
The Two Brothers and the Swallows
ISBN 978 0 19 423914 1
Activity Book & Play
ISBN 978 0 19 423915 8
Audio Pack
ISBN 978 0 19 401412 0

Word count 689
The Ugly Duckling
ISBN 978 0 19 423913 7
Activity Book & Play
ISBN 978 0 19 423923 3
Audio Pack
ISBN 978 0 19 4014168

Word count 1,229
Aladdin
ISBN 978 0 19 423922 6
Activity Book & Play
ISBN 978 0 19 423923 3
Audio Pack
ISBN 978 0 19 4014168

Word count 1,270
Bambi and the Prince of the Forest
ISBN 978 0 19 410020 5
Activity Book & Play
ISBN 978 0 19 410016 8
Audio CD Pack
ISBN 978 0 19 4014182

Word count 892
Goldilocks and the Three Bears
ISBN 978 0 19 423926 4
Activity Book & Play
ISBN 978 0 19 423927 1
Audio Pack
ISBN 978 0 19 4014205

Available for each reader:
• Audio Pack
• Activity Book & Play
• e-Book, Teaching notes, and answer keys available online

All titles available as e-books through the Oxford Learner’s Bookshelf
NEW STORY

The Heron and the Hummingbird
Sue Arengo

Enjoy the sad tale of the mermaid who loved a prince.

Little Red Riding Hood
Sue Arengo

Follow the adventures of the little girl who met a wolf in the forest.

Mulan
Rachel Bladon

Enjoy the famous tale of Mulan, the girl who became a soldier.

Rapunzel
Rachel Bladon

Enjoy the famous tale of Rapunzel, the girl who lived in a tower in the forest.

Cinderella
Sue Arengo

Enjoy the famous tale of Cinderella, who wanted to go to the prince’s party.

Don Quixote: Adventures of a Spanish Knight
Rachel Bladon

Enjoy a few great adventures retold from Cervantes’ famous book, Don Quixote.

Word count 862
The Heron and the Hummingbird
ISBN 978 0 19 423973 8
Activity Book & Play
ISBN 978 0 19 423977 6
Audio Pack
ISBN 978 0 19 401422 9

Word count 1,214
The Little Mermaid
ISBN 978 0 19 423934 9
Activity Book & Play
ISBN 978 0 19 423935 6
Audio Pack
ISBN 978 0 19 401428 1

Word count 1,151
Little Red Riding Hood
ISBN 978 0 19 423930 1
Activity Book & Play
ISBN 978 0 19 423931 8
Audio Pack
ISBN 978 0 19 401424 3

Word count TBC
Mulan
ISBN 978 0 19 410000 9
Activity Book & Play
ISBN 978 0 19 410002 1
Audio Pack
ISBN 978 0 19 410003 8

Word count 1,172
Rapunzel
ISBN 978 0 19 423972 1
Activity Book & Play
ISBN 978 0 19 423976 9
Audio Pack
ISBN 978 0 19 401426 7

Word count 1,654
Cinderella
ISBN 978 0 19 423942 4
Activity Book & Play
ISBN 978 0 19 423943 1
Audio Pack
ISBN 978 0 19 401435 9

Word count 1,654
Don Quixote
ISBN 978 0 19 410027 4
Activity Book & Play
ISBN 978 0 19 410023 6
Audio CD Pack
ISBN 978 0 19 410024 3

All titles available as e-books through the Oxford Learner’s Bookshelf

Available for each reader:
• Audio Pack
• Activity Book & Play
• e-Book, Teaching notes, and answer keys available online

300 HEADWORDS • CEFR A1/A2
• Average word count: 1,550
• Cambridge English: Movers
• Cambridge English: Key (KET)
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**Available for each reader:**
- Audio Pack
- Activity Book & Play
- e-Book, Teaching notes, and answer keys available online

**LEVEL 5**

400 HEADWORDS • CEFR A2/B1 • Average word count: 2,675
- Cambridge English: Key (KET)
- Cambridge English: Preliminary (PET)
Enter a world of discovery and adventure – improve your English through fact and fiction.

- Stories connect to non-fiction readers
- Picture dictionaries and glossaries help build vocabulary
- Projects develop critical-thinking skills
- Activities support Cambridge Young Learners English tests
- Audio in American and British English
- Free downloadable audio available for pre-primary levels: Early Starter, Starter, and Beginner

Speak to us
www.oup.com/elt/contact
A powerful partnership between fact and fiction

Bring CLIL into the Classroom

Oxford Read and Discover is perfect for CLIL and covers three curriculum areas:

- THE WORLD OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
- THE WORLD OF ARTS & SOCIAL STUDIES
- THE NATURAL WORLD

Written by award-winning, Oxford Reading Tree author, Paul Shipton. As read by children in the UK!
Read and discover all about art.
• What do artists paint?
• What shapes can you see in art?

Read and discover all about the beach.
• What can you find in a rockpool?
• How many legs does a prawn have?

Read and discover all about eyes.
• How many eyes does a spider have?
• Can animals see in the dark?

Read and discover all about fruit.
• What is fruit?
• How does fruit grow?

Read and discover all about the sky.
• What can you see in the sky?
• What are stars?

Read and discover all about schools around the world.
• How do students go to school?
• What do students wear at school?

Read and discover all about trees.
• What do seeds do?
• What animals live in trees?
Oxford Read and Discover

**Electricity**
Louise Spilsbury
- Read and discover all about electricity.
  - What machines use electricity?
  - What is a battery?

**Farms**
Rachel Bladon
- Read and discover all about farms.
  - What are crops?
  - What do we get from sheep?

**In the Mountains**
Richard Northcott
- Read and discover all about mountains.
  - What is a glacier?
  - What sports do people do in mountains?

**Jobs**
Kamini Khanduri
- Read and discover all about jobs.
  - Where do people work in cities?
  - What does a vet do?

**Plastic**
Louise Spilsbury
- Read and discover all about plastic.
  - How do we make plastic?
  - Can we recycle plastic?

**Sunny and Rainy**
Louise Spilsbury
- Read and discover all about weather.
  - What makes Earth warm?
  - What falls from clouds?

**Your Body**
Louise Spilsbury
- Read and discover all about your body.
  - How many bones do you have?
  - What are germs?

Available for each reader: Audio Pack (Book with audio in both American and British English) • Activity book • e-Book
Teaching ideas are available in the Teacher’s Handbook and online www.oup.com/elt/teacher/readanddiscover

Oxford Read and Imagine

**The Big Storm**
See page 29

**Sheep in the Snow**
See page 30

**The Big Snowball**
See page 29

**Clunk’s New Job**
See page 30

**Stop the Machine**
See page 30

**Clunk in the Clouds**
See page 30

**The Race**
See page 30
Read and discover all about amazing minibeasts.
- How many legs does a spider have?
- Why are earthworms important?

Read and discover all about animals in the air.
- What is the fastest bird in the world?
- What are flying foxes?

Read and discover all about festivals around the world.
- When is the festival of Diwali?
- What do people do at Halloween?

Read and discover all about how we make different products.
- How many parts are there in a car?
- How do we make chocolate bars?

Read and discover all about sound and music.
- What are sound waves?
- What type of musical instrument is a koto?
Super Structures
Fiona Undrill

Read and discover all about super structures around the world.
• What are dams made of?
• How tall can a skyscraper be?

Wonderful Water
Cheryl Pain

Read and discover all about wonderful water.
• Why is water important?
• What is the biggest ocean animal?

Your Five Senses
Robert Quinn

Read and discover all about your five wonderful senses.
• How do your eyes work?
• What’s under your skin?

All About Desert Life
Julie Penn

Read and discover all about desert life around the world.
• How do animals stay cool in the desert?
• Why are deserts getting bigger?

All About Ocean Life
Rachel Bladon

Read and discover all about life in and near the oceans.
• Which tree can live in salt water?
• How do whales breathe?

All About Plants
Julie Penn

Read and discover all about amazing plants.
• How many types of plant are there?
• Why are plants important?

A Shadow on the Park
See page 32

High Water
See page 32

The Game
See page 31

Lost in the Desert
See page 33

Swimming with Dolphins
See page 34

The Flower Thief
See page 33

750 HEADWORDS • CEFR A1/A2 • Average word count: 1,700
• Cambridge English: Movers / Flyers

Teaching ideas are available in the Teacher’s Handbook and online www.oup.com/elt/teacher/readanddiscover
THE NATURAL WORLD

Animals At Night
Rachel Bladon

Read and discover all about amazing animals at night.
- Why do some animals come out at night?
- What special senses do nocturnal animals have?

Word count 1,746
ISBN 978 0 19 464444 4
Audio Pack 978 0 19 402199 9
Activity Book 978 0 19 464445 3

Partner

Animals In Art
Richard Northcott

Read and discover all about animals in art, all around the world.
- Where can you see animals in art?
- What are the oldest animal pictures?

Word count 1,754
ISBN 978 0 19 464443 3
Audio Pack 978 0 19 402201 9
Activity Book 978 0 19 464445 3

Partner

How to Stay Healthy
Julie Penn

Read and discover all about how to stay healthy.
- How much water should you drink every day?
- Why is exercise good for you?

Word count 1,834
ISBN 978 0 19 464444 7
Audio Pack 978 0 19 402204 0
Activity Book 978 0 19 464445 2

Partner

Incredible Earth
Richard Northcott

Read and discover all about our incredible Earth.
- What is a volcano?
- Where is the deepest lake on Earth?

Word count 1,700
ISBN 978 0 19 464448 9
Audio Pack 978 0 19 402208 4
Activity Book 978 0 19 464446 6

Partner

Machines Then and Now
Robert Quinn

Read and discover all about machines in the past and today.
- When did people invent the wheel?
- What is a nanobot?

Word count 1,663
ISBN 978 0 19 464447 2
Audio Pack 978 0 19 402210 1
Activity Book 978 0 19 464449 9

Partner

Why We Recycle
Fiona Undrill

Read and discover all about why we recycle waste.
- What waste materials can we recycle?
- How long does plastic take to decompose?

Word count 1,701
ISBN 978 0 19 464454 9
Audio Pack 978 0 19 402212 5
Activity Book 978 0 19 464451 8

Partner

Wonders Of the Past
Kathryn Harper

Read and discover all about wonders of the past, all around the world.
- Where is Chichen Itza?
- What is the Taj Mahal?

Word count 1,724
ISBN 978 0 19 464441 9
Audio Pack 978 0 19 402215 5
Activity Book 978 0 19 464450 7

Partner

Available for each reader: Audio Pack (Book with audio in both American and British English) • Activity book • e-Book

All titles available as e-books through the Oxford Learner’s Bookshelf
**LEVEL 5**

900 HEADWORDS • CEFR A2/B1 • Average word count: 3,350 • Cambridge English: Flyers • Cambridge English: Key (KET)

**Oxford Read and Discover**

- **All About Islands**
  - James Styring
  - Read and discover all about islands around the world.
  - How do islands form?
  - Which island has dragons?

- **Animal Life Cycles**
  - Rachel Bladon
  - Read and discover all about amazing animal life cycles.
  - Which animals hatch from eggs?
  - What is metamorphosis?

- **Exploring Our World**
  - Jacqueline Martin
  - Read and discover all about explorers and exploring.
  - Why is exploring important?
  - Where did the first explorers go?

- **Great Migrations**
  - Rachel Bladon
  - Read and discover all about great animal migrations.
  - Why do animals migrate?
  - How do they find their way?

- **Homes Around the World**
  - Jacqueline Martin
  - Read and discover all about homes around the world.
  - What materials are homes made of?
  - Why do people build homes on stilts?

- **Materials To Products**
  - Alex Raynham
  - Read and discover all about the materials that people use to make products.
  - How is glass made?
  - What are microchips?

- **Medicine Then and Now**
  - Louise and Richard Spilsbury
  - Read and discover all about medicine in the past and medicine today.
  - What was the world’s first antibiotic?
  - What medicine can cure malaria?

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Partner

**Day of the Dinosaurs**
- See page 34

**The Bad House**
- See page 34

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Word count: 3,457
ISBN 978 0 19 444503 4
Audio Pack 978 0 19 402214 9
Activity Book 978 0 19 444513 3

Word count: 3,437
ISBN 978 0 19 444502 7
Audio Pack 978 0 19 402216 3
Activity Book 978 0 19 444512 6

Word count: 3,491
ISBN 978 0 19 444500 3
Audio Pack 978 0 19 402218 7
Activity Book 978 0 19 444510 9

Word count: 3,443
ISBN 978 0 19 444501 0
Audio Pack 978 0 19 402220 0
Activity Book 978 0 19 444515 7

Word count: 3,357
ISBN 978 0 19 444505 8
Audio Pack 978 0 19 402224 8
Activity Book 978 0 19 444516 4

Word count: 3,363
ISBN 978 0 19 444506 5
Audio Pack 978 0 19 402226 2
Activity Book 978 0 19 444514 4

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Teaching ideas are available in the Teacher’s Handbook and online www.oup.com/elt/teacher/readanddiscover

Teacher’s Handbook (Levels 3–6) 978 0 19 444375 7
Read and discover all about different types of weather.
- What is a hurricane?
- Where is the coldest place on Earth?

Read and discover all about transportation in the past and today.
- What were the first planes made of?
- How fast can solar cars travel?

Read and discover all about amazing cells and microbes.
- What are the smallest living things on Earth?
- How do antibiotics work?

Read and discover all about caring for our beautiful planet Earth.
- What is global warming?
- How can we keep our planet clean?

Read and discover all about our galaxy and everything in the universe.
- What are stars made of?
- When did the first person walk on the Moon?
Read and discover all about clothes in the past and clothes today.
• Where were your clothes made?
• What is a fashion victim?

Read and discover all about Earth in the past and Earth today.
• How did Earth form?
• What natural resources does Earth give us?

Read and discover all about food around the world.
• Where are cacao trees grown?
• What drink can you make from cherries?

Read and discover all about helping around the world.
• Who helps refugees?
• What do animal charities do?

Read and discover all about incredible energy.
• What is kinetic energy?
• What types of energy does electricity give us?

Read and discover all about wonderful ecosystems on Earth.
• How are monkeys adapted to living in their ecosystem?
• What are decomposers?

Read and discover all about your amazing body.
• How many bones are there in your skeleton?
• What do your white blood cells do?
Ben and Rosie are in a store with Grandpa. Can you see apples and bananas? And look! Can you see oranges?

Ben and Rosie are in a park with Mom, Dad, and Grandpa. But where’s the picnic?

Ben looks. What’s in the green car? What’s on the blue ball? It’s a spider. Hello, spider!

Ben has a red square. He has a red triangle. What’s this? It’s a house!

Rosie and Grandpa go to the zoo. They look at the penguins and the lions. What happens when they eat their sandwiches?

Clunk draws a tiger. Look! What colour is it?

Grandpa makes a robot. His name is Clunk. He has arms, wheels, and a head. Ben and Rosie watch. What can the robot do?
Hello, Goodbye
Paul Shipton

Grandpa, Ben, and Rosie are at the beach. Ben draws a picture in the sand. What is it?

Word count 91
ISBN 978 0 19 470921 7
Activity Book 978 0 19 470924 8

The New Dinosaur
Paul Shipton

Ben, Rosie, and Grandpa go to a museum with Clunk. There are dinosaurs in the museum. Does Clunk like the new dinosaur?

Word count TBC
ISBN 978 0 19 470923 1
Activity Book 978 0 19 470926 2

One, Two, Three
Paul Shipton

Grandpa, Ben, and Rosie are in the park. How many fish are there? How many frogs are there? And what’s on Grandpa’s head?

Word count 115
ISBN 978 0 19 470922 4
Activity Book 978 0 19 470925 5

Rosie’s Teddy Bear
Paul Shipton

Where is Rosie’s teddy bear? What does Clunk put in Rosie’s school bag?

Word count 120
ISBN 978 0 19 470924 4
Activity Book 978 0 19 470926 6

Where’s My Hat?
Paul Shipton

Grandpa has a hat. Where is it? Can Clunk see it?

Word count 108
ISBN 978 0 19 472224 0
Activity Book 978 0 19 472226 2

The Cake Machine
Paul Shipton

Grandpa has a new machine. It’s a Cake Machine. But can Grandpa make a cake for Rosie and Ben?

Word count 214
ISBN 978 0 19 472225 4
Activity Book 978 0 19 472226 2

Teaching ideas are available in the Teacher’s Handbook and online www.oup.com/elt/teacher/readandimagine
Crocodile in the House
Paul Shipton

Ben has a toy crocodile. 'Oh no! There’s a crocodile in the house!' says Clunk. 'Run!'

I’m Sorry
Paul Shipton

Rosie, Ben, and Grandpa go to the park with Grandpa’s robot, Clunk. Why does Clunk say, ‘I’m sorry’?

I Can See You!
Paul Shipton

Rosie, Ben, Alice, and Clunk are playing a game. The children look and look, but where’s Clunk?

In the Snow
Paul Shipton

There’s snow today! Ben and Rosie make a big snowman. Can Clunk the robot make a snowman?

It’s Hot!
Paul Shipton

It’s hot today! Ben and Rosie are in the backyard. They want ice cream, but what does Clunk make?

A Nice Book
Paul Shipton

Rosie, Ben, and Grandpa go to the library with Clunk. They read nice books. But what does Clunk do?

A Rainy Day
Paul Shipton

Rosie wants to play in the park. But it’s a rainy day. Can Grandpa help? He has a new machine – a weather machine!
Monkeys in School
Paul Shipton
Grandpa takes Ben and Rosie to the rainforest. But when he takes them to school, some monkeys go with them…

Today Ben’s wearing new glasses. What happens when he plays ball with his friends in the school playground? And what happens when Grandpa makes Ben some fantastic new glasses?

Rosie, Ben and Clunk the robot go to a very cold place with Grandpa. They see some little polar bears playing on the ice, but the ice is too thin. It starts to crack! Can the mother bear help them?

Ben’s Big Swim
Paul Shipton
What happens when Rosie, Ben, and Max go to the beach? They want to swim, but it is very windy, and the waves are too big. What does Grandpa do?

Ben and Rosie want to see a meteor shower. They go to space in Grandpa’s van. But what happens when a meteor hits the van? Can Clunk fix it?

Grandpa takes Ben and Rosie to the rainforest. But when he takes them to school, some monkeys go with them…

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Clunk in Space
Paul Shipton
Ben and Rosie want to see a meteor shower. They go to space in Grandpa’s van. But what happens when a meteor hits the van? Can Clunk fix it?

Grandpa takes Ben and Rosie to the rainforest. But when he takes them to school, some monkeys go with them…

Rosie, Ben and Clunk the robot go to a very cold place with Grandpa. They see some little polar bears playing on the ice, but the ice is too thin. It starts to crack! Can the mother bear help them?

On Thin Ice
Paul Shipton
Rosie, Ben and Clunk the robot go to a very cold place with Grandpa. They see some little polar bears playing on the ice, but the ice is too thin. It starts to crack! Can the mother bear help them?

Rainforest Rescue
Paul Shipton
Grandpa takes Rosie, Ben, and Alice to the rainforest to find Grandpa’s favourite fruit. What happens when they meet a baby orang-utan and two bad men?
Robbers at the Museum
Paul Shipton
Rosie, Ben, and Clunk the robot go to the art museum with Grandpa. What do they do when two robbers want to steal the art?
Word count: 579
ISBN: 978 0 19 472270 4
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 401746 6
Activity Book: 978 0 19 472246 9
Partner: Art
See page 16

The Snow Tigers
Paul Shipton
Max is in a new ice-hockey team, called The Tigers. But what happens when Grandpa and Clunk take the children to a snowy place to see a snow tiger?
Word count: 616
ISBN: 978 0 19 470933 0
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 470941 5
Activity Book: 978 0 19 470937 8
Partner: Wild Cats
See page 17

Too Fast!
Paul Shipton
Ben and Max are skateboarding in the park. What happens when a tall boy called Flip laughs at Max? And why is Flip scared when he rides Grandpa’s new skateboard?
Word count: 582
ISBN: 978 0 19 472271 1
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 401752 7
Activity Book: 978 0 19 472247 6
Partner: Wheels
See page 17

The Treehouse
Paul Shipton
Ben, Rosie, and Max are building a treehouse with Clunk the robot. But what happens when Alice’s cat, Bobby, comes into the backyard and wants to catch a bird?
Word count: 610
ISBN: 978 0 19 470932 3
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 470940 8
Activity Book: 978 0 19 470936 1
Partner: Trees
See page 16

The Big Snowball
Paul Shipton
Grandpa and Clunk take Ben and Rosie into the snowy mountains. Ben makes a snowball, and it gets bigger and bigger... find out what happens!
Word count: TBC
ISBN: 978 0 19 473651 0
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 473659 6
Activity Book: 978 0 19 473655 8
Partner: In the Mountains
See page 18

The Big Storm
Paul Shipton
Grandpa takes Rosie, Ben, and Ben’s friend Max to the mountains for a picnic. But a big storm is coming. Find out what happens.
Word count: 689
ISBN: 978 0 19 472298 8
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 401770 1
Activity Book: 978 0 19 472274 2
Partner: Electricity
See page 18

Can You See Lions?
Paul Shipton
Alice is looking for her cat. What happens when he gets into Grandpa’s van, and Rosie, Ben, and Alice arrive in a hot place with lots of animals? Maybe it’s dangerous here?
Word count: 693
ISBN: 978 0 19 472297 1
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 401755 8
Activity Book: 978 0 19 472273 5
Partner: Camouflage
See page 17
What happens when Clunk fills four weather balloons with gas? It’s fun in the clouds – but how can Clunk come down again? How can Ben, Rosie, and Grandpa help him?

Clunk finds a new job – in a restaurant! But he isn’t a good waiter and Gordon the chef is angry. Grandpa wants Clunk at home again – can Rosie, Ben, and Grandpa find him?

It’s the big city! Ben, Rosie, Max, and Grandpa go to see the tall buildings. But what happens when thieves steal Grandpa’s van? Where do they take it? Can Clunk stop them?

It’s Sports Day at school, and Ben is running in a race. But Tim is the fastest and the strongest boy in school. Find out what happens.

Ben, Rosie, and Alice are at Aunt Katy’s farm. It’s snowing, and some sheep are up on the hills. How can the children help?

Ben, Rosie, and Max are visiting the recycling center. The big machines are exciting – but oh no! Max drops his house key! Can Clunk help? What is Rosie’s idea? Find out what happens.

Ben, Max, and Clunk are in a little boat on the ocean. Where on Earth are Rosie, Alice, and Grandpa? And what’s wrong with the van?
One day, Rosie, Ben, and his friend Max got very small – as small as bugs! This was a great way to study minibeasts, but now the backyard was full of danger: ladybugs, spider webs, and birds ...

Danger! Bugs!
Paul Shipton

Ben and Max are in the rainforest with scientists Kyle and Erica. What has Max found? Is it what Kyle and Erica are looking for? And what is that loud noise?

Danger in the Rainforest
Paul Shipton

It was the day of the summer festival, and Ben and Max were having a good time. But what were those two people in the crowd saying? Did they want to steal Clunk, the robot? How could the boys stop them?

Fear at the Festival
Paul Shipton

Ben couldn’t wait to play Grandpa’s new computer game – but when he was in the game he couldn’t leave. Now Ben was in danger, and only Rosie could help! Find out what happened when Rosie put her helmet on ...

The Game
Paul Shipton

Ben and Max are in the rainforest with scientists Kyle and Erica. What has Max found? Is it what Kyle and Erica are looking for? And what is that loud noise?

Get Us Out of Here!
Paul Shipton

Available for each reader: Audio Pack (Book with audio in both American and British English) • Activity book • e-Book
In the Eagle’s Nest
Paul Shipton

Grandpa takes Ben, Rosie, Alice, and Clunk high in the mountains to study eagles. When they find a nest, the eagles think that Clunk is food! Will Clunk be dinner? And what happens when two climbers find the nest?

The New Sound
Paul Shipton

Alice’s aunt is visiting the city to play violin in an orchestra. But where is her expensive violin? Who has it? Find out how Ben, Rosie, Alice, and a rock band called The New Sound help Aunt Emma ...

A Shadow on the Park
Paul Shipton

Grandpa, Ben, Rosie, and Josh go to the playground, but it is cold. A new building is making a shadow on the park. Can Kelly the architect fix it? And why is a teenager climbing up a crane?

Soccer in the Street
Paul Shipton

Ben is going to play a soccer match, but he wants new soccer shoes. Far away, a boy called Victor plays soccer in the street. He’s a fantastic player. He doesn’t have any soccer shoes. Find out how the two boys become friends, and what Ben learns.

Word count 1,081
ISBN 978 0 19 472333 6
Audio Pack 978 0 19 472331 2
Activity Book 978 0 19 472310 7

Word count 1,031
ISBN 978 0 19 472334 3
Audio Pack 978 0 19 41979 8
Activity Book 978 0 19 472307 7

Word count 1,002
ISBN 978 0 19 472330 5
Audio Pack 978 0 19 401977 8
Activity Book 978 0 19 472304 0

Word count TBC
ISBN 978 0 19 473674 9
Audio Pack 978 0 19 473682 4
Activity Book 978 0 19 473678 7
**LEVEL 4**

- **Bats!**
  - Author: Paul Shipton
  - Description: Ben, Rosie, Grandpa, and Clunk are camping with their friends, Max and Alice. Clunk has gone to the van, but where have Ben and Rosie gone? Can Nicole the park ranger help Grandpa find them? And what is moving quickly in the dark?
  - Word count: 1,358
  - ISBN: 978 0 19 473696 1
  - Audio Pack: 978 0 19 473704 3
  - Activity Book: 978 01 9 473700 5

- **Clunk's Brain**
  - Author: Paul Shipton
  - Description: What was wrong with Clunk the robot? Ben, Rosie, Max, and Grandpa didn’t know where he was, and his brain computer was turned off. So how did they find Clunk, and why did they go to the junkyard?
  - Word count: 1,402
  - ISBN: 978 0 19 473697 8
  - Audio Pack: 978 0 19 473705 0
  - Activity Book: 978 01 9 473700 5

- **The Flower Thief**
  - Author: Paul Shipton
  - Description: At the city’s gardens, Ben, Max, and Clunk are in the van, looking at some amazing flowers. Grandpa, Rosie, and Alice want to see the fantastic orchids... but they’re gone! Can Grandpa and the children help Doctor Lee find the flower thief?
  - Word count: 1,370
  - ISBN: 978 0 19 473699 2
  - Audio Pack: 978 0 19 473707 4
  - Activity Book: 978 01 9 473703 6

- **Inside Clunk**
  - Author: Paul Shipton
  - Description: Clunk fell over, and he was getting hotter and hotter. Grandpa, Ben, and Max had to do something quickly... What happened when they took the van inside Clunk to try to fix the problem? Could they help Clunk?
  - Word count: TBC
  - ISBN: 978 0 19 473698 5
  - Audio Pack: 978 0 19 473706 7
  - Activity Book: 978 01 9 473702 9

- **The Lost City**
  - Author: Paul Shipton
  - Description: In the rainforest, there is a Lost City of Gold. And in the Lost City, there is a beautiful gold statue. Ben, Rosie, and Grandpa visit the city with Silvia, an archaeologist. But other people know about the city too, and want that statue...
  - Word count: 1,358
  - ISBN: 978 0 19 472364 0
  - Audio Pack: 978 0 19 401988 0
  - Activity Book: 978 01 9 472338 1

- **Lost in the Desert**
  - Author: Paul Shipton
  - Description: The van is broken, Grandpa is sick, there’s something wrong with Clunk – and Rosie, Ben, and Max are lost in a desert! It’s hot in the day and cold at night, and they don’t have a lot of water. Can they find help?
  - Word count: 1,371
  - ISBN: 978 0 19 472362 6
  - Audio Pack: 978 0 19 402112 8
  - Activity Book: 978 01 9 472339 8

**NEW**

- **Animals at Night**
  - See page 21

- **Why We Recycle**
  - See page 21

- **All About Plants**
  - See page 21

- **How to Stay Healthy**
  - See page 21

- **Wonders of the Past**
  - See page 21

- **All About Desert Life**
  - See page 20

- **Machines Then and Now**
  - See page 21

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**Oxford Read and Imagine**

**LEVEL 5**

- **A Machine for the Future**
  - Author: Paul Shipton
  - Description: Why were Ben, Rosie, and Max beside this dark swamp? Why was an amazing machine sinking in it? Could Ben and Clunk get the machine out fast and take everyone home? And what about those hungry alligators?
  - Word count: 1,353
  - ISBN: 978 0 19 472364 0
  - Audio Pack: 978 0 19 401988 0
  - Activity Book: 978 01 9 472338 1

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750 Headwords • CEFR A1 – A2 • Average word count: 1,294 • Cambridge English: Movers & Flyers
When Rosie and Ben wanted to understand an old cave painting, Grandpa took them back in time in his amazing van. Soon they were in a cold place with mammoths and wolves – and the van was in a hole. How could they get home? And why was there light in the cave?

When scientist Jim Wood invited Grandpa to visit his fantastic new house, Rosie went too. But where was Jim Wood? And what was his house computer, Vesta, doing? Could Rosie find a way out of this bad house?

When Rosie and Alice found a painting in the attic, Alice’s grandma gave it to a gallery to be studied. But why was the woman from the gallery on TV with Grandma Vera’s painting? Would the police believe she stole it? And would Grandma ever get her painting back?
Trouble on the Eastern Express
Paul Shipton

Grandpa was excited to take Ben into the past for a trip on a fantastic old train. But what happened when Rosie, Alice, and Clunk found out that robbers were on the train? Could they stop the train before something terrible happened?

Hope on Turtle Island
Paul Shipton

Why were Ben and Rosie hiding on the Moon? On Earth, people were watching live pictures from the Moon. They’d seen one astronaut return to the landing vehicle. But where was the second astronaut? Why did the pictures suddenly stop? What was the secret on the Moon?

Invisible
Paul Shipton

I’m the greatest criminal in this city. I’ve never been caught by the police, and I never will be caught,” said Cooger. But what was this clever – and dangerous – man planning? And could Ben and Rosie stop him from stealing Grandpa’s inventions – and a lot more, too?

The Secret on the Moon
Paul Shipton

Why were Ben and Rosie hiding on the Moon? On Earth, people were watching live pictures from the Moon. They’d seen one astronaut return to the landing vehicle. But where was the second astronaut? Why did the pictures suddenly stop? What was the secret on the Moon?

What’s So Funny?
Paul Shipton

A mysterious gas is escaping from a hole in the Happy World tanker. Soon, everyone is laughing, but they don’t know why. What will happen when the laughter stops? Can Grandpa find a cure for the laughing illness before it’s too late?
Dominoes

Founder Editors:
Bill Bowler and Sue Parminter

BEGINNER TO INTERMEDIATE • CEFR: A1–B1
FICTION/NON-FICTION: 4 LEVELS

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Chapter 6
A true magician

Vortigern’s men bring Merlin to the hill.

‘Here’s the demon’s sorc’’ Morffon tells Vortigern. ‘Kill him. I can make a potion with his blood, and put it on the ground. Then you can finish your castle.’

‘Morffon’s my enemy! And he’s wrong!’ Merlin cries. ‘There are two dragons under the hill. I can see them through the ground.’

‘Dragons?’ Vortigern asks.

‘Yes,’ Merlin cries. ‘A red dragon and a white dragon. When they fight, the walls fall down.’

The dragons hear Merlin’s cries, and they come up angrily through the ground. They are fighting, and breathing fire and smoke.

‘I can stop them!’ Morffon says. He pretends to do some magic, but he is not a true magician. The dragons breathe fire on Morffon, and kill him.

Merlin quickly changes the weather. Suddenly there’s a wall of rain in front of the dragons. They move up into the sky. When the rain goes, the dragons are far away.

“You’re a true magician!” Vortigern cries. He finishes his castle, and calls for Merlin. ‘Tell me about the future!’ the king says.

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<td>Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves</td>
<td>Sherlock Holmes: The Dying Detective</td>
<td>Lisa’s Song</td>
<td>Crying Wolf and Other Tales</td>
<td>The First Flying Man</td>
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<td>Perseus</td>
<td>The Little Match Girl</td>
<td>The Sorcerer’s Apprentice</td>
<td>Pebbles on the Beach</td>
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<td>Troy</td>
<td>The Selfish Giant</td>
<td>Zombie Attack!</td>
<td>The Skateboarder</td>
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**Comic Strips** use a small amount of text and are very closely supported by the illustrations. Great for reluctant readers!
Ali Baba finds a thieves’ treasure cave, and he is suddenly rich. Then his brother Kasim visits the cave, and things go wrong. The forty thieves find Kasim there, kill him, and cut him into four pieces. What can Ali Baba do? He wants to bury his brother quietly, but how can he? Morgiana, his servant-girl, has the answer. But what can she do when the thieves find Ali Baba and want to kill him, too?

"Help! A wolf is eating my sheep!" What happens when a bored shepherd boy lies to the people in his village – or when he later tells the truth? What do a man and his wife do when their goose lays golden eggs? And what can two travellers learn from a bear in the woods? These three old Greek tales teach us important truths about people today.

"I want to fly later this year."
"So it’s a race," laughs Lagari.
"Yes," smiles Hezarfen. The time is the 1630s. Sultan Murat IV rules the Ottoman Empire. Two Istanbul brothers – Hezarfen Ahmet Celebi and Lagari Hasan – dream of flying. Which of them can be the first flying man? And what does the Sultan give to the winner of the race? Read this story and find the answers.

"It’s a cold winter’s day, and a poor little girl can’t sell any of her matches to people in the street. She can’t go home with no money. But how can she stay warm?"

That 31st December, the little match girl sees rich people’s homes, Christmas trees, and wonderful things to eat. She remembers also her kind grandmother – now sadly dead. Can the New Year make things any better for the poor young girl?

"Be careful with Morfran," Princess Adhan tells her young son, Merlin. Morfran, the son of the Enchantress Ceridwen, is a bully. Then one day, Merlin drinks one of Ceridwen’s magic potions. After this, he can become different animals, see through walls, change the weather, and look into the future. But Morfran is angry with Merlin when Ceridwen dies. Years later, Morfran – now King Vortigern’s magician – plans to kill Merlin, the boy with no father. How can Merlin’s magic powers help him to fight his old enemy?

Dramatized audio available for every book.
Audio recording: AmE = American English  BrE = British English
Selected titles available as e-books through the Oxford Learner’s Bookshelf.
Abby is a teenager, and she doesn’t talk much to her parents. Abby’s dad works hard for an oil company, and Abby’s mom doesn’t like her friends. Then, one summer, Abby stays with her crazy aunt May and Uncle Amos in California. Abby’s mom doesn’t like her around her house, Hannah is near her house, Hannah is suddenly very interested in skateboarding. How do Mom, Dad, brother Evan, and cousin Justin feel about this? Who helps her? Who laughs at her? And who teaches her to be a true skateboarder in the end? This story has the answers.

What can Abby, her aunt, and the neighbours do? And who answers Abby’s call for help? And how?

‘It’s my garden,’ says the Giant, ‘People must understand. Nobody can play here – only me!’

So the children leave, and the Selfish Giant puts a wall around his garden. After that, it’s always winter there.

‘Come quickly, Dr Watson,’ says Mrs Hudson. ‘Sherlock Holmes is dying!’

Sherlock Holmes was trying to solve a murder. But now he has a terrible illness, and he is not his normal self. Can his friend Watson help him? Can the strange Mr Culverton Smith help him? Or will Sherlock Holmes die?

‘I love Owen’s skateboarding,’ Hannah thinks. ‘I want to jump and do tricks, too.’

When a skatepark opens near her house, Hannah is suddenly very interested in skateboarding. How do Mom, Dad, brother Evan, and cousin Justin feel about this? Who helps her? Who laughs at her? And who teaches her to be a true skateboarder in the end? This story has the answers.

‘What’s your job?’ Yukio asks.

‘I’m a sorcerer,’ the old man smiles, ‘and I need a young apprentice.’

One day, Yukio – a young boy from old Japan – leaves town. He finds interesting work there, as a sorcerer’s apprentice. But why must Yukio wait to learn magic? And what happens after he puts a spell on a broom when the sorcerer is away?

‘I see Troy in flames years from now – because Paris brings disaster to us,’ Queen Hecuba says about her son.

Paris’s father, King Priam, wants to kill him. But Paris lives, and later loves Helen – King Menelaus’s queen – from Greece. When Paris brings Helen to Troy, war begins between the Trojans and Greeks.

What happens when Paris’s brother Hector and the Greek fighter Achilles meet in battle? Who wins the war, and how? Read Troy and find the answers.
Professor Clark’s work usually helps people. But this is something new.’

Clark’s helper – Tasha

Kiara – is telling Chaz – a local TV reporter about the Professor’s new serum.

Then an earthquake hits Clark’s California lab, and his serum brings dead bodies in the cemetery alive. Soon the zombies attack!

What happens to Professor Clark? How can Tasha and Chaz stop the zombies? Who lives and who dies? Read this story and see.

Word count 1,488
ISBN 978 0 19 424986 7
Audio Pack 978 0 19 463910 1 AmE

The year is 1717. It is a bad time to be the captain of a ship in the Caribbean because of pirates. The most frightening pirate on the sea is Edward Teach, or ‘Blackbeard’.

‘The Governor of Virginia wants us all dead!’ Blackbeard thinks. ‘But can he kill me – the most famous pirate in the Caribbean? No!’

This is his story…

Word count 2,210
ISBN 978 0 19 424714 6
Audio Pack 978 0 19 463924 8 BrE

Today you can go round the world in eighty days,’ says Phileas Fogg. ‘Do it, and I pay you £20,000,’ says his friend Stuart.

This is the beginning of one of Jules Verne’s most exciting stories. Phileas Fogg must get back to London by December 21st or lose all his money. With the help of his servant, Passepartout, Fogg travels in many ways – from train to elephant – and he has some surprising adventures on the way.

Word count 2,176
ISBN 978 0 19 424710 8
Audio Pack 978 0 19 463927 9 BrE

Word count 3,496
ISBN 978 0 19 424552 4
Audio Pack 978 0 19 463928 6 AmE

Word count 1,590
ISBN 978 0 19 424708 5
Audio Pack 978 0 19 463912 5 AmE

Word count 1,918
ISBN 978 0 19 424701 6
Audio Pack 978 0 19 463911 8 BrE

Word count 1,488
ISBN 978 0 19 424986 7
Audio Pack 978 0 19 463910 1 AmE
It’s London, 1666. It’s a hot, dry summer. A small fire starts in a baker’s shop in Pudding Lane. Soon the city of London is burning and the fire-fighters can’t stop it. The fire starts in a baker’s shop in Pudding Lane. Soon the city is burning and the fire-fighters can’t stop it. A small fire starts in a baker’s shop in Pudding Lane. Soon the city of London is burning and the fire-fighters can’t stop it. A small fire starts in a baker’s shop in Pudding Lane. Soon the city of London is burning and the fire-fighters can’t stop it. It’s London, 1666. It’s a hot, dry summer. A small fire starts in a baker’s shop in Pudding Lane. Soon the city of London is burning and the fire-fighters can’t stop it. A small fire starts in a baker’s shop in Pudding Lane. Soon the city of London is burning and the fire-fighters can’t stop it. A small fire starts in a baker’s shop in Pudding Lane. Soon the city of London is burning and the fire-fighters can’t stop it. It’s London, 1666. It’s a hot, dry summer. A small fire starts in a baker’s shop in Pudding Lane. Soon the city of London is burning and the fire-fighters can’t stop it. A small fire starts in a baker’s shop in Pudding Lane. Soon the city of London is burning and the fire-fighters can’t stop it. A small fire starts in a baker’s shop in Pudding Lane. Soon the city of London is burning and the fire-fighters can’t stop it. It’s London, 1666. It’s a hot, dry summer. A small fire starts in a baker’s shop in Pudding Lane. Soon the city of London is burning and the fire-fighters can’t stop it. A small fire starts in a baker’s shop in Pudding Lane. Soon the city of London is burning and the fire-fighters can’t stop it. A small fire starts in a baker’s shop in Pudding Lane. Soon the city of London is burning and the fire-fighters can’t stop it.
TRUE TALES
Mulan
Retold by Janet Hardy-Gould

A Pretty Face
John Escott

Rip Van Winkle & The Legend of Sleepy Hollow
Washington Irving
Text adaptation by Alan Hines

Sheherazade
Retold by Bill Bowler

Sherlock Holmes: The Speckled Band
Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
Text adaptation by Laslay Thompson

World Literature
Sinbad
Retold by Janet Hardy-Gould

A Pretty Face

- Zoe Baker works in a bookstore. She also likes acting, and she has a part in the play Romeo and Juliet. Mike Morrison writes about the play for the newspaper. What does he write about Zoe? Is Zoe a good actress... or is she just ‘a pretty face’?

- Zoe thinks when she reads the newspaper. What does she do?

Rip Van Winkle & The Legend of Sleepy Hollow

- In the first of these stories, Rip Van Winkle sleeps for over twenty years, and then wakes up to a world that he no longer understands. In the other story, Ichabod Crane, the school teacher, meets a headless rider in the middle of a dark night. These two classic tales of the supernatural by Washington Irving have been popular for nearly two hundred years.

- In the story ‘The Legend of Sleepy Hollow’, Rip Van Winkle is a unique character, and Ichabod Crane is a memorable school teacher. Ichabod meets a headless rider - but does he know that she is a woman? And can Mulan fall in love with a friend?

Sheherazade

- King Shahriyar cannot trust women. Every afternoon he marries a wife, but the next morning he always kills her. One day, the Visier cannot find any more wives for the King. What can he do?

- ‘I can be Shahriyar’s new wife!’ says Sheherazade, the Visier’s daughter. ‘God willing I can stay alive, and help the women of our country.’ But how can Sheherazade stay alive for a thousand and one nights? And does Shahriyar learn to trust women again in the end?

Sherlock Holmes: The Speckled Band

- ‘Help me,’ says Helen Stoner. ‘My sister died, and now I am going to die too.’ Sherlock Holmes and Dr Watson must answer the question of how Julia Stoner died, two years ago. If they cannot, then Helen Stoner will die too. But her house is very strange - and her stepfather, Dr Grimesby Roylott, is very angry and does not want Holmes there. Who killed Julia, and how? And why did she say ‘The speckled band!’ before she died?

Sinbad

- Sinbad the sailor spends many years at sea. He visits strange countries, meets some strange people and some very frightening animals. He is sometimes rich, sometimes poor... and always in danger. But all the time he is learning from his adventures, until finally he returns home to Baghdad, an older and wiser man.

The Tempest

- Prospero, the Duke of Milan, and his daughter Miranda are far away from home, alone on an island in the middle of the Mediterranean Sea. They want to return to Milan...

- Then, one day, Prospero sees a ship near the island carrying his greatest enemies. Prospero, with the help of his magic and the island spirit, Ariel, makes a magic storm – a tempest – to bring them to the island.

Word count 1,917
ISBN 978 0 19 424706 1
Audio Pack 978 0 19 463917 0 AmE

Word count 2,541
ISBN 978 0 19 424704 7
Audio Pack 978 0 19 463923 1 AmE

Word count 2,000
ISBN 978 0 19 424716 0
Audio Pack 978 0 19 463919 4 BrE

Word count 3,350
ISBN 978 0 19 424714 6
Audio Pack 978 0 19 463918 7 AmE

Word count 3,371
ISBN 978 0 19 460905 0
Audio Pack 978 0 19 463920 0 BrE

Word count 2,782
ISBN 978 0 19 424709 2
Audio Pack 978 0 19 463931 6 BrE

Word count 2,359
ISBN 978 0 19 424707 8
Audio Pack 978 0 19 463921 7 BrE
In 1386 a number of pilgrims are going to Canterbury to visit the tomb of Saint Thomas Becket, and they all tell stories on the way.

Who should be the stronger in a marriage – the husband or the wife? And what happens when two men fall in love with the same woman? In these five stories from Geoffrey Chaucer’s Canterbury Tales we find different answers to these questions from the Knight, the Wife of Bath, the Clerk of Oxford, the Merchant, and the Franklin. 

For thousands of years the dead body of the young king Tutankhamun sleeps under the sands of Egypt. Then, in the autumn of 1922, Howard Carter and his friends find and open his tomb door. These are exciting times, and Carter’s young helper Tariq tells the story in his diary.

But soon people begin to die. Who or what is the killer? Is Tutankhamun angry with them for opening his tomb? And who is the beautiful French girl with the face of Tutankhamun’s long-dead wife?

Tino wants to be a famous football player, and now is his chance – he is playing in his first game for an important team! But not everyone wants to help him. His father won’t come to watch him play. His team captain, Lenda, thinks he is a bad player. And what about the other team? Their captain is very big – and very mean!

How will Tino do? What will happen to his friends, and his team? What will his family do? And who will win?
Frankenstein
Mary Shelley
Text adaptation by Bill Bowler

"My name is Victor Frankenstein."
On a ship in the Arctic, Victor Frankenstein – ill and tired – tells the story of his sad life to the British man of science, Robert Walton. He talks of his family and friends in Geneva, and of his love for beautiful Elizabeth Lavenza. He speaks, too, about the terrible creature that he made from dead body parts when he was a university science student. He hates this monster, which has science student. He hates when he was a university made from dead body parts terrible creature that he

Anna is a new student at Oxford University. When she
It is 1865. Impey Barbicane and J.T. Maston are very good with guns and explosives, and want to do something important – so they decide to build a big gun and use it to go to the Moon. But no-one has gone to the Moon before, and many people, like the great Captain Nicholl, believe that it cannot be done. What will happen when Barbicane and Nicholl meet? And will the men who try to go to the Moon come back alive?

Chris leaves his home in a small town in Australia to go and study at the University of Sydney. He needs to find somewhere to live. It is 1865. Impey Barbicane and J.T. Maston are very good with guns and explosives, and want to do something important – so they decide to build a big gun and use it to go to the Moon. But no-one has gone to the Moon before, and many people, like the great Captain Nicholl, believe that it cannot be done. What will happen when Barbicane and Nicholl meet? And will the men who try to go to the Moon come back alive?

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'Ten days. And then they want to take her back home.'
'Ah, yes. But she's not going back to London. They're never going to see her again!'
'Jamie and Taymour overhear this strange conversation near their home in Muscat. Two men want to kill an important visitor, it seems. But who is the woman in danger? And what can the boys do to save her?'
'Can they, their sisters Sarah and Nadine, and their Australian friend Ruth find the answer to the mystery?'

- Mystery in Muscat
  Julie Till

- Peter Pan
  J. M. Barrie
  Text adaptation by Alex Raynham

- Pollyanna
  Eleanor H. Porter
  Text adaptation by Bill Bowler

- The Real McCoy & Other Ghost Stories
  Lesley Thompson

- Sherlock Holmes: The Blue Diamond
  Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
  Text adaptation by Bill Bowler

- Sherlock Holmes: The Emerald Crown
  Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
  Text adaptation by Janet Hardy-Gould

- Sherlock Holmes: The Top-Secret Plans
  Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
  Text adaptation by Jeremy Page

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When Pollyanna’s father dies, she goes to live with her Aunt, Miss Polly Harrington. Miss Harrington likes doing good, but she doesn’t like children very much! Pollyanna always tries to find the good in everything. She soon makes many different people in her new home feel happier. But is Miss Polly’s life going to change for better or worse after her niece arrives? And what happens to Pollyanna when she has a very bad accident?

‘Are you scared, Gordon?’ asks Heather.
Four friends talk of ghosts in a hotel in Scotland. That night Gordon sees and hears something strange in his room. But is it really the ghost of Lord McCoy? These six stories tell of ghosts – friendly, sad, and bad – from Britain, Australia, New Zealand, America – and Egypt!

‘He’s an intelligent man. He was once rich and is now poor. His wife loved him once, but she doesn’t love him now. And he’s thirty or forty years old.’
One look at an old hat, solves it for me. And he’s thirty or forty years old.’

A man from the British royal family leaves an expensive gold and emerald crown at Holder and Stevenson’s – one of the best banks in London. When someone tries to take the crown from Mr Holder’s desk, he asks Sherlock Holmes for help. Who wants the crown and why? Only Sherlock can find the answers.

‘This telegram is from my brother Mycroft,’ said Holmes. ‘He wants to speak to me at once about Mr Arthur Cadogan. Do you know this man, Watson?’
‘I saw something about him in today’s newspaper,’ I answered.
When a young man dies on a London Underground line, top-secret plans for a new British submarine go missing. But who is Cadogan’s killer, why did he die, and where are the missing papers? Sherlock Holmes and Doctor Watson must quickly help Mycroft to answer these important questions.

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How much do you know about the Wild West? What do you know about cowboys and Indians, about wagon trails and gunfights? Inside this book you will find the true story of the Wild West, and of some of the famous people who lived and worked there. People like Wyatt Earp, Jesse James, Billy the Kid – and Annie Oakley, the best shot in the West.

It’s Gromit the dog’s birthday, and his friend Wallace gives him an unusual present – a pair of Techno-trousers. At first Wallace uses the trousers to take Gromit for walks, but when the penguin comes to stay, he uses them one night for something very different – very different. This strange story won the Oscar® for Best Animated Short Film in 1993.

When ship after ship goes down in the Atlantic, Dr Pierre Aronnax and his servant, Conseil, journey from Paris to learn more. What – or who – is attacking these ships? Aronnax, Conseil, and the Canadian, Ned Land, find the answer to this question when they meet the strange Captain Nemo. After a long journey under the sea in Nemo’s submarine, the Nautilus, the doctor and his friends plan to leave for the surface. But how can they escape?

‘My first journey was a pilgrimage to Makkah. I got on a donkey and said “Goodbye” to my parents in Tangier when I was 21. My mother cried.’ In this way Ibn Battuta, one of the greatest travellers in the world, begins telling his story to his nephew, Ahmed. His many journeys take him to new and interesting places far from home. He sees many strange and wonderful things, has many funny and frightening experiences, and meets many different people along the way. This is his story...

Word count 6,173
ISBN 978 0 19 424765 8
Audio Pack 978 0 19 463949 1 BrE & AmE

Word count 2,847
ISBN 978 0 19 424980 5
Audio Pack 978 0 19 463950 7 BrE

Word count 4,568
ISBN 978 0 19 424768 9
Audio Pack 978 0 19 465295 7 BrE & AmE

Word count 6,015
ISBN 978 0 19 424771 9
Audio Pack 978 0 19 463953 8 BrE & AmE

Word count 6,100
ISBN 978 0 19 424767 1
Audio Pack 978 0 19 463952 1 AmE

Word count 4,338
ISBN 978 0 19 424757 3
Audio Pack 978 0 19 424721 4 BrE
HUMAN INTEREST

Ariadne’s Story
Joyce Hannam

When he went home to Athens, the great prince Theseus left me on the island of Naxos. But why did he leave me? Everyone says that he was tired of me. But when we met, I was the princess of Crete and the most beautiful woman in the Aegean Sea.

Ariadne’s story is one woman’s tale of secret love, adventure, and of escape – both from danger and from a life that she wanted to leave far behind her – many years ago in Ancient Greece...

Word count: 9,104
ISBN: 978 0 19 424888 4
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 443955 2 BrE

STORY COLLECTIONS

The Bird of Happiness and Other Wise Tales
Retold by Tim Herdon

‘When he went home to Athens, the great prince Theseus left me on the island of Naxos. But why did he leave me? Everyone says that he was tired of me. But when we met, I was the princess of Crete and the most beautiful woman in the Aegean Sea.

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Word count: 8,731
ISBN: 978 0 19 424881 5
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 463957 6 BrE & AmE

TV & FILM ADVENTURE

A Close Shave™
Aardman
Text adaptation by Bill Bowler

When Wallace the inventor meets Wendolene in her wool shop, he falls in love with her at once. But why does her dog, Preston, hate Wallace’s dog, Gromit? Then, after Wallace’s new sheep-shaving and pullover-making machine falls into the wrong hands, things start to go very wrong. Can Gromit save Wallace from the danger of a ‘close shave’?

Word count: 8,230
ISBN: 978 0 19 424881 5
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 463958 3 AmE

TV & FILM ADVENTURE

Conan the Barbarian: The Jewels of Gwahlur
Robert E. Howard
Text adaptation by Bill Bowler

Conan goes to the great, empty city of Alkmeenon. He wants to steal the Jewels of Gwahlur – but so does his enemy, Zargeba. In the city, Conan meets Muriela, who is clever and good at acting. With her help, Conan thinks he will win. But there are things happening in Alkmeenon that Conan does not understand – strange, terrible things.

Will Conan get the jewels, or will Zargeba? And what is the secret of Alkmeenon?

Word count: 9,238
ISBN: 978 019 424456 1
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 463959 0 AmE

TV & FILM ADVENTURE

The Curse of Capistrano
Johnston McCulley
Text adaptation by Bill Bowler

‘Señor Zorro is on the road again, they say,’ the landlord began. ‘Why do I always hear his name?’ cried Sergeant Gonzales angrily.

Zorro fights to help the poor and weak in California under the Spanish Governor’s rule. Sergeant Gonzales has promised to catch and kill him, so how does Zorro always escape? And how will Señorita Lolita – the only daughter of a fine but poor old family – choose between Zorro, the exciting outlaw, and Don Diego, the rich but boring young man who wants to marry her?

Word count: 9,065
ISBN: 978 0 19 424892 1
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 463965 1 BrE
Dramatized audio available for every book
Audio recording: AmE = American English   BrE = British English
Selected titles available as e-books through the Oxford Learner’s Bookshelf

STORY COLLECTIONS
Eight Great American Tales
O. Henry
Text adaptation by Bill Bowler

Emma
Jane Austen
Text adaptation by Barbara Mackay

Green Planet
Christine Lindop

Jemma’s Jungle Adventure
Anne Collins

Lord Arthur Savile’s Crime and Other Stories
Oscar Wilde
Text adaptation by Bill Bowler

The Lost World
Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
Text adaptation by Susan Kingsley

World Literature
Nicholas Nickleby
Charles Dickens
Text adaptation by Tim Herdon

HUMAN INTEREST
Jemma’s Jungle Adventure
Anne Collins

What does a poor young woman do when she loses her boyfriend or wants to find one? What little lies do we tell to make ourselves look better in the eyes of those that we love? How can a friend save someone who is sure that they are going to die? What happens when someone’s clever plans all go wrong? These sweetly surprising short stories – about both good times and bad – are sometimes sad, and sometimes funny. But all of them are sure to make you think.

Emma Woodhouse is beautiful, clever, and rich. She lives alone with her father, and spends a lot of her time thinking about future husbands – for her friends. When she meets Harriet Smith, a poor girl with no family, Emma decides that she must find a husband for her. Harriet is pleased to be Emma’s friend – but will Emma’s matchmaking make Harriet happy?

Once ‘green’ was just a colour. Now we use it to talk about a way of looking at our world and thinking about the environment. But how green is our planet today?

Jemma is very excited when she joins an expedition to the island of Kamora. She hopes to learn about doing scientific research, and to find a very rare bird of paradise.

The three stories in this book are about ordinary people, people like you and me; but they find themselves in surprising situations.

When his father dies a poor man, Nicholas Nickleby goes to London and takes a teaching job at Dotheboys Hall – a terrible school belonging to Mr Wackford Squeers. There he helps a poor boy called Smike who has no one to look after him. Leaving Dotheboys, Nicholas makes both friends and enemies on his journey towards better things. But will Smike, who travels with him, ever find the happy family life that he so dearly wants?
'Good afternoon, Octopussy,' said Major Dexter Smythe to 'I’ll do my best, Uncle.' When Yusuf went to Aleppo to learn to fight under General Shirkuh, no one knew what this young man would do with his life. But years later, Yusuf became the great and chivalrous general, Saladin – the man who helped to bring Muslims together to win back the holy city of Jerusalem from the Franks. This is his story...

‘Well, Yusuf, are you sure that you want to be a soldier?’ ‘I’ll do my best, Uncle.’ When Yusuf went to Aleppo to learn to fight under General Shirkuh, no one knew what this young man would do with his life. But years later, Yusuf became the great and chivalrous general, Saladin – the man who helped to bring Muslims together to win back the holy city of Jerusalem from the Franks. This is his story...

Sara has exams to study for, but too much is happening! A girl from her school is dead, her boyfriend Luke is being strange, and her friend Carlie is keeping secrets. Could it all be connected?

‘For me, Watson, life is not so interesting,’ says Holmes. ‘I loved to read the newspaper, hoping to find some news of an interesting crime for me to investigate or a dangerous criminal for me to catch. Where are all those clever criminals these days?’

Then, suddenly, a wild, excited young man runs up the stairs to Holmes’ room. He has a story to tell about a strange crime that took place in Norwood. But who is the criminal? And is he dangerous? Life, for Holmes, suddenly starts to get interesting.

It is the year 1627, and young d’Artagnan comes to Paris with a dream – to become a King’s Musketeer. Three of these brave soldiers – Porthos, Athos and Aramis – soon become his friends. After a short time d’Artagnan has fallen in love – and into great danger. Can the three musketeers and d’Artagnan fight against the evil plans of the beautiful Milady and the cruel Cardinal Richelieu?

A young woman arrives at a large country house. Her job is to look after the two children who live there, but she soon discovers that there is something very strange about both the house and the children. The longer she stays, the more she feels that the two children who live there, but she soon discovers that there is something very strange about both the house and the children. The longer she stays, the more she feels that the two children are in danger – or is it that the children are the danger, and the person in danger is herself?

'There’s some bad weather out there,' Captain MacWhirr said to himself just before he sailed his ship, the Nan-Shan, into the middle of the most terrible storm in the South China Sea. The typhoon brings out the best in some men on the ship, and the worst in others. Can MacWhirr bring the ship through the storm safely?

And what will happen to all the poor Chinese workers travelling home down in the ship’s hold?
‘He’s great, Vera,’ said Angie. ‘When Viktor Sarav takes a job at Ballantine’s, Angie and her brother Don – the young owners of the New York fashion company – are pleased. But soon there are strange deaths in the company. Is there a vampire at work at Ballantine’s? Vera Donato, a company director with secrets to hide, is against Viktor. But Ed Valdemar, the company lawyer, trusts him. Who is right?’

‘You’re in Paris and you aren’t even happy to be here!’ said Mum. ‘So what?’ I said. ‘Places don’t make you happy, do they? People make you happy. And all my friends are in London.’

‘We’ll be friends, you and I. I’ll call you Joey,’ Albert said. ‘I’ll look after you. We’ll always be friends, I promise.’

Albert Narracott, a farmer’s boy, makes this promise to his horse, Joey, in Devon, England. But this is before the First World War, and before Joey leaves for France to become a war horse. What happens to Joey in the British army? And what will the Germans and the French do to him when they find him? And how will Albert find Joey again?

Vic has no friends. Everyone else has friends, and it makes him angry. So, Vic makes a new name for himself online, so he can make other people feel the way he does. But soon Vic finds it difficult to control what he has created…

‘Conan!’ cried Valeria. ‘What are you doing here?’

Conan the Barbarian follows Valeria the Pirate south. Together they escape from a fierce dragon, and enter a strange city in the desert. Two enemy clans live in the city, and Conan and Valeria are soon asked to join in the war between them. This adventure story – full of battles, magic, and terrible monsters – is about two friendly fighters. But who are their enemies? And what is the secret of the black pillar with the red nails in it?
What happens when a man lives his life backwards, or a family owns a diamond as big as the Ritz Hotel? How can a boring girl become more popular, or a cut-glass bowl destroy a married woman's life? What does a young man like from an evil ghost, or careless young woman become more sensible, or a family possess a diamond as big as the Ritz Hotel? For fourteen long years he waits for the right moment to escape. And now Edmond Dantès is a rich man, with many disguises, and a new name. The Count of Monte Cristo begins his revenge…

The year is 1757. The English and the French are at war in North America. Two sisters – Cora and Alice – want to visit their father, General Munro. They begin their dangerous journey with the handsome English officer, Duncan Heyward and the Indian guide, Magua. On their way they meet friends and enemies, and many adventures. Some people will become heroes and some will become villains. And what will happen to their friend Uncas, the last of the Mohican Indians?

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Why shouldn’t we offer to take care of her? She could live with us at Mansfield.’

In this way Mrs Norris persuade her sister, Lady Bertram, and Lady Bertram’s husband, Sir Thomas, to ask their poor niece Fanny Price to live with them at Mansfield Park.

At first Fanny is unhappy there. Then, after she makes friends with her young cousins, things improve. But what happens when the cousins are older, and starting to think of love?

The weather in England that summer had been so awful that Gerald’s mother sold the family house and took her children to live on the Mediterranean island of Corfu. Between lessons, the ten-year-old Gerald was free to walk round the sunny island and discover the wonderful people and animals living there.

This is the story of Gerald’s adventures with the fascinating animals of Corfu, and, of course, with his surprising family and their friends.

The Moonstone is a beautiful yellow diamond that was stolen from the statue of a Moon god in India. When Franklin Blake brings it to Rachel Verinder’s house in Yorkshire for her birthday, it brings bad luck with it. How many people will the Moonstone hurt? How many must die before the diamond’s revenge is complete?

‘All men are created equal…’

When Thomas Jefferson wrote these words in June 1776, in the American Declaration of Independence, he started something that was very much bigger than he imagined.

This book looks at the history around that Declaration, and at the Revolution that led to the birth of the United States of America.

Adolf Verloc is a double agent, working for both the British police and a foreign country. He pretends to live a normal life with his wife, Winnie, and has a shop in London, which, at night, becomes a meeting place for anarchists. One day Verloc is told to plant a bomb – but the plan goes terribly wrong…

Does Verloc really love Winnie, or is she just part of his cover? Can Winnie ever forgive him? Who is Verloc really working for?

Miss Mary Morstan has a strange story to tell. Since her father disappeared, she has received a large pearl through the post on the same day, every year for six years. Who is sending them? And what about her father’s paper with the words ‘The Sign of Four’ written on it?

‘We have some wonderful mosaics in Pompeii, but I’ve never seen a better one than this!’

After the young Roman mosaic designer Felix starts work in Pompeii, his whole life changes. There he falls in love with the beautiful Greek slave Agathe, who can see into the future.

When the volcano Vesuvius sends hot ash over the city, Felix – and Agathe’s brother Alcander – ride to the port of Misenum for help. But will they reach admiral Gaius Plinius in time, and will they ever see Agathe alive again?
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David R. Hill, former Director of the Edinburgh Project on Extensive Reading 2008, ELT Journal review

On Jackson’s Island

The summer holidays came, and there was no school. Tom didn’t want to think about Muff Potter and Injun Joe, but it wasn’t easy. At night, when he was in bed, he saw Injun Joe’s face in the dark, and he couldn’t sleep. But he couldn’t talk to anyone about it.

One hot summer’s day he and Joe Harper were down by the Mississippi. They sat and watched the boats, and fished and talked.

“Let’s get away from here!” said Tom, suddenly. “Let’s go and do something exciting somewhere.”

“OK,” said Joe, “but what? And where?”

“I know,” Tom said. “Let’s run away. Let’s go and live in a new town, a far away town.”

They watched the boats, and fished and talked.

Tom Sawyer, Level 1
1 The rubbish problem

What is rubbish and what happens to it? It is not something that people like to think about too often. When we throw away our rubbish, we usually forget about it. Somebody takes it away and it is not our problem any more. Or is it?

What happens to the rubbish that everyone throws away every week? Where does it go? Why should people recycle rubbish? Why not just put it into the bin?

The fact is that there is not enough room for everybody’s rubbish any more. A lot of rubbish goes into big holes in the ground called landfill sites, but after a time these fill up. Finding new landfill sites is a problem nearly everywhere in the world.

I like reading in English because it improves my vocabulary and now I am more confident to speak to other people in English.

Student, Maria

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*Use for reading or performance. Character lists and performance notes are included.*
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**The Cat**

The Cat steals things from houses in Hollywood. He steals from movie stars and nobody can stop him. Or can they?

Natalie is a movie star. Nathan is her stand-in. Nathan does all Natalie’s stunts in the movie. But when Natalie and Nathan see The Cat driving away from Zak Wakeman’s Hollywood home, they both go after him.

Natalie drives fast. ‘Be careful,’ Nathan tells her. ‘You have a movie to finish!’

**A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur’s Court**

Hank Morgan is a happy young man in Connecticut, USA in 1879 until one day someone runs into his office and shouts, ‘Come quickly, Boss! Two men are fighting.’ After this, something very strange happens to him, and his life changes forever.

**Dead Man’s Money**

When Cal Dexter rents one of the Blue Lake Cabins, he finds $3000 – under the floor! He doesn’t know it, but it is the money from a bank robbery. A dead man’s money.

‘Do I take it to the police?’ he thinks. But three more people want the money, and two of them are dangerous.

Can Cal stop them?

**Drive into Danger**

‘I can drive a truck,’ says Kim on her first day at work in the office. When Kim’s passenger Andy finds something strange under the truck things get dangerous – very dangerous.

**Escape**

‘I’m not a thief. I’m an innocent man,’ shouts Brown. He is angry because he is in prison and the prison guards hate him. Then one day Brown has an idea. It is dangerous – very dangerous.

‘It’s an interesting job,’ says Sally about her work at Happy Hills.

And today is a very exciting day because Zapp the famous singer is coming. Everybody is having a wonderful time. But suddenly something goes very, very wrong.
‘Give me the money,’ says the robber to the Los Angeles security guard. The guard looks at the gun and hands over the money. The robber has long blond hair and rides a motorcycle – and a girl with long blond hair arrives at Kenny’s motel – on a motorcycle. Is she the robber?

Greg is a porter at the Shepton Hotel in New York. When a girl with beautiful green eyes asks him for help, Greg can’t say no. The girl’s name is Cassie, and she says she is an artist. She tells Greg that her stepfather has her sketchbooks, and now she wants them back. Cassie says her stepfather is staying at Greg’s hotel... so what could go wrong?

Every day people come to Mason’s store – old people, young people, men and women. From his office, and in the store, Mark watches them. And when they leave the store, he forgets them. Then one day a girl with red hair comes to the store, and everything changes for Mark. Now he can’t forget that beautiful face, those green eyes, and that red hair...

‘Every day is the same. Nothing exciting ever happens to me,’ thinks Adam one boring Monday morning. But today is not the same. When he helps a beautiful young woman because some men want to take her bag, life gets exciting and very, very dangerous.

It is the year 650 in England. There is war everywhere because the old king is dead and he has no son. Only when the new king comes can the fighting stop and the strange, magical story of King Arthur begin. But first, Merlin the ancient magician has to find a way of finding the next king...

‘How can Mr Frank be angry now?’ thinks Mike happily. His film is good and he is the only cameraman on the volcano. Now he can go home. But then he finds Jenny and she is dying. Rocks start to move and Mike is afraid. Can they get off the volcano alive? And what happens to Mike’s camera and film?

Six women are dead because of the Whitechapel Killer. Now another woman lies in a London street and there is blood everywhere. She is very ill. You are the famous detective Mycroft Pound; can you catch the killer before he escapes?
Manor Hall is a dark, dark house with a mystery. Nobody can go into the music room. But one night Tom and Milly hear something. The noise is coming from the music room. Tom and Milly are afraid, but they can’t move. Can Tom and Milly discover the mystery of Manor Hall?

It is the year 2030, and an email message arrives at New York Café: ‘I want to help people and make them happy!’ But not everybody is happy about the email, and soon the police and the President are very interested in the New York Café.

‘Everything’s ready now. We can do the experiment,’ says your assistant Joe. ‘What do you think? Can we help people and make them happy?’ You are the famous scientist Mary Durie working in a laboratory in Alaska. When you discover something very new and valuable, other people want to try to steal your idea – can you stop them before they escape?

Tom Creek’s treasure is under the sea. Many men try to get the treasure, but many men die. ‘Our boat is ready. We are all good divers. Let’s find the treasure! Yes?’ says John West to his wife and friends. ‘Yes! Arr! Ooohh!’ they shout. They are all ready to go – but are they afraid of Tom Creek’s curse?

Bill and Sam arrive in the small American town of Summit with only two hundred dollars, but they need more and Sam has an idea for making a lot of money. When things start to go very wrong, both men soon regret their visit – and their idea.

When Tonya and her friends decide to sail around the world they want to see exciting things and visit exciting places. But one day, they meet an orca – a killer whale – one of the most dangerous animals in the sea. And life gets a little too exciting.

‘Every day someone steals money from people near the shops. We must stop this,’ says Dan, a police officer. The police use TV cameras but it is not easy because there are so many suspects – who is the robber?

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Who is the man with the roses in his hand? thinks Anna. ‘I want to meet him.’

‘Who is the girl with the guitar?’ thinks Will. ‘I like her. I want to meet her.’

But they do not meet.

‘There are lots of men!’ says Anna’s friend Vicki, but Anna cannot forget Will. And then one rainy day…

Sally is always running – and she has her phone with her all the time: at home, on the train, at work, at lunchtime, and at the shops.

But then one afternoon suddenly she has a different phone… and it changes her life.

The empty centre of Australia. The sun is hot and there are not many people. And when Bill meets a man, alone, standing on an empty road a long way from anywhere, he is surprised and worried.

And Bill is right to be worried. Because there is something strange about the man he meets. Very strange…

You are in a small plane, going across the Rocky Mountains. Suddenly, the engine starts to make strange noises…

Soon you are alone, in the snow, at the top of a mountain, and it is very, very cold. Can you find your way out of the mountain?

‘How does it work?’ Jack asks when he opens his present – a mobile phone. Later that night, Jack is a prisoner in a taxi in the empty streets of the dark city. He now tries his mobile phone for the first time. Can it save his life?
LEVEL 1

400 HEADWORDS

CEFR A1/A2

- Cambridge English: Movers
- Cambridge English: Flyers
- Cambridge English: Key (KET)
- IELTS 1.0–3.0
- TOEIC 120–545
- TOEFL 8-56

Average story length: 40 pages

Average word count: 5,200

Audio available for selected readers

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer
Mark Twain
Retold by Nick Bullard

Tom Sawyer does not like school. He does not like work, and he never wants to get out of bed in the morning. But he likes swimming and fishing, and having adventures with his friends. And he has a lot of adventures. One night, he and his friend Huck Finn go to the graveyard to look for ghosts. They don’t see any ghosts that night. They see something worse – much, much worse...

47 Ronin: A Samurai Story from Japan
Jennifer Bassett

When Lord Asano drew his sword on Lord Kira one spring day in 1701, it began a story that is now a national legend in Japan. Lord Kira lived, but Lord Asano died, and after his death, his samurai became ronin, samurai without a master. And so began their long plan for revenge on Kira. Their loyalty to their dead master made him famous, and people in Japan remember them to this day. The story of the forty-seven ronin has been told and retold for 300 years – in plays, novels, and films. A major Hollywood film was made about the forty-seven ronin in 2013.

Aladdin and the Enchanted Lamp
Retold by Judith Dean

In a city in Arabia there lives a boy called Aladdin. He is poor and often hungry, but one day he finds an old lamp. When he rubs the lamp, smoke comes out of it, and then out of the smoke comes a magical jinnee. With the jinnee’s help, Aladdin is soon rich, with gold and jewels and many fine things. But can he win the love of the Sultan’s daughter, the beautiful Princess Badr-al-Budur?

The Boy-King, Tutankhamun
Scott Lauder and Walter McGregor

‘I can see wonderful things!’ said Howard Carter, when he opened the tomb of the Egyptian boy-king Tutankhamun, in 1922. Suddenly Tutankhamun was famous. This is Tutankhamun’s story, told by his friend Aziru. Aziru goes to live in the Pharaoh’s palace as a young boy, and he and Tutankhamun are soon great friends. Pharaoh from the age of nine, Tutankhamun rebuilds his country from times of great change. But there are powerful men in the palace, and Aziru is often afraid for his friend too.
Luke is a good-looking young man, but he’s not very clever with words. Gemma is clever with words, but what does she want? Lucy and Becky are good friends, but what about Sam? He makes wonderful cakes, but does he make mistakes too? Nina and Dragan are in love, so deeply in love, but they live in the wrong place, at the wrong time...

All love stories have moments of happiness, pain, misunderstanding, moments of happiness, but they live in the wrong place, at the wrong time...

How do you get a licence if you want to keep a monkey? What can you do if your wife has a lover? How can you see into the future? Where can you go for an exciting but cheap holiday somewhere hot and far away? How can you persuade your girlfriend or boyfriend to marry you?

The characters in these six original short plays are looking for answers to these questions. While trying to solve their problems, people get into some very funny situations. Each play gives an amusing view of life today, and there is often an unexpected ending.

In a house in Oxford three people are having breakfast – Carol, her husband Jan, and his father Josef. They are talking about Prague, because Carol wants them all to go there for Christmas.

Josef was born in Prague, but he left his home city when he was a young man. He is an old man now, and he would like to see Prague again before he dies. But he is afraid. He still remembers another Christmas in Prague, many long years ago – a Christmas that changed his life for ever...

In the summer of 1910, a race began. A race to be the first man at the South Pole, in Antarctica. Robert Falcon Scott, an Englishman, left London in his ship, the Terra Nova, and began the long journey south. Five days later, another ship also began to travel south. And on this ship was Roald Amundsen, a Norwegian. But Antarctica is the coldest place on earth, and it is a long, hard journey over the ice to the South Pole. Some of the travellers never returned home.

This is the story of Scott and Amundsen, of their famous and dangerous race.

He is not beautiful. His mother does not want him, children run away from him. People laugh at him, and call him ‘The Elephant Man’.

Then someone speaks to him – and listens to him! At the age of 27, Joseph Merrick finds a friend for the first time in his life. This is a true and tragic story. It is also a famous film.

What do you do if you have a boring job in a restaurant, serving fast food to people who have no time to eat? What if you dream of travelling to other countries, but your friends just laugh? Do you stay at home with them? Perhaps you hear that someone has bought the last bag of salt in town. Do you buy a bag from him at a high price? We are travelling round the north of England by bicycle. But strange things begin to happen in the small hotel where they are staying. First, Brad seems to think that he has been there before. And then a girl called Ellen appears...

The first of these three original plays is set in the seventeenth century, and the other two take place in modern times. In each play, a ghost comes back from the dead to change the lives of living people.

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Audio Pack: 978 0 19 463748 0 BrE

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Speeches from the Oxford Learner’s Bookshelf

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Nick Lortz is sitting outside a café in Whistler, a village in the Canadian mountains, when a stranger comes and sits next to him. She's young, pretty, and has a beautiful smile. Nick is happy to sit and talk with her.

But why does she call Nick ‘Mr Hollywood’? Why does she give him a big kiss when she leaves? And does she give him a big kiss when she leaves? And

France, 1815. Jean Valjean leaves prison after nineteen years. These are dangerous and troubled times, and life is hard. Valjean must begin a new life, but how can he escape his past, and his enemy, Inspector Javert?

This story for Bookworms is loosely based on the famous novel Les Misérables by Victor Hugo, one of France's greatest writers. The novel was written in 1862, and the story has been retold many times – in a musical, in plays for radio and theatre, and in more than fifty films for television and cinema.

Sara Crewe is a very rich little girl. She first comes to England when she is seven, and her father takes her to Miss Minchin's school in London. Then he goes back to his work in India. Sara is very sad at first, but she soon makes friends at school.

But one day a lawyer arrives from England with some very surprising news about Cedric’s grandfather.

Everybody wants to win the lottery. A million pounds, perhaps five million, even ten million. How wonderful! Emma Carter buys a ticket for the lottery every week, and puts the ticket carefully in her bag. She is seventy-three years old and does not have much money. She would like to visit her son in Australia, but aeroplane tickets are very expensive.

Jason Williams buys lottery tickets every week too. But he is not a very nice young man. He steals things. He hits old ladies in the street, snatches their bags, and runs away…

It is Molly Clarkson’s fiftieth birthday. She is having a party. She is rich, but she is having a small party – only four people. Four people, however, who all need the same thing: they need her money. She will not give them the money, so they are waiting for her to die.

Mary was Queen of Scotland when she was one week old. At sixteen, she was also Queen of France. She was tall and beautiful, with red-gold hair. Many men loved her and died for her. But she also had many enemies – men who said: ‘The death of Mary is the life of Elizabeth.’

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AmE

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BrE
I'm afraid to look in the storeroom. All our food for the winter – where is it now? Inside those hungry guests! They never stop eating! And they never say thank you! And those guests! They never stop eating! And they never say thank you! And those children – my God, they eat more than their parents!

Izzet Efendi and his family are afraid that their guests are never going to go home, but what can they do? The stories in this volume of World Stories are by Turkish writers Huseyin Rahmi Gurpinar, Ayse Kilimci, Sait Faik, and Yalvac Ural.

Outside, the night is cold and wet. Inside, the White family sits and waits. Where is their visitor? There is a knock at the door. A man is standing outside in the dark. Their visitor has arrived. He has brought the hand of a small, dead animal – a monkey's paw.

Outside, in the dark, the visitor smiles and waits for the door to open.

It is night in the south seas near Tahiti, and the ship HMS Bounty has begun the long voyage home to England. But the sailors on the ship are angry men, and they have swords and guns. They pull the captain out of bed and take him up on deck. He tries to run, but a sailor holds a knife to his neck. 'Do that again, Captain Bligh, and you're a dead man!' he says.

The mutiny on the Bounty happened in April, 1789. This is the true story of Captain Bligh and Fletcher Christian, and the ship that never came home to England.

When he was a boy, he was poor and hungry. When he was a young man, he was still poor and still hungry. He learnt how to steal horses, how to fight, he learnt how to live – outside the law. Australia in the 1870s was a hard, wild place. Rich people had land, poor people didn’t. So the rich got richer, and the poor stayed poor.

Some say Ned Kelly was a bad man. Some say he was a good man but the law was bad. This is the true story of Australia’s most famous outlaw.

In EDI (the European Department of Intelligence in Brussels) there are some very secret files – the Omega Files. There are strange, surprising, and sometimes horrible stories in these files, but not many people know about them. You never read about them in the newspapers.

Hawker and Jude know all about the Omega Files, because they work for EDI. They think fast, they move fast, and they learn some very strange things. They go all over the world, asking difficult questions in dangerous places, but they don’t always find the answers...
Tom Walsh had a lot to learn about life. He liked travelling, and he was in no hurry. He liked meeting people, anyone and everyone. He liked the two American girls on the train. They were nice and very friendly. They knew a lot of places. Tom thought they were fun. Tom certainly had a lot to learn about life. He liked the two American girls on the train.

It is 1880, in the Opera House in Paris. Everybody is talking about the Phantom of the Opera, the ghost that lives somewhere under the Opera House. The Phantom is a man in black clothes. He is a body without a head, he is a head without a body. He has a yellow face, he has no nose, he has black holes for eyes. Everybody is afraid of the Phantom – the singers, the dancers, the directors, the stage workers. But who has actually seen him?

A woman finds a man on a beach. He is very cold, his clothes are wet, and he cannot speak. The woman phones for help, and an ambulance comes and takes the man to hospital. In hospital they ask the man questions, but he does not answer. He still cannot speak – or does not want to speak.

Who is he, this strange man from the sea? What is his name? Where did he come from? And why do they call him the Piano Man?

A beautiful young Indian girl, and a brave Englishman. Black eyes, and blue eyes. A friendly smile, a laugh, a look of love… But this is North America in 1607, and love is not easy. The girl is the daughter of King Powhatan, and the Englishman is a white man. And the Indians of Virginia do not want the white men in their beautiful country.

This is the famous story of Pocahontas, and her love for the Englishman John Smith.

The President is dead! A man is running in the night. He is afraid and needs to rest. But there are people behind him – people with lights, and dogs, and guns.

A man is standing in front of a desk. His boss is very angry, and the man is tired and needs to sleep.

But first he must find the other man, and bring him back – dead or alive.

The President is dead! Two men: the hunter and the hunted. Which will win – dead or alive.

Cathy Wilson is driving to Norfolk, to begin her new job with the Harvey family. She is going to look after the two young children, Tim and Susan. Cathy meets Nick, the farmer who lives next door. Nor is he the only one interested in the children’s father, and their grandmother, and their aunt. She meets Nick, the farmer who lives across the fields. But she doesn’t meet Miranda, the children’s mother, because Miranda is dead.

She died two years ago, and Cathy cannot learn anything about her. Everybody remembers Miranda, but nobody wants to talk about her…

Dr Huxtable has a school for boys in the north of England. When the Duke of Holdernesse decides to send his young son there, that is good news for the school. The Duke is a very important person, and Dr Huxtable is happy to have his son in the school.

But two weeks later Dr Huxtable is the unhappiest man in England. Why? And why does he take the train down to London and go to Baker Street? Why does he need the help of the famous detective Sherlock Holmes? Because someone has kidnapped the Duke’s son…
Horseracing is the sport of kings, perhaps because racehorses are very expensive animals. But when they win, they can make a lot of money for the owners, for the trainers, and for the people who put bets on them.

Silver Blaze is a young horse, but already the winner of many races. One night he disappears, and the owner wants his winner of many races. One night he disappears, and the owner wants his killer, someone kills his trainer.

The police want the killer, Sherlock Holmes is the greatest detective the world has ever seen, and he knows it. As the famous bank-robber, John Clay, says to him, ‘You think of everything, Mr Holmes. You’re very clever.’ People come to him with problems that no one, not even the police, can solve. Holmes sits, and thinks, and smokes his pipe, and in the end he finds the answer. In these plays, based on two of his stories, Holmes, helped by his old friend, Dr Watson, uses his great intelligence to solve two unusual and interesting cases.

Sherlock Holmes, private investigator. Like Sherlock Holmes a hundred years ago, she lives in London, enjoys working on difficult cases, and has some helpful friends. She understands people, is a good listener, and of course, she is clever with computers. In today’s world that is important, because a lot of crime is cyber crime. In this second Sherlock Homes detective story, Shirley must catch a cyber thief. But how? You can’t see a cyber thief, you can’t hear a cyber thief. Only the computer knows, and the computer isn’t talking...

Shirley Homes, private investigator. She is clever with computers, and knows London like the back of her hand. She laughs when people say, ‘Was Sherlock Holmes your grandfather?’ Sherlock Holmes, of course, was not a real person, but, like Sherlock, Shirley has good eyes, and good ears. And she knows the right questions to ask. And in the Lithuanian Case, the right questions are important. Because Shirley must find a missing person – Carrie Williams, aged fifteen. Where is she? Who is she with?

Some sisters are good friends, some are not. Sometimes there is more hate in a family than there is love. Karin is beautiful and has lots of men friends, but she can be very unkind to her sister: Marcia. Perhaps when they were small, there was love between them, but that was a long time ago. They say that everybody has one crime in them. Perhaps they only take an umbrella that does not belong to them. Perhaps they steal from a shop, perhaps they get angry and hit someone, perhaps they kill...

It is the year 2522, and the planet Earth is dying. The Artificial Ozone Layer is only 300 years old, but it is breaking up. Now the sun is burning down on Earth. There is no water. Without water, nothing can live. Trees die, plants die, animals die, people die...

In a colony under the moon, people wait for news – news from home, news from the planet Earth. And in a spaceship high above Earth, a young man watches numbers on a computer screen. The numbers tell a story, and the young man is afraid. The planet Earth is burning, burning...
Witches are dangerous. They can kill you with a look, or a word. They can send their friend the Devil after you in the shape of a dog or a cat. They can make a clay picture of you, a dog or a cat. They can break it… and a few days later you are dead. Then break it again. They can send their friend the Devil to look, or a word. They can kill you with a word of love whispered on a summer night. Later, there is a child, but no wedding-ring. And then the man leaves the first woman, finds a younger woman, and marries her… It’s an old story. Yes, it’s an old, old story. It happens all the time – today, tomorrow, a hundred years ago. People don’t change. But this story, set among the green hills of southern England, has something different about it. Perhaps it is only a dream, or perhaps it is magic – a kind of strange dark magic that begins in the world of dreams and phantoms…

Dorothy lives in Kansas, USA, but one day a cyclone blows her and her house to a strange country called Oz. There, Dorothy makes friends with the Scarecrow, the Tin Man, and the Cowardly Lion. But she wants to go home to Kansas. Only one person can help her, and that is the country’s famous Wizard. So Dorothy and her friends take the yellow brick road to the Emerald City, to find the Wizard of Oz…

People love and need animals. They keep them in their homes and on their farms. They enjoy going to zoos, and watching animals on films and on TV. Little children love to play with toy animals.

But people are a great danger to animals too. They take their land, and cut down the trees where animals have their homes. They pollute the rivers and seas, and kill big animals for their skins or for medicine. Now there are about 7,000 species of animals in danger. What can we do to protect the animals of the world – from us?

Everyone knows about Brazil’s beautiful beaches, the Amazon rainforest, and the wonderful Carnival of Rio de Janeiro. But there is a lot more to Brazil than this: here you can find interesting old towns, modern cities, and thousands of different kinds of animals and plants. It is home to world-famous artists and writers, and international sporting events like the World Cup and the Olympics, too.

What other interesting things can you see here? Why is there music and dancing on its streets? And who are the people of this amazing country?

Twenty-five million people come to England every year, and some never go out of London. But England is full of interesting places to visit and things to do. There are big noisy cities with great shops and theatres, and quiet little villages. You can visit old castles and beautiful churches – or go to festivals with music twenty-four hours a day.

You can have an English afternoon tea, walk on long white beaches, watch a great game of football, or visit a country house. Yes, England has something for everybody – what has it got for you?
What is Japan? It is everything new and modern: the Tokyo Sky Tree, 634 metres high; amazing cameras and phones; karaoke and manga; trains going past at 300 kilometres an hour. And it is everything ancient too: beautiful palaces; and it is everything new and amazing for everybody.

‘One day, I’m going to be famous,’ John Lennon said when he was young – and soon he was! His band The Beatles became one of the greatest in the world, and people loved them. After John Lennon went solo, he wrote some of the most important songs of all time. He was a family man and a peace protestor – he wanted to change the world. But one autumn day, four gun shots rang out across New York, and took his life.

Come with us to London – a city as old as the Romans, and as new as the twenty-first century. There are places to go – from Oxford Street to Westminster Abbey, from Shakespeare’s Globe Theatre to Wimbledon Tennis Club. And things to do – ride on the London Eye, visit the markets, go to the theatre, run in the London Marathon. Big, beautiful, noisy, exciting – that’s London.

What can you do in New York? Everything! You can go to some of the world’s most famous shops, watch a baseball game, go to the top of a skyscraper; see a concert in Central Park, eat a sandwich in a New York deli, see a show in a Broadway theatre. New York is big, noisy, exciting, and it’s waiting for you. Open the book and come with us to this wonderful city.

‘It’s a good place for gold,’ said people in the 1840s, and they came from all over the world. ‘It’s a good place for a prison,’ said the US government in the 1920s, and they put Al Capone there on the island of Alcatraz. ‘It’s a good place for love,’ said the hippies in the 1960s, and they put flowers in their hair and came to Haight Ashbury. And San Francisco is still a good place – to take a hundred photographs, or see the Chinatown parade, or just to sit in a coffee shop and be in this interesting, different city...

More than 20 million visitors come to Scotland each year. Some love it for its long white beaches and quiet green hills. Some like the busy cities, with their shops and museums, castles, and parks. Others come to see the home of their parents and grandparents, to hear Scottish music, to find their family tartan. And some come to visit the whisky distilleries, eat wonderful food, and go to one of the world’s biggest street parties. Scotland has something for everybody. Come and find what Scotland has for you.

On a quiet sea, the biggest ship in the world is waiting. There is no noise from the engines. Up in the night sky there are hundreds of stars. Behind the ship, an iceberg – a great mountain of ice – goes slowly away into the black night.

In the beautiful first-class rooms rich passengers eat and listen to music. Down in the third-class cabins, families sleep. An exciting new life is waiting for them in America...

But for many of the people in this small city on the sea, this is their last night alive...
The bride wore a long white dress, with flowers in her hair. After the wedding, there was a party, and people gave presents to the bride and groom. This wedding was nearly two thousand years ago, in Rome. Some things don’t change.

But some things do. Today you can have a wedding on a mountain, or under the sea, or ‘Elvis’ can sing for you. And different things happen in different places. Little birds made of paper, small trees, money in the bride’s shoe, and lots of noise – they are all important for weddings somewhere. Welcome to the wonderful world of weddings!

### FACTFILES

**Weddings**

Christine Lindop

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<th>LEVEL 2</th>
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<td>CEFR A2/B1</td>
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Average story length: 40 pages

Average word count: 6,500

Audio available for selected readers

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**William and Kate**

Christine Lindop

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Everybody took photos of Prince William when he first arrived at the University of St Andrews. Crowds of photographers came to the little Scottish town next to the sea and took pictures of this new student – the nineteen-year-old grandson of the Queen of England.

But nobody photographed Kate Middleton on her first day at the university. She moved in quietly, ready to begin her studies in art history. She was just an ordinary student with an ordinary future in front of her. Or was she?

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<table>
<thead>
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<th>BESTSELLER</th>
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<tr>
<td>Agatha Christie, Woman of Mystery</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Escott</td>
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What does the name ‘Agatha Christie’ mean?

To many people, it means a book about a murder mystery – a ‘whodunnit’.

‘I’m reading an Agatha Christie,’ people say. ‘I’m not sure who the murderer is – I think it’s…’

But they are usually wrong, because it is not easy to guess the murderer’s name before the end of the book.

But who was Agatha Christie? What was she like? Was her life quiet and unexciting, or was it full of interest and adventure? Was there a mystery in her life, too?

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<table>
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<th>TRUE STORIES</th>
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<tr>
<td>Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland</td>
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<td>Lewis Carroll</td>
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There, on top of the mushroom, was a large caterpillar, smoking a pipe. After a while the Caterpillar took the pipe out of its mouth and said to Alice in a slow, sleepy voice, ‘Who are you?’

What strange things happen when Alice falls down the rabbit-hole and into Wonderland! She has conversations with the Caterpillar and the Cheshire Cat, goes to the Mad Hatter’s tea party, plays croquet with the King and Queen of Hearts...

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<table>
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<tr>
<th>HUMAN INTEREST</th>
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| Marilla Cuthbert and her brother Matthew want to adopt an orphan, to help on the farm at Green Gables. They ask for a boy, but they get Anne, who has red hair and freckles, and who talks and talks and talks. They didn’t want a girl, but how can they send a child back, like an unwanted parcel? So Anne stays, and begins a new life in the sleepy, quiet village of Avonlea in Canada.

But it is not so quiet after Anne comes to live there...
The Children of the New Forest
Captain Marryat
Retold by Rowena Akinyemi

England in 1647: King Charles is in prison, and Cromwell’s men are fighting the King’s men. These are dangerous times for everybody.

The four Beverley children have no parents; their mother is dead and their father died while fighting for the King. Now Cromwell’s soldiers have come to burn the house – with the children in it. The four of them escape into the New Forest – but how will they live? What will they eat? And will Cromwell’s soldiers find them?

Word count: 6,987
ISBN: 978 0 19 479082 6
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 465790 7

The Canterville Ghost
Oscar Wilde
Retold by John Escott

There has been a ghost in the house for three hundred years, and Lord Canterville’s family have had enough of it. So Lord Canterville sells his grand old house to an American family. Mr Hiram B. Otis is happy to buy the house and the ghost – because of course Americans don’t believe in ghosts.

The Canterville ghost has great plans to frighten the life out of the Otis family. But Americans don’t frighten easily – especially not two noisy little boys – and the poor ghost has a few surprises waiting for him.

Word count: 5,585
ISBN: 978 0 19 479057 4
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 462082 6

Changing their Skies: Stories from Africa
Retold by Jennifer Bassett

‘Then a letter came for Aloo from a famous college in America. They offered him a place… a place with a scholarship. Aloo could not believe it at first. He read the letter again and again.’

Aloo is very happy, but soon he finds that it is not so easy. He will need money to live on, money for his plane ticket… and then there is Mother…

The stories in this volume of World Stories come from Malawi, South Africa, and Tanzania, and are by African writers Steve Chimombo, Farida Karodia, and M. G. Vassanji.

Word count: 6,100
ISBN: 978 0 19 479053 6
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 462064 2

The Death of Karen Silkwood
Joyce Hannam

This is the story of Karen Silkwood. It begins with her death.

Why does her story begin where it should end? Certain people wanted her death to be an ending. Why? What were they afraid of? Karen Silkwood had something to tell us, and she believed that it was important. Why didn’t she live to tell us? Will we ever know what really happened? The questions go on and on, but there are no answers.

This is a true story. It happened in Oklahoma, USA, where Karen Silkwood lived and worked… and died.

Word count: 6,180
ISBN: 978 0 19 479056 7
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 462075 8

Dead Man’s Island
John Escott

Mr Ross lives on an island where no visitors come. He stops people from taking photographs of him. He is young and rich, but he looks sad. And there is one room in his house which is always locked.

The four Beverley children have no parents; their mother is dead and their father died while fighting for the King. Now Cromwell’s soldiers have come to burn the house – with the children in it. The four of them escape into the New Forest – but how will they live? What will they eat? And will Cromwell’s soldiers find them?

Word count: 5,215
ISBN: 978 0 19 479055 0
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 462065 9

Death in the Freezer
Tim Vicary

Ellen Shore’s family is an ordinary American family, and Ellen is six years old when her brother Al is born. Her parents are very pleased to have a son, but Ellen is not pleased, because now baby Al comes first.

And when they are adults, Al still comes first. He begins a rock band and makes records. Soon he is rich and famous – very rich, but he gives nothing to his sister Ellen. She has a difficult life, with three young kids and very little money. And she learns to hate her rich, famous, unkind brother…

Word count: 6,180
ISBN: 978 0 19 479054 3
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 463760 2

The Death of Karen Silkwood
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Word count: 5,858
ISBN: 978 0 19 479057 4
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 462082 6

Word count: 6,100
ISBN: 978 0 19 479053 6
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 462064 2

Word count: 6,405
ISBN: 978 0 19 479082 6
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 465790 7

Word count: 5,215
ISBN: 978 0 19 479055 0
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 462065 9

Word count: 6,180
ISBN: 978 0 19 479054 3
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 463760 2

Word count: 6,180
ISBN: 978 0 19 479056 7
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 462075 8

Word count: 5,858
ISBN: 978 0 19 479057 4
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 462082 6

Audio recording: AmE = American English  BrE = British English

Selected titles available as e-books through the Oxford Learner’s Bookshelf
In the mountains of Transylvania there stands a castle. It is the home of Count Dracula – a dark, lonely place, and at night the wolves howl around the walls.

In the year 1875 Jonathan Harker comes from England to do business with the Count. But Jonathan does not feel comfortable at Castle Dracula. Strange things happen at night, and very soon, he begins to feel afraid. And he is right to be afraid, because Count Dracula – a vampire that

Richard Walton is in trouble again. He has lost his job, and he has borrowed money from his sister, Jennifer – again. And now he has disappeared. Jennifer is looking for him, and so are the police. They both have some questions that they want to ask him. How did he lose his job? Why did he fly to Frankfurt? Who gave his girlfriend those very expensive gold ear-rings?

Only Richard can answer these questions. But nobody can find Richard.

When the children dug a hole in the gravel-pit, they were very surprised at what they found. 'It' was a Psammead, a sand-fairy, thousands of years old. It was a strange little thing – fat and furry, and with eyes on long stalks. It was often very cross and unfriendly, but it could give wishes – one wish a day. 'How wonderful!' the children said. But wishes are difficult things. They can get you into trouble...

In Sweden nobody wants a troll to come into their garden, but how do you stop them? On a lonely road at night in Oman, Abdul’s car breaks down and he takes a ride with a stranger, but perhaps it is safer to walk. In England some young people play a scary game, and in Asia, a soldier returns home – at last.

Every country in the world has stories about ghosts and spirits and monsters of one kind or another. Some people believe in ghosts and some don’t – but everyone enjoys a good ghost story.

All they could hear was the wind, and the waves. All they could see was the night. They could not see the ship, broken in two, or the people holding on to the dark wet rock, slowly dying of cold. They could not hear the cries for help – only the wind. How could a man and his daughter save the people on the rock? They only had a little wooden boat in that dark wet rock, slowly dying of cold. And they could not hear the cries for help – only the wind. How could a man and his daughter save the people on the rock? They only had a little wooden boat in that dark wet rock, slowly dying of cold. And they could not hear the cries for help – only the wind.

This famous play by William Shakespeare is one of the finest in the English language. Why does Hamlet, the young Prince of Denmark, look so sad? Why does he often say strange things? His family and friends are worried about him. Perhaps he is mad!

But Hamlet thinks that he has discovered a terrible secret about a recent crime in his family. Now he has no time for Ophelia, the sweet girl who loves him, or his friends, who were at school with him. He sits alone, and thinks, and plans. What will he decide to do? Will he ever be happy again?

There were six of them – three Katherines, two Annes, and a Jane. One of them was the King’s wife for twenty-four years, another for only a year and a half. One died, two were divorced, and two were beheaded. It was a dangerous, uncertain life. After the King’s death in 1547, his sixth wife finds a box of old letters – one from each of the first five wives. They are sad, angry, frightened letters. They tell the story of what it was like to be the wife of Henry VIII of England.

Word count: 7,875
ISBN: 978 0 19 479058 1
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 462066 6
BrE

Word count: 6,422
ISBN: 978 0 19 479059 8
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 462076 5
BrE

Word count: 5,945
ISBN: 978 0 19 479060 4
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 463761 9
BrE

Word count: 4,808
ISBN: 978 0 19 479386 5
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 463762 6
BrE

Word count: 6,685
ISBN: 978 0 19 420953 3
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 462087 1
BrE

Word count: 5,945
ISBN: 978 0 19 420954 1
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 462067 3
BrE

Word count: 4,310
ISBN: 978 0 19 479062 8
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 462068 4
BrE
Who wants to live in a house, wear clean clothes, be good, and go to school every day? Not young Huckleberry Finn, that’s for sure.

So Huck runs away, and is soon floating down the great Mississippi River on a raft. With him is Jim, a black slave who is also a raft. With him is Jim, a great Mississippi River on every day? Not young Huckleberry Finn, that’s for sure.

In the jungle of Southern India the Seeonee Wolf-Pack has a new cub. Two brothers are building the haystack, but thinking about other things - about young women, and love. There are angry words, and then a fight between the brothers. But the work goes on, visitors come and go, and the long hot summer day slowly turns to evening.

Then the sun goes down, covering the world with a carpet of darkness. From the hedges around the hayfield comes the rich, sweet smell of wild flowers, and the hay will make a fine, soft bed...
The Mystery of Allegra
Peter Foreman

Allegra is an unusual name. It means 'happy' in Italian, but the little girl in this story is sometimes very sad. She is only five years old, but she tells Adrian, her new friend, that she is going to die soon. How does she know?

And who is the other Allegra? The girl in a long white nightdress, who has golden hair and big blue eyes. The girl who comes only at night, and whose name. It means 'happy' in Italian, but the little girl in this story is sometimes very sad. She is only five years old, but she tells Adrian, her new friend, that she is going to die soon. How does she know?

Adrian, her new friend, that she is going to die soon. How does she know?

A housewife, a tramp, a lawyer, a waitress, an actress – ordinary people living ordinary lives in New York at the beginning of the twentieth century. The city has changed greatly since that time, but its people are much the same. Some are rich, some are poor, some are happy, some are sad, some have found love, some are looking for love.

O. Henry's famous short stories – sensitive, funny, sympathetic – give us vivid pictures of the everyday lives of these New Yorkers.

Catherine is spending the summer in Bath. It is a new world for Catherine, who has never left her home village before. There are dances, visits to the theatre, her new friends Isabella Thorpe and Eleanor Tilney... and Eleanor's brother Henry, who she likes at once.

For Catherine, life is about love and adventure. So when she is invited to Northanger Abbey, the Tilney's home, it seems full of mystery. But soon Catherine begins to learn a few lessons about real life – about who her friends are, and why, for some people, money is more important than love.

Money or love? Which is more important in life? Can money buy anything? Can it help a young man to marry the girl he loves? Does money really make people happy, or does it just cause problems?

These four plays about money, love, and life are adapted from short stories written a hundred years ago by the great American storyteller O. Henry.

Henry had his own difficulties with money and loneliness, and wrote from personal experience.

One day, a farmer tells a farm boy to take everything out of an old building and throw it away. 'It's all rubbish,' he says.

In the middle of all the rubbish, the boy finds a beautiful old piano. He has never played before, but now, when his fingers touch the piano, he begins to play. He closes his eyes and the music comes to him – and the music moves his fingers.

When he opens his eyes again, he knows that his life is changed for ever...

Everybody has bad dreams. Horrible things move towards you in the dark, things you can hear but not see. Then you wake up, in your own warm bed, and turn over to go back to sleep.

But imagine that you wake up on a hard floor, in a darkness blacker than the blackest night. You listen to the silence, and smell a wet dead smell. Death is all around you, waiting...

In these stories by Edgar Allan Poe, death whispers and the music moves towards you in the dark, things you can hear but not see. Then you wake up, in your own warm bed, and turn over to go back to sleep.

But imagine that you wake up on a hard floor, in a darkness blacker than the blackest night. You listen to the silence, and smell a wet dead smell. Death is all around you, waiting...

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Red Dog was a Red Cloud kelpie, an Australian sheepdog. His life was full of excitement and adventure. He travelled all over Western Australia, and never really had an owner. But he had many, many friends, and he always knew where to go for a good meal.

Louis de Bernières collected these stories about the life of a real dog in Western Australia. They are funny, some are sad, and all are unforgettable. Everybody should have a friend like Red Dog.

As they walk through a park in the distant future, Harl and Ellen talk about their work and their lives. But they will never have a life together because their work as scientists is more important to them than their love. Harl plans to leave Earth, on a long and dangerous journey through space. Ellen plans to stay on Earth, to change the way life in the world, because both families hate each other.

This is the most famous of all Shakespeare’s plays – a story of young love. What’s in a name? Does it really matter if you are called Montague or Capulet? When Romeo, son of Lord Montague, falls in love with the most beautiful girl he’s ever seen, he finds that it does matter. It makes all the difference in the world, because both families hate each other.

For a time, Romeo and Juliet manage to keep their love secret. But when Romeo returns to Earth, Ellen will be long dead... and the world will be a very different place.

When Harl returns to his family home in South America, he suddenly learns that there is another person on the island. But will this man be a friend or an enemy?

When Ping sees Hanno in the zoo, he is excited, but also unhappy. Hanno is a magnificent African gorilla, big and black and much stronger than a man. But how can this wonderful wild animal live in a cage, behind bars and locked doors?

Arnold Bennett is famous for his stories about the Five Towns and the people who live there. They look and sound just like other people, and, like all of us, sometimes they do some very strange things.

Sherlock Holmes is the greatest detective of them all. He sits in his room, and smokes his pipe. He listens, and watches, and thinks. He listens to the steps coming up the stairs; he watches the door opening – and he knows what question the stranger will ask.

In these three of his best stories, Holmes has three visitors to the famous flat in Baker Street – visitors who bring their troubles to the only man in the world who can help them.

Arnold Bennett is famous for his stories about the Five Towns and the people who live there. They look and sound just like other people, and, like all of us, sometimes they do some very strange things. There’s Sir Jee, who is a rich businessman. So why is he making a plan with a burglar? Then there is Toby Hall. Why does he decide to visit Number 11 Child Row, and who does he find there? And then there are the Hessian brothers and Annie Emery – and the little problem of twelve thousand pounds.

When Ping sees Hanno in the zoo, he is excited, but also unhappy. Hanno is a magnificent African gorilla, big and black and much stronger than a man. But how can this wonderful wild animal live in a cage, behind bars and locked doors?

Then Hanno escapes from the zoo. And a few days later his footprints are seen near Green Knowe, the old house deep in the English countryside where Ping is spending his holiday...
New

**Human Interest**

### The Summer Intern

Helen Salter

Anna wants to be a writer, so when she gets a summer job at a fashion and beauty website called Gloss, she’s very excited. But things are not easy. Anna’s best friend Katie is upset with her, her mother phones her every day at work, and Tina, the editor of Gloss, wants her to make the coffee and pick up the post, not write features. 'Am I ever going to write something for Gloss?' Anna thinks. 'And how am I going to get my best friend back, and explain to my mum that I’m fifteen, not five?'

Word count: 6,740
ISBN: 978 0 19 423803 8
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 462061 1

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**Classics**

### Tales from Longpuddle

Thomas Hardy
Retold by Jennifer Bassett

Tony Kytes is a favourite with the girls but he’s not terribly clever. If you meet an old girlfriend and she asks for a ride home in your wagon, do you say yes? And then if you meet the girl you are planning to marry, what do you do? Very soon, Tony is in a great muddle, and does not know how to escape from it.

These stories are set in an English country village of the nineteenth century, but Hardy’s tales of mistakes and muddles and marriages belong in any place, at any time.

Word count: 6,490
ISBN: 978 0 19 479074 1
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 463771 8

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**Human Interest**

### Too Old to Rock and Roll and Other Stories

Jan Mark
Retold by Diane Mowat

Greg is a teenager with a problem – his father. After the death of Greg’s mother in an accident, his father takes no interest in life at all. Greg tries hard to help him. His father is too old to rock and roll, of course… or is he?

These short stories by Jan Mark look at life, love, and friendship through teenagers’ eyes.

Word count: 5,310
ISBN: 978 0 19 479074 1
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 463772 5

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**Fantasy & Horror**

### Voodoo Island

Michael Duckworth

Mr James Conway wants to make money. He wants to build new houses and shops – and he wants to build them on an old graveyard, on the island of Haiti.

There is only one old man who still visits the graveyard; and Mr Conway is not afraid of one old man.

But what was he like as a man? What did he think about when he rode into London for the first time… or when he was writing his plays Hamlet and Romeo and Juliet… or when his only son died?

We know the facts of his life, but we can only guess at his hopes, his fears, his dreams.

Word count: 5,910
ISBN: 978 0 19 479075 8
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 462080 2

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**True Stories**

### William Shakespeare

Jennifer Bassett


But what was he like as a man? What did he think about when he rode into London for the first time… or when he was writing his plays Hamlet and Romeo and Juliet… or when his only son died?

We know the facts of his life, but we can only guess at his hopes, his fears, his dreams.

Word count: 9,135
ISBN: 978 0 19 479076 5
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 463773 2

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**Fantasy & Horror**

### The Year of Sharing

Harry Gilbert

Richard is bored with the quiet life of his village. He would like to have a motor-car and drive it… very fast. But Richard lives in a future world where there are no cars, only bicycles and small villages and green forests.

And now he is twelve years old, and like the other children, he must do his Year of Sharing. He must live alone in the forest with the wild animals. He must learn to share his world; he must learn how animals live and eat and fight… and die.

Word count: 6,390
ISBN: 978 0 19 479077 2
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 463773 2

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Audio recording: AmE = American English   BrE = British English
You can cook it, and you can eat it. You can even make buildings, dresses, and hats out of it. You can give it to somebody as a present, or you can buy it for yourself. And of course you can eat it. Dark chocolate, milk chocolate, white chocolate, chocolates with gold on the outside – everyone loves chocolate.

Some call it football, some call it soccer, and to others it’s the beautiful game. By any name, it’s a sport with some fascinating stories. There is a game that lasts for two days where many players never see the ball. There’s the French writer who learnt lessons about life from playing football, and the women players who had to leave the club for two days where many players never see the ball. There’s the French writer who learnt lessons about life from playing football, and the women players who had to leave the club grounds because ‘Women’s football isn’t nice’. The cups, the leagues, the World Cup finals, the stars, the rules – they’re all a part of the world’s favourite sport, the ‘Beautiful Game’.

There are many different Irelands. There is the Ireland of peaceful rivers, green fields, and beautiful islands. There is the Ireland of song and dance, pubs and theatres – the country of James Joyce, Bob Geldof, and Riverdance. And there is the Ireland of guns, fighting, death, and the hope of peace. Come with us and visit all of these Irelands – and many more…

‘Ask not what your country can do for you – ask what you can do for your country.’ More than fifty years ago, the new US President, John F. Kennedy, spoke these words. Millions of Americans listened, and they were filled with hope. With Kennedy as president, surely there was a great future ahead for their country. But Kennedy would not finish his four years as president. In November 1963, the world stopped as terrible news came from Dallas, Texas…

‘What does the world look like from the moon?’ ‘How do our bodies work?’ ‘Is it possible for people to fly?’ ‘Can I make a horse of bronze that is 8 metres tall?’ ‘How can we have cleaner cities?’ ‘All his life, Leonardo da Vinci asked questions. We know him as a great artist, but he was one of the great thinkers of all time, and even today, doctors and scientists are still learning from his ideas. Meet the man who made a robot lion, wrote a war by moving a river…

For a child in the great city of Venice in the thirteenth century, there could be nothing better than the stories of sailors. There were stories of strange animals, wonderful cities, sweet spices, and terrible wild deserts where a traveller could die. One young boy listened, waited, and dreamed. Perhaps one day his father and uncle would return. Perhaps he too could travel with them to great markets in faraway places. For young Marco Polo, later the greatest traveller of his time, a dangerous, exciting world was waiting…
Thousands of years ago, people looked out across an ocean and asked themselves, ‘What is on the other side?’ And the bravest of them began to travel and find the answers – beautiful islands, frozen lands, different peoples… And there are still interesting questions about the oceans. Why does the water go up and down twice a day? Why do most lands, different peoples…

Every four years, the world’s best athletes come together for one of the most exciting competitions in sport: the Olympic Games. After years of training, competitors in more than forty different sports win and lose their events, and set new world records, in front of crowds of people.

The Olympic Games are more than two thousand five hundred years old. So how did they start, how have they changed over the years, and what have been some of the most important times in their history?

Deep rivers, tall trees, strange animals, beautiful flowers – this is the rainforest. Burning trees, thick smoke, new roads and cities, dead animals – this is the rainforest too. To some people the rainforests mean beautiful places that you can visit; to others they mean trees that they can cut down and sell.

Between 1950 and 2000 half of the world’s rainforests disappeared. While you read these words, people are cutting down rainforest trees. What are these wonderful places that we call rainforests – and is it too late to save them?

In English-speaking countries around the world people celebrate Easter, Valentine’s Day, Christmas, and other special days. Some celebrations are new, others, like the summer solstice, go back thousands of years.

What happens on these special days? Why is there a special day for eating pancakes? Who is the ‘guy’ that children take onto the streets in November? And where do many people like to spend the shortest night of the year in England?

Come on a journey through a year of celebrations, from New Year’s Eve to Christmas.

What are the most beautiful, the most interesting, the most wonderful things in the world? The Great Pyramid, the Great Wall of China, the Panama Canal – everyone has their favourites. And there are natural wonders too – Mount Everest, Niagara Falls, and the Northern Lights, for example.

Here is one person’s choice of eleven wonders. Some of them are made by people, and others are natural. Come and discover new wonders…

The murder plan seems so neat, so clever. How can it possibly fail? And when Sonia’s stupid, boring little husband is dead, she will be free to marry her handsome lover. But perhaps the boring little husband is not so stupid after all…

Murder plans that go wrong, a burglar who makes a bad mistake, a famous jewel thief who meets a very unusual detective… These five stories from the golden age of crime writing are full of mystery and surprises.
On a day in 1821, a man and six children stood around a grave. They were burying a wife and mother. The children were all very young, and within a few years the two oldest were dead, too.

Close to the wild beauty of the Yorkshire moors, the father brought up his young family. Who had heard of the Brontës of Haworth family? Who had heard of Branwell? Branwell died young, and within a few years the two oldest were dead, too.

The children were all very young, and within a few years the two oldest were dead, too. They were burying a wife and mother.

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Victor Frankenstein thinks he has found the secret of life. He takes parts from dead people and builds a new 'man'. But this monster is so big and frightening that everyone runs away from him – even Frankenstein himself!

The monster is like an enormous baby who needs love, and soon he learns to love. But nobody gives him an enormous baby who needs love, and soon he learns to love. But nobody gives him love, and soon he learns to love.

Frankenstein
Mary Shelley
Retold by Patrick Nobes

Love stories with a difference… There’s a kiss by a fireside that was a mistake, there’s a magnificent aunt by the seaside, and a gunman in Texas wanting a fight. There’s a white heron flying over a forest, and a messenger running between two benches in a park. And of course, there’s a girl who meets a boy...

The Kiss: Love Stories from North America
Robert Louis Stevenson
Retold by Clara West

For fifty years after Dr Watson’s death, a packet of papers, written by the doctor himself, lay hidden in a locked box. The papers contained an extraordinary report of the case of Jack the Ripper and the horrible murders in the East End of London in 1888. The detective, of course, was the great Sherlock Holmes – but why was the report kept hidden for so long?

The Last Sherlock Holmes Story
Michael Dibdin
Retold by Rosalie Kerr

‘Nani Tama looked at each of us – Dad, Auntie Hiraina, my cousin Timi, and myself. His eyes were angry. “You fullas want me to die here in this room? Looking at these four walls? When the whakapapa is not yet finished?”

But Nani Tama gets his own way, and his grandson drives him through the night, to find the missing pieces from the family history.

The stories in this volume of World Stories are by New Zealand writers James Courage, Witi Ihimaera, Philip Mincher, and Joy Cowley.

The Long White Cloud: Stories from New Zealand
Retold by Christine Lindop

London: November. Terrorists blow up the Queen’s coach outside Parliament. The Queen escapes, but five people are killed, and forty others badly hurt – ordinary, innocent people, like Alan Cole, the Queen’s coachman, who loses his leg in the bombing. And for Alan and his daughter, there is more terror to come, in the search for the truth behind the bombing.

Justice
Tim Vicary

What can give Alan Cole his leg back, or give life back to people who have been blown to pieces by a bomb?

Carmady agrees to talk to the guy who says he knows. But he finds him dead in his bed, with beaten feet, and it seems there are quite a lot of people in Los Angeles who have heard the story, and who are out looking for the Leander pearls...

Goldfish
Raymond Chandler
Retold by Christina Lindop

The Leander pearls were stolen nineteen years ago. The thief was caught, but the pearls were never found, and there is still a $25,000 reward for anyone who finds them. Then somebody comes to private detective Carmady with a story about a guy who knows where the pearls are hidden.

Word count: 9,685
ISBN: 978 0 19 479116 8
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 462097 0
BrE

Word count: 12,435
ISBN: 978 0 19 477255 0
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 463782 4
BrE

Word count: 10,100
ISBN: 978 0 19 479911 7
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 464209 4
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ISBN: 978 0 19 479117 5

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ISBN: 978 0 19 479121 2
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 479302 5
BrE

Word count: 11,150
ISBN: 978 0 19 479139 7
Audio Pack: 978 0 19 479303 2
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This is a love story you won’t forget. Oliver Barrett meets Jenny Cavilleri. He plays sports, she plays music. He’s rich, and she’s poor. They argue, and they fight, and they fall in love.

Their story has made people laugh, and cry, all time left.

So they get married, and they make plans for the future. Then they learn life, they make a home together.

The ghosts in these stories all have unfinished business with the living world. They come back from the grave to continue their work, to keep a promise, to look for something they have lost. Sometimes they want to help people, sometimes they want to punish them – or kill them.

When Tug wakes up, he is not in his own bedroom at home. The door is locked and there are bars across the window. Loud music hammers through the house and through his head. Then a woman comes in and says that she is his mother, but Tug knows that she is not his mother...

If you wake up in the night and hear a tap running somewhere in the house, what do you do? You get up, of course, and go and turn the tap off. A little later you hear the tap running again. You are alone in the house, and you know you turned the tap off. What do you do then?

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'We must leave for Zenda at once, to find the King!' cried Sapt. 'If we’re caught, we’ll all be killed!'

So Rudolf Rassendyll and Sapt gallop through the night to find the King of Ruritania. But the King is now a prisoner in the Castle of Zenda. Who will rescue him from his cell? And who will win the heart of the beautiful Princess Flavia?

Fourteen-year-old Molly and her cousins Daisy and Gracie were mixed-race Aborigines. In 1931 they were taken away from their families and sent to a camp to be trained as good ‘white’ Australians. They were told to forget their mothers, their language, their home. But Molly would not forget. She and her cousins escaped and walked back to Jigalong, 1,600 kilometres away, following the rabbit-proof fence as their guide across the desert.

This is the true story of that walk, told by Molly’s daughter, Doris. It is also a prize-winning film.

Little Mary Lennox is a bad-tempered, disagreeable child. When her parents die in India, she is sent back to England to live with her uncle in a big, lonely, old house. But why has their father become very, very frightened. There is someone on that list that the Prime Minister knows well – too well. There is a name on the list of passengers and suddenly becomes very, very frightening. That sound in the wind, or a murdered man knocking inside his coffin? The face in the mirror... is it yours, or the face of someone standing behind you, who is never there when you turn round? These famous short stories by Edgar Allan Poe, that master of horror, explore the dark world of the imagination, where the dead live and speak, where fear lies in every shadow of the mind...
On a stormy winter night, a stranger knocks at the door of a shepherd’s cottage. He is cold and hungry, and wants to get out of the rain. He is welcomed inside, but he does not give his name or his business. Who is he, and where has he come from? And he is only the first visitor to call at the cottage that night...

In these three short stories, Thomas Hardy gives us pictures of the lives of shepherds and hangmen, dukes and teachers. But rich or poor, young or old, they all have the same feelings of fear, hope, love, jealousy...

Conradin is ten years old. He lives alone with his aunt. He has two big secrets. The first is that he hates his aunt. The second is that he keeps a small, wild animal in the garden shed. The animal has sharp, white teeth, and it loves fresh blood. Every night, Conradin prays to this animal and asks it to do one thing for him, just one thing. This collection of short stories is clever, funny, and shows us ‘Nature, red in tooth and claw’. In other words, it is Saki at his very best.

Sam Sylvester is a teacher who wants his class to have ambition, and to do great things in life. So he enters them for a sporting competition against the rich students of Greycoats School.

The team that he has chosen for the competition think Sam has gone crazy. ‘Who, Sir? Me, Sir?’ says little Hoomey, his eyes round with horror. ‘We’ll never beat Greycoats,’ the others cry. ‘Never in a million years!’

But you don’t know what you can do – until you try...
Imagine an animal with teeth as big as bananas — and a brain as big as an orange. Or a flying animal with wings as wide as a small plane. Think about a tail that could knock a man’s head off, or a mouth with hundreds of teeth. Is it any surprise that people are interested in dinosaurs?

Nobody has ever seen a living dinosaur, but millions of us go every year to stare at the bones of these enormous animals. In books, films, and games, we can’t get enough of the secrets of the dinosaur world…

It’s an exciting life — full of fast cars, money, and travel. The names of Formula One champions are known all over the world. And everywhere young drivers dream of success one day in Monaco, Melbourne, Monza…

But it is a difficult life too. Drivers need strong bodies and minds. They need to think quickly, drive hard, and sometimes look death in the face. This is the dangerous, exciting world of Formula One — where the world’s best drivers have only seconds to win or lose a race.

Right now, all over the world, people are using energy. As we drive our cars, work on our computers, or even cook food on a wood fire, we probably do not stop to think about where the energy comes from. But when the gas is gone and there is no more coal — what then? Scientists are finding new answers all the time.

You’re fast asleep, and nothing is happening. Or is it? In fact, your body is hard at work. Your lungs are taking oxygen from the air, and your heart is pumping blood round your body. Millions of pieces of information are travelling backwards and forwards to your brain all the time. Muscles are repairing themselves, and in your lymph nodes special cells are cleaning germs and waste from the body. You may think that nothing is happening, but in the extraordinary machine that is the human body, it is very busy indeed…

It’s the human body, it is very extraordinary machine that is happening, but in the air, and your heart is pumping blood round your body. Millions of pieces of information are travelling backwards and forwards to your brain all the time. Muscles are repairing themselves, and in your lymph nodes special cells are cleaning germs and waste from the body. You may think that nothing is happening, but in the extraordinary machine that is the human body, it is very busy indeed…

The United States in the 1950s and 60s was a troubled place. Black people were angry, because they did not have the same rights as whites. It was a time of angry words, of marches, of protests, a time of bombs and killings. But above the angry noise came the voice of one man — a man of peace. ‘I have a dream,’ said Martin Luther King, and it was a dream of blacks and whites living together in peace and freedom. This is the story of an extraordinary man, who changed American history in his short life.
It is 1866, and there is trouble in the world’s oceans. What is the extraordinary thing that people have seen there, travelling faster than a whale and cutting holes in the bottom of the strongest ships?

Dr Aronnax joins the search for the ‘monster’, hoping for an exciting adventure. But when he meets the mysterious Captain Nemo, his adventure becomes more extraordinary than he had ever imagined, and he discovers a new underwater world, full of wonders, but of strange dangers too...

General Sternwood has four million dollars, and two young daughters, both pretty and both wild. He’s an old, sick man, close to death, but he doesn’t like being blackmailed. So he asks private detective Philip Marlowe to get the blackmailer off his back. Marlowe knows the dark side of life in Los Angeles well, and nothing much surprises him. But the Sternwood girls are a lot wilder than their old father realizes. They like men, drink, drugs — and it’s not just a question of blackmail.

When Black Beauty is trained to carry a rider on his back, or to pull a carriage behind him, he finds it hard at first. But he is lucky — his first home is a good one, where his owners are kind people, who would never be cruel to a horse. In the nineteenth century many people were cruel to their horses, whipping them and beating them, and using them like machines until they dropped dead. Black Beauty soon finds this out, and as he describes his life, he has many terrible stories to tell.
Life in the small English town of Cranford seems very quiet and peaceful. The ladies of Cranford lead tidy, regular lives. They give little evening parties, and worry about their maid-servants. But life is not always smooth – there are always a few mysteries. In this case, the police force was already on holiday.

Mrs Gaskell’s timeless picture of small-town life in the first half of the nineteenth century has delighted readers for nearly 150 years.

It was a very inconvenient time for murder. Florence was full of Christmas shoppers and half the police force was already on holiday. At first it seemed quite an ordinary murder. Of course, there are always a few mysteries. In this case, the dead man had been in the habit of moving his furniture at three o’clock in the morning. Naturally, the police wanted to know why. The case became more complicated. But all the time, the answer was right under their noses. They just couldn’t see it. It was, after all, a very ordinary murder.

You are walking through the streets of London. It is getting dark and you want to get home quickly. You enter a narrow side-street. Everything is quiet, but as you pass the door of a large, windowless building, you hear a key turning in the lock. A man comes out and looks at you. You have never seen him before, but you realize immediately that he hates you. You are shocked to discover, also, that he hate him. Who is this man that everybody hates? And why is he coming out of the laboratory of the very respectable Dr Jekyll?

In the second century AD, when the Ninth Roman Legion marched into the mists of northern Britain, not one man came back. Four thousand men disappeared, and the Eagle, the symbol of the Legion’s honour, was lost. Years later there is a story that the Eagle has been seen again. So Marcus Aquila, whose father disappeared with the Ninth, travels north, to find the Eagle and bring it back, and to learn how his father died. But the tribes of the north are wild and dangerous, and they hate the Romans...

Elizabeth Gilbert, a successful writer, had everything – a husband, friends, a big house in New York. But one day she realized she did not want any of it. A new relationship brought more heartbreak, deep depression followed, and in desperation, she started to pray. She decided to spend a year without any new relationships, and to travel in Italy, India, and Indonesia, searching for meaning in her life. This memoir is the true story of her journey of discovery through pleasure, religion, and back to love again. It has also been made into a major movie.

Emma Woodhouse, beautiful, clever and rich, has no wish to marry, but she enjoys making matches for those around her. It was Emma who found the perfect husband for her governess Miss Taylor. So when her dear friend Mr Knightley tells her that she should let people choose their own husbands and wives, she will not listen. But does Emma really understand people as well as she thinks? And is she even right about her own feelings, when she says that she will never fall in love?
'Soon I felt something alive moving along my leg and up to my face, and when I looked down, I saw a very small human being, only fifteen centimetres tall... I was so surprised that I gave a great shout.'

Dartmoor. A wild, wet place in the south-west of England. A place where it is easy to get lost, and to fall into the soft green earth which can pull the strongest man down to his death.

A man is running for his life. Behind him comes an enormous dog – a dog from his worst dreams, a dog from hell. Between him and a terrible death stands only one person – the greatest detective of all time, Sherlock Holmes.

My brother preferred being with mother and me. He used to help us prepare vegetables in the kitchen or make the bread. But what he liked best was listening to my mother’s stories.

When Christmas comes for the four March girls, there is no money for expensive presents and they give away their Christmas breakfast to a poor family. But there are no happier dreams than those of great adventures – and the chance to show the world what a hero he is.

At nineteen Anne Elliot refuses an offer of marriage from Frederick Wentworth, persuaded to do so by Lady Russell, a friend of her dead mother. Wentworth is a sailor, with no money and an uncertain future, says Lady Russell – just a nobody, certainly not worthy of a baronet’s daughter.

One winter’s day in 1673 young John Ridd is riding home from school, across the wild lonely hills of Exmoor. He has to pass through the Doone valley – a dangerous place, as the Doones are famous robbers and murderers. All Exmoor lives in fear of the Doones.

At home there is sad news waiting for young John, and he learns that he has good reason to hate the Doones. The story of family life has been popular for more than a hundred years.

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Eight years later a rich and successful captain, looking for a wife. Anne is still unmarried, but Captain Wentworth clearly prefers the company of the two Musgrove girls...
Careful, Connie, please. Your little sister’s eyes are looking angry. Look at the sudden lines around her mouth. Connie, a sister is a good thing. Even a younger sister. ‘Mercy, who are you going out with?’

Connie gets an answer to her question, but it is not the answer she wants to hear. ‘And what is the price of peace between sisters?’

Jan opened his wooden box and took out the silver sword. ‘This will bring me luck,’ he said to Mr Balicki. ‘And it will bring you luck because you gave it to me.’

‘The Marquis lay there, like stone, with a knife pushed into his heart. On his chest lay a piece of paper, with the words: Drive him fast to the grave. This is from JACQUES.’

‘I turned on the light, but there was nobody there. Then I saw something in the corner that made my blood turn cold. Scudder was lying on his back. There was a long knife through his heart, pinning him to the floor.’

With ideas like this, perhaps it is not a good idea to spend a holiday taking a boat trip up the River Thames. But this is what the three friends – and Montmorency the dog – decide to do. It is the sort of holiday that is fun to remember afterwards, but not so much fun to wake up too early on a cold, wet morning.

This famous book has made people laugh all over the world for a hundred years… and they are still laughing.
When did you last meet a polar bear, or go to a magician for help? These stories offer many different experiences. Some are strange, some are scary, some are sad, some are blackly funny. A few are very shocking – when Lin Lin discovers a terrible family secret which she learns a dark and frightening – when Lin Lin discovers a terrible family secret which
don’t escape from the island, and sail back to England with a ship full of gold?

When a handsome young man begins to court Catherine Sloper, she feels she is very lucky. She is a quiet, gentle girl, but neither beautiful nor clever; no one had ever admired her before, or come to the front parlour to whisper soft words of love to her. But in New York in the 1840s young ladies are not free to marry where they please. Catherine must have her father’s permission, and Dr Sloper is a rich man. One day Catherine will have a fortune of 30,000 dollars a year.

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It is more than forty years since the Great Train Robbery. But what happened to the rest of the money that was taken? Two million pounds has never been found. Perhaps some of the robbers would like to know the answer to this question too…

Many great crimes end in a question. Who really killed President Kennedy? Who knows the truth about Azaria Chamberlain? Not everyone agrees – there are three answers to the question: ‘He died of natural causes’, ‘He was murdered by an Arab terrorist’ or ‘He was murdered by his own mother’. And the neighbours… After the death of his son and the departure of his wife, Macon’s attempts to run his own life become increasingly desperate – and more and more odd.

In 1918 in the peaceful province of Transkei, South Africa, the Mandela family gave their new baby son the name Rolihlahla – ‘troublemaker’. But the young boy’s early years were happy ones, and he grew up to be a good sportsman. He was a happy one. And day by day, Macon’s attempts to run his own life become increasingly desperate – and more and more odd. Meanwhile, he has to get on with his work, writing tourist guides for business people. Then his dog Edward starts to bite business people. Then his dog starts to bite to get on with his work, writing tourist guides for business people. Then his dog starts to bite…

Everyday life in Baltimore, USA, is full of problems – getting the washing done, buying groceries and dog food, avoiding the neighbours… After the death of his son and the departure of his wife, Macon’s attempts to run his own life become increasingly desperate – and more and more odd. Meanwhile, he has to get on with his work, writing tourist guides for business people. Then his dog starts to bite people, and he has to send Muriel, the dog trainer. Then his dog starts to bite…

Nelson Mandela was the first black president of South Africa. But what happened to the rest of the Mandela family? After his death in 2013, the name Rolihlahla – ‘troublemaker’ – became known around the world. But in 1918 in the peaceful province of Transkei, South Africa, the Mandela family gave their new baby boy the name Rolihlahla – ‘troublemaker’. But the young boy’s early years were happy ones, and he grew up to be a good sportsman. He was a happy one.

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When her father dies, Aku-nna and her young brother have no one to look after them. They are welcomed by their uncle because of Aku-nna’s ‘bride price’ – the money that her future husband will pay for her.

In her new, strange home one man is kind to her and teaches her to become a woman. Soon they are drawn together – until, finally, something has broken.

‘Please, Mr Murdstone! Don’t beat me! I’ve tried to learn my lessons, really I have,’ sobs David.

Although he is only eight years old, Mr Murdstone does beat him, and David is so frightened that he bites his cruel stepfather’s hand. For that, he is kept locked in his room for five days and nights, and nobody is allowed to speak to him. As David grows up, he learns that life is full of trouble and misery and cruelty. But he also finds laughter and kindness, trust and friendship… and love.

Chief Inspector Morse is drinking a pint of beer. He is thinking of an attractive woman who lives not far away. The woman he is thinking of is hanging, dead, from the ceiling of her kitchen. On the floor lies a chair, almost two metres away from the woman’s feet.

Chief Inspector Morse finishes his pint, and orders another. Perhaps he will visit Anne, after all. But he is in no particular hurry.

Meanwhile, Anne is still hanging in her kitchen, waiting for the police to come and cut her down. She is in no hurry, either.

V. I. Warshawski, private investigator, Chicago, USA.

People imagine private detectives to be tired-looking men in raincoats, but Vic is female. She’s tough, beautiful, carries a gun – and goes on asking questions until she gets answers.

When her cousin Boom dies in an accident, Vic is naturally upset. She wants to know how and why the accident happened, and she isn’t satisfied by the answers she gets. So she goes on asking questions … and more people start to die.

San Francisco lies under a cloud of radioactive dust. People live in half-deserted buildings, and keep electric animals as pets because many real animals have died. Most people emigrate to Mars – unless they have a job to do on Earth.

Like Rick Deckard – android killer for the police and owner of an electric sheep. This week he has to find, identify, and kill six escaped androids. They’re machines, but they look and sound and think like humans – clever, dangerous humans.

The film Blade Runner was based on this famous novel.

Bathsheba Everdene is young, proud, and beautiful. She is an independent woman and can marry any man she chooses – if she chooses. In fact, she likes her independence, and she enjoys fighting her own battles in a man’s world.

But it is never wise to ignore the power of love. There are three men who would very much like to marry Bathsheba. When she falls in love with one of them, she soon wishes she had kept her independence. She learns that love brings misery, pain, and violent passions that can destroy lives…

Oh, how delightful it is to fall in love for the first time! How exciting to go to your first dance when you are a girl of eighteen! But life can also be hard and cruel, if you are young and inexperienced and travelling alone across Europe... or if you are a child from the wrong social class... or a singer without work and the rent to be paid.

Set in Europe and New Zealand, these nine stories by Katherine Mansfield dig deep beneath the appearances of life to show us the causes of human happiness and despair.
Thirteen. Quickly, nervously, in the dark, counting. the house!

Thirteen? But there were all there – all thirteen. Slowly the others found us, hid with us, until we were all there – all thirteen. Thirteen. Quickly, nervously, I lit a match to see…'

We touched each other. We touched each other in the dark, counting. Thirteen. Quickly, nervously, I lit a match to see…'

Arthur Clennam is back in England after many years abroad. He finds his mother as cold and hard as ever, but his father’s recent death has thrown up a mystery, and he is determined to get to the bottom of it. Could it have anything to do with Little Dorrit, the quiet, unassuming boy instead of the son of the rich tycoon, Douglas King.'

Douglas King.'

The police at the 87th Precinct hate kidnappers. And these kidnappers are stupid, too. They took the wrong boy – the chauffeur’s son, instead of the son of the rich tycoon, Douglas King.

The Merchant of Venice is one of Shakespeare’s most popular plays, and it has been performed all over the world. It is retold in this Bookworm not as a play, but as a story.

In sixteenth-century Venice – a city of wealthy merchants and bankers – money is all-important. Bassanio is penniless, but his great friend Antonio offers to help him by borrowing the money that he needs. To do this, though, Antonio must make an arrangement with an old enemy that puts his life in danger…

Anthony’s mother is the rich tycoon, Douglas King. And they want a ransom of $500,000. King. And they want a ransom of $500,000.

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When Carruthers joins his friend Arthur Davies on his yacht Dulcibella, he is expecting a pleasant sailing holiday in the Baltic Sea. But the holiday turns into an adventure of a different kind. He and Davies find themselves sailing in the stormy waters of the North Sea, exploring the channels and sandbanks around the German Frisian Islands, and looking for a secret – a secret that could mean great danger for England.

Erskine Childers’ novel, published in 1903, was the first great modern spy story, and is still as exciting as the first great modern spy novel, published in 1903, was the first great modern spy story, and is still as exciting.
Dublin, Ireland, in the early years of the twentieth century. It is a poor city, and there is hard drinking, dishonesty, and violence just beneath the surface everywhere you look. Glance inside a few people’s lives, and you soon find loneliness and disappointment, self-hate, and despair.

The people in these stories are paralysed: locked into the circles of their everyday lives, where they are caught waiting between life and death. For some, there is a way out – but with circumstances, or their own fear, stop them from taking it?

On a beautiful summer evening in the quiet town of Marlow, a young woman is walking home from church. She passes a man who is looking at the engine of his car. He turns round, smiles at her… and throws acid into her face.

Then her father, the scientist George Ashton, disappears. And her sister, Penny, discovers that her husband-to-be, Malcolm, is a government agent. Why has Ashton disappeared, and why is Malcolm told to hunt for him? Who is George Ashton, anyway? And who is the enemy?

Flies are a nuisance. They are annoying when they buzz around you, but you can brush them away with your hand. After all, a fly is only about half the size of your fingernail. But suppose it wasn’t. Catch a fly and look at it closely – look at its head, its eyes, its legs. Now imagine that this thing was the size of a human being…

These eight stories offer horror in many shapes and forms, in worlds full of monsters and evil spirits, where terror lies waiting – look at its head, its eyes, its legs. Now imagine that this thing was the size of a human being…

These eight stories offer horror in many shapes and forms, in worlds full of monsters and evil spirits, where terror lies waiting. For Mr Rochester, she hopes she has found both at once. But the sound of strange laughter, late at night, behind a locked door, warns her that her troubles are only beginning.

Jane Eyre is alone in the world. Disliked by her aunt’s family, she is sent away to school. Here she learns that a young girl, with neither money nor family to support her, can expect little from the world. She survives, but she wants more from life than simply to survive: she wants respect, and love.

When she goes to work for Mr Rochester, she hopes she has found both at once. But the sound of strange laughter, late at night, behind a locked door, warns her that her troubles are only beginning.

There are so many things that a mother wishes to teach her daughter. How to lose your innocence, but not your hope. How to keep hoping, when hope is your only joy. How to laugh for ever.

This is the story of four mothers and their daughters – Chinese-American women, the mothers born in China, and the daughters in America. Through their eyes we see life in pre-Revolutionary China, and life in downtown San Francisco; women struggling to find a cultural identity that can include a past and a future half a world apart.

On the Polar ice-cap, 640 kilometres north of the Arctic Circle, the deadly, icy winds can freeze a man to death in minutes. But the survivors of the crashed airliner are lucky – they are rescued by three scientists from a nearby weather station.

But why did the airliner crash in the first place? Who smashed the radio to pieces? And why does the dead pilot have a bullet hole in his back? The rescue quickly turns into a nightmare: a race through the endless Arctic night, a race against time, cold, hunger – and a killer with a gun.
The moment I first met you, I noticed your pride, your sense of superiority, and your selfish disdain for the feelings of others. You are the last man in the world whom I could ever be persuaded to marry," said Elizabeth Bennet.

And so Elizabeth rejects the proud Mr Darcy. Can nothing overcome her prejudice against him? And what of the other Bennet girls – their fortunes, and misfortunes, in the business of getting husbands?

This famous novel by Jane Austen is full of wise and humorous observation of the people and manners of her times.

A pretty young girl has to leave home to make money for her family. She is clever and a good worker; but she is uneducated and does not know the cruel ways of the world. So, when a rich young man says he loves her, she is careful – but not careful enough. He is persuasive, and she is overwhelmed. It is not her fault, but the world says it is. Her young life is already stained by men’s desires, and by death.

When Becky Sharp and Amelia Sedley leave school, their feet are set on very different paths. Kind, foolish Amelia returns to her comfortable home and wealthy family, to await a suitable marriage, while Becky must look out for herself, earning her own living in a hard world. But Becky is neither kind nor foolish, and with her quick brain and keen eye for a chance, her fortunes soon rise, while Amelia’s fall.

Greed, ambition, loyalty, folly, wisdom... this famous novel gives us a witty and satirical picture of English society during the Napoleonic wars.

The woman in white first appears at night on a lonely heath near London and is next seen at a grave-side in Cumberland. Who is she? Where has she come from, and what is her history? She seems alone and friendless, frightened and confused. And it seems she knows a secret – a secret that could bring ruin and shame to a man who will do anything to keep her silent.

This famous mystery thriller by Wilkie Collins has excitement, suspense, romance, and a plot that twists and turns on every page.
Six volumes of themed short stories by well-known authors, both classic and modern. The texts are not abridged or adapted in any way, but have been selected for content and language that will be understood by the advanced student. Each story has a short introduction, activities, and notes on culture and vocabulary.

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- Fay Weldon
- Patricia Highsmith
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- Somerset Maugham
Edited by Diane Mowat and Jennifer Bassett

ISBN: 978 0 19 422816 9

What sad, appalling, and surprising things people do in the name of love and for the sake of love. These short stories give us love won and love lost, love revenged, love thrown away, love in triumph, love in despair. It might be love between men and women, children and parents, even humans and cats; but whichever it is, love is a force to be reckoned with.

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- Agatha Christie
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Murder: the unlawful, intentional killing of a human being – a terrible crime. But murder stories are always fascinating. Who did it? And how? Or why? And was it murder, or just an unfortunate accident? Who will triumph, the murderer or the detective? This collection contains a wide range of murder stories, from the astute detection of the famous Sherlock Holmes, to the chilling psychology of Ruth Rendell.

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- John Updike
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What does it feel like to be a child? Learning how to negotiate with the unpredictable adult world, learning how to pick a path through life’s traps and hazards, learning when the time has come to put away childish things. The writers of these short stories show us the world as seen from the far side of the child-adult divide, a gap that is sometimes small, and sometimes an unbridgeable chasm.

**From the Cradle to the Grave**
- Evelyn Waugh
- Roald Dahl
- Somerset Maugham
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- Raymond Carver
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- Susan Hill
Edited by Clare West

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These stories explore the trials of life from youth to old age: the idealism of young people, the stresses of marriage, the anxieties of parenthood, and the loneliness and fears of older people. The wide variety of writing styles includes black humour, satire, and compassionate and realistic observation of the follies and foibles of humankind.

**A Tangled Web**
- Ray Bradbury
- Roald Dahl
- Maeve Binchy
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- Somerset Maugham
- Frederick Forsyth
- Clare Boylan
- Paul Theroux
- Oscar Wilde
- Joanna Trollope
Edited by Christine Lindop and Alison Sykes-McNulty

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Deception is usually frowned on as morally unacceptable, but is it always wrong? Can hiding or distorting the truth sometimes have good effects, adding to the sum of human happiness? These ten stories are full of secrets and lies, from a light-hearted bit of fun to dark and desperate deceit; but whether harmless or evil, deception can sometimes lead to quite unexpected complications.
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