Oxford Graded Readers

Read your way to better English

www.oup.com/elt/gradedreading
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<th>SERIES</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>CEFR</th>
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<td>Secondary &amp; Adult</td>
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<td>Fiction and non-fiction for young learners.</td>
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<td>Reading Stars</td>
<td>First steps to reading success for very young learners of English.</td>
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How old are your students?
Read your way to better English
Recommended Readers for your course

Visit [www.oup.com/elt/recommendedreaders](http://www.oup.com/elt/recommendedreaders)

Our Graded Readers are matched to the units in your book so you can use them alongside the course you teach!

**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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<th>TOEFL iBT®</th>
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# Reading Stars

**BEGINNER • CEFR: PRE-A1 • FICTION: 3 LEVELS**

This engaging series of readers features popular characters from the Nickelodeon television series Dora the Explorer, Blaze and the Monster Machines, and Team Umizoomi and will support very young learners’ first steps to reading success.

**The Reading Stars series includes:**

- Story books with a picture dictionary and follow-up language and comprehension activities
- Phonics story books with a story, picture dictionary, and follow-up phonics activities

**Available to download (from inside cover):**

- Audio of the story, picture dictionary and audio for phonics activities
- Teacher’s Guide with photocopiable resources
- Parent’s Guide with printable resources
- Parent’s Videos providing support and guidance

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### LEVEL 1

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<th>Story Books</th>
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<td>Happy Birthday: Dora the Explorer</td>
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<td>Three Dogs: Team Umizoomi</td>
<td>978 0 19 467327 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Snow, Snow, Snow!: Blaze and the Monster Machines</td>
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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 imaginatıons. 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

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Audio CDs are available in both American and British English.

e-Books available on Oxford Learner’s Bookshelf

See page 99
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

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The summer went on, 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. Cébo 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.’

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
The Boy and the Violin
Rachel Bladon

Enjoy this tale from Brazil about a boy, his cat, some giants, and a beautiful violin...

The Enormous Turnip
Sue Arengo

Read the tale of the man who pulls, and pulls, and pulls the enormous turnip, but cannot move it.

The Lazy Grasshopper
Rachel Bladon

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.

The Little Red Hen
Sue Arengo

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

Lownu Mends the Sky
Sue Arengo

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

The Magic Cooking Pot
Sue Arengo

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

The Magpie and the Milk
Rachel Bladon

Enjoy this tale from Turkey about a farmer, the milk from her cow, and a magpie...

Word count 521
Reader 978 0 19 411522 3
Activity Book & Play 978 0 19 411523 0
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 411524 7

Word count 346
Reader 978 0 19 423866 3
Activity Book & Play 978 0 19 423867 0
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 400274 5

Word count 554
Reader 978 0 19 423981 3
Activity Book & Play 978 0 19 423987 5
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 400423 7

Word count 506
Reader 978 0 19 423850 2
Activity Book & Play 978 0 19 423851 9
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 400472 5

Word count 611
Reader 978 0 19 423874 8
Activity Book & Play 978 0 19 423875 5
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 400474 9

Word count 491
Reader 978 0 19 423988 2
Activity Book & Play 978 0 19 423994 3
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 400474 9

100 HEADWORDS • CEFR A1
• Average word count: 540
• Cambridge English: Starters

All titles available as e-books through the Oxford Learner’s Bookshelf
Enjoy this tale from Morocco, and find out how the hungry old donkey helps Mansour.

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

Enjoy the famous tale of the prince who isn’t happy. How can he find a real princess?

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

Read the famous tale of the old shoemaker. How do the elves help him?

Enjoy the famous tale of the three clever goats and the hungry troll.

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.

Nour and the Three Princes
Rachel Bladon

Follow the adventures of three princes. What wonderful things can they find for Princess Nour?

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

Big Baby Finn 619
Reader 978 0 19 423894 6
Activity Book & Play 978 0 19 423903 5
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 401408 3

The Fisherman and his Wife 878
Reader 978 0 19 423902 8
Activity Book & Play 978 0 19 423903 5
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 401409 8

The Gingerbread Man 675
Reader 978 0 19 423906 6
Activity Book & Play 978 0 19 423907 3
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 401410 6

Jack and the Beanstalk 712
Reader 978 0 19 423908 9
Activity Book & Play 978 0 19 423909 6
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 401411 8

King Arthur and the Sword 832
Reader 978 0 19 411532 2
Activity Book & Play 978 0 19 411533 9
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 411534 6

Nour and the Three Princes 795
Reader 978 0 19 411531 5
Activity Book & Play 978 0 19 411532 2
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 411533 9

Rainforest Boy 760
Reader 978 0 19 423980 6
Activity Book & Play 978 0 19 423981 3
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 401406 9

All titles available as e-books through the Oxford Learner’s Bookshelf.
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<td>Sue Arengo</td>
<td>Follow the adventures of Thumbelina, the little girl who comes from inside a flower.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse</td>
<td>Sue Arengo</td>
<td>Find out what happens when Town Mouse comes to the country and Country Mouse goes to the town.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Two Brothers and the Swallows</td>
<td>Rachel Bladon</td>
<td>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...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Ugly Duckling</td>
<td>Sue Arengo</td>
<td>Follow the adventures of the famous duckling. Why is he big, strange, and ugly?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aladdin</td>
<td>Sue Arengo</td>
<td>Enjoy the famous tale of Aladdin and the wonderful old lamp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bambi and the Prince of the Forest</td>
<td>Rachel Bladon</td>
<td>Enjoy this beautiful story of the fawn Bambi’s first year of life in the forest...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goldilocks and the Three Bears</td>
<td>Sue Arengo</td>
<td>Find out what happened when a little girl called Goldilocks went into the three bears’ house.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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- Activity Book & Play
- e-Book, teaching notes, and answer keys available online
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Enjoy the tale of the princesses who had holes in their shoes every morning. What did they do every night?

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Enjoy the famous tale of Snow White and the bad queen who wanted to kill her.

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Sue Arengo

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THE WORLD OF ARTS & SOCIAL STUDIES
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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?

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- What can you find in a rockpool?
- How many legs does a prawn have?

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- How many eyes does a spider have?
- Can animals see in the dark?

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- 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?

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- What do seeds do?
- What animals live in trees?
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- What machines use electricity?
- What is a battery?

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- What are crops?
- What do we get from sheep?

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- What sports do people do in mountains?

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- Where do people work in cities?
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- How do we make plastic?
- Can we recycle plastic?

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- What makes Earth warm?
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- How many bones do you have?
- What are germs?
Amazing Minibeasts
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Read and discover all about amazing minibeasts.
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Robert Quinn

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

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Richard Northcott

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

Free Time Around the World
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Read and discover all about free-time activities around the world.
• Where is dog sledding popular?
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Read and discover all about how we make different products.
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Cheryl Palin

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• Where do orang-utans sleep?

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• What are sound waves?
• What type of musical instrument is a koto?

Word count 1,249
Reader 978 0 19 444379 5
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 402173 9
Activity Book 978 0 19 444389 4

Word count 1,367
Reader 978 0 19 444385 6
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 402175 3
Activity Book 978 0 19 444395 5

Word count 1,323
Reader 978 0 19 444382 5
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 402177 7
Activity Book 978 0 19 444392 4

Word count 1,330
Reader 978 0 19 444378 8
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 402181 4
Activity Book 978 0 19 444391 3

Word count 1,306
Reader 978 0 19 444383 2
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 402183 8
Activity Book 978 0 19 444390 0

Word count 1,395
Reader 978 0 19 444380 1
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 402185 2
Activity Book 978 0 19 444394 8

Word count 1,370
Reader 978 0 19 444384 9
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 402187 6
Activity Book 978 0 19 444396 6
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?
Word count 1,692
Reader 978 0 19 464442 6
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 402193 7
Activity Book 978 0 19 444445 2

All About Ocean Life
Rachel Bladon
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• Which tree can live in salt water?
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Word count 1,729
Reader 978 0 19 464443 9
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 402195 1
Activity Book 978 0 19 444449 5

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• How many types of plant are there?
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Word count 1,665
Reader 978 0 19 464444 0
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 402197 5
Activity Book 978 0 19 444450 1

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Word count 1,200
Reader 978 0 19 464438 1
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 402187 6
Activity Book 978 0 19 444439 7

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Word count 1,273
Reader 978 0 19 464436 4
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 402189 0
Activity Book 978 0 19 444386 3

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Word count 1,343
Reader 978 0 19 464437 7
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 402191 3
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Reader with Audio 978 0 19 402193 7
Activity Book 978 0 19 444445 2

Word count 1,729
Reader 978 0 19 464444 0
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 402197 5
Activity Book 978 0 19 444450 1

Word count 1,665
Reader 978 0 19 464443 9
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 402195 1
Activity Book 978 0 19 444449 5

Word count 1,343
Reader 978 0 19 464437 7
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 402191 3
Activity Book 978 0 19 444390 8

Word count 1,273
Reader 978 0 19 464436 4
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 402189 0
Activity Book 978 0 19 444386 3

Word count 1,200
Reader 978 0 19 464438 1
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 402187 6
Activity Book 978 0 19 444439 7

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Teacher’s Handbook (Levels 3–6) ISBN: 978 0 19 464375 7
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Read and discover all about amazing animals at night.
- Why do some animals come out at night?
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- Where can you see animals in art?
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- What is a volcano?
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Read and discover all about machines in the past and today.
- When did people invent the wheel?
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Alex Raynham

Medicine Then and Now
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• Which island has dragons?

Read and discover all about amazing animal life cycles.
• Which animals hatch from eggs?
• What is metamorphosis?

Read and discover all about explorers and exploring.
• Why is exploring important?
• Where did the first explorers go?

Read and discover all about great animal migrations.
• Why do animals migrate?
• How do they find their way?

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• What materials are homes made of?
• How do people build homes on stilts?

Read and discover all about the materials that people use to make products.
• How is glass made?
• What are microchips?

Read and discover all about medicine in the past and medicine today.
• What was the world’s first antibiotic?
• What medicine can cure malaria?

Word count 3,457
Reader 978 0 19 464503 4
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 402214 9
Activity Book 978 0 19 444513 3

Word count 3,437
Reader 978 0 19 464502 7
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 402216 3
Activity Book 978 0 19 444512 6

Word count 3,491
Reader 978 0 19 464500 3
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 402218 7
Activity Book 978 0 19 444510 2

Word count 3,463
Reader 978 0 19 464501 0
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 402220 4
Activity Book 978 0 19 444511 9

Word count 3,357
Reader 978 0 19 464497 6
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 402224 8
Activity Book 978 0 19 444507 2

Word count 3,437
Reader 978 0 19 464505 8
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 402226 2
Activity Book 978 0 19 444515 7

Word count 3,363
Reader 978 0 19 464506 5
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 402228 4
Activity Book 978 0 19 444516 4

Day of the Dinosaurs
See page 34

The Bad House
See page 34

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Read and discover all about clothes in the past and clothes today.
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- What is a fashion victim?

Word count 3,711
Reader 978 0 19 444561 4
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 444565 2
Activity Book 978 0 19 444571 3

Partner

Invisible
See page 35
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?

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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?

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?

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?

Rosie’s Teddy Bear
Paul Shipton

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

Where’s My Hat?
Paul Shipton

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

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?

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 91
Reader 978 0 19 470923 7
Activity Book 978 0 19 470924 8

Word count 98
Reader 978 0 19 470923 1
Activity Book 978 0 19 470926 2

Word count 115
Reader 978 0 19 472241 4
Activity Book 978 0 19 472234 6

Word count 120
Reader 978 0 19 472240 7
Activity Book 978 0 19 472233 9

Word count 108
Reader 978 0 19 472225 4
Activity Book 978 0 19 472216 2

Teaching ideas are available in the Teacher’s Handbook and online www.oup.com/elt/teacher/readandimagine
150 HEADWORDS • CEFR Pre-A1 • Average word count: 190 Starters

**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!

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**Word count 214**  
Reader 978 0 19 472228 5  
Activity Book 978 0 19 472219 3

**Word count 215**  
Reader 978 0 19 472224 7  
Activity Book 978 0 19 472215 5

**Word count 192**  
Reader 978 0 19 470907 1  
Activity Book 978 0 19 470910 1

**Word count 226**  
Reader 978 0 19 472227 7  
Activity Book 978 0 19 472217 9

**Word count 237**  
Reader 978 0 19 470908 8  
Activity Book 978 0 19 470911 8

**Word count 192**  
Reader 978 0 19 470909 5  
Activity Book 978 0 19 470912 5

**Word count 213**  
Reader 978 0 19 472227 8  
Activity Book 978 0 19 472218 6

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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…

Word count 599
Reader 978 0 19 472272 8
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 401740 4
Activity Book 978 0 19 472248 3

The New Glasses
Paul Shipton
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?

Word count 588
Reader 978 0 19 470930 9
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 470938 5
Activity Book 978 0 19 470935 4

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?

Word count 596
Reader 978 0 19 470931 6
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 470939 2
Activity Book 978 0 19 470935 4

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?

Word count 550
Reader 978 0 19 472269 8
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 401743 5
Activity Book 978 0 19 472245 2
Robbers at the Museum
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 579
Reader 978 0 19 472270 4
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 472271 5
Activity Book 978 0 19 472269 9

Art
See page 16

Partner

The Snow Tigers
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
Reader 978 0 19 472272 1
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 472273 2
Activity Book 978 0 19 472267 6

Wild Cats
See page 17

Partner

Too Fast!
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
Reader 978 0 19 472932 3
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 472932 4
Activity Book 978 0 19 472931 8

Wheels
See page 16

Partner

The Treehouse
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 688
Reader 978 0 19 473651 0
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 473658 5
Activity Book 978 0 19 473656 8

Trees
See page 16

Partner

The Big Snowball
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
Reader 978 0 19 472298 8
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 472297 1
Activity Book 978 0 19 472274 2

In the Mountains
See page 18

Partner

The Big Storm
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
Reader 978 0 19 472297 1
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 472298 8
Activity Book 978 0 19 472274 2

Electricity
See page 18

Partner

Can You See Lions?
Paul Shipton

See page 17
Clunk in the Clouds
Paul Shipton

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?
Danger! Bugs!
Paul Shipton

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 ...

Word count: 1,050
Reader: 978 0 19 472329 9
Reader with Audio: 978 0 19 401967 5
Activity Book: 978 0 19 472305 3

Danger in the Rainforest
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?

Word count: 1,005
Reader: 978 0 19 473673 2
Reader with Audio: 978 0 19 473681 7
Activity Book: 978 0 19 473677 0

Fear at the Festival
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?

Word count: 1,056
Reader: 978 0 19 473672 5
Reader with Audio: 978 0 19 401982 8
Activity Book: 978 0 19 473683 1

The Game
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 ...

Word count: 1,041
Reader: 978 0 19 473675 6
Reader with Audio: 978 0 19 473683 1
Activity Book: 978 0 19 473679 4

Get Us Out of Here!
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?

Word count: 1,001
Reader: 978 0 19 473674 3
Reader with Audio: 978 0 19 473682 7
Activity Book: 978 0 19 473678 2

Partner

How We Make Products
See page 19

Partner

Festivals Around the World
See page 19

Partner

Life in Rainforests
See page 20

Partner

Amazing Minibeasts
See page 19

Partner

Your Five Senses
See page 19

Partner

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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.

High Water
Paul Shipton

Ben and Rosie take their kayaks to Grandpa’s favourite river – but there’s a flood! Sam has a pet store in the town, and water from the river is in his store. Can Ben help the animals?
Bats!
Paul Shipton

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?

Clunk's Brain
Paul Shipton

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?

The Flower Thief
Paul Shipton

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?

Inside Clunk
Paul Shipton

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?

The Lost City
Paul Shipton

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...

Lost in the Desert
Paul Shipton

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?

A Machine for the Future
Paul Shipton

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?
LEVEL 4
A1–A2

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?

Word count 1,389
Reader 978 0 19 472365 7
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 401994 1
Activity Book 978 0 19 472341 1

Partner

LEVEL 5
900 HEADWORDS • CEFR • A2 – B1 • Average word count: 2,270
Cambridge English: & Key (KET)

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?

Word count 2,403
Reader 978 0 19 472375 6
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 402118 0
Activity Book 978 0 19 472367 1

Partner

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?

Word count 2,273
Reader 978 0 19 472367 1
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 472366 4
Activity Book 978 0 19 472368 2

Partner

When Ben and Max have been learning about volcanoes – so they go to see one! But then the volcano erupts. Hot lava is coming to the village, and Rosie’s new friend Nani needs help. Ben has an idea – but how can they stop the river of fire?

Word count 1,350
Reader 978 0 19 472360 2
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 472361 9
Activity Book 978 01 9 472337 4

Partner

Day of the Dinosaurs
Paul Shipton

Trouble on the Eastern Express
Paul Shipton

Available for each reader: Reader with Audio (Book with audio in both American and British English) • Activity Book • e-Book
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
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<th>Word Count</th>
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<tr>
<td>Hope on Turtle Island</td>
<td>Paul Shipton</td>
<td>Grandpa has disappeared, and in a notebook he has written one word – HOPE. What does it mean? Why does Clunk bring Ben and Rosie to Turtle Island? Can they find Grandpa and stop a plan to turn off all the world’s electricity?</td>
<td>3,035</td>
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<td>Invisible</td>
<td>Paul Shipton</td>
<td>‘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?</td>
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<td>The Secret on the Moon</td>
<td>Paul Shipton</td>
<td>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?</td>
<td>3,050</td>
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<td>What’s So Funny?</td>
<td>Paul Shipton</td>
<td>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?</td>
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Dominoes

Founder Editors: Bill Bowler and Sue Parminter
Series Editor: Nicole Irving

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

Dominoes’ colour illustrations, on-page glossaries, and dramatized audio motivate and support students to read in English. Graded to the acclaimed Bookworms syllabus, Dominoes offer a comfortable read at every level.

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Dominoes Quick Starters are shorter stories to help students build confidence reading in English.
Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves Retold by Janet Hardy-Gould

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?

Crying Wolf and Other Tales Retold by Elspeth Rawstron

‘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?’

‘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 Çelebi 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.

The First Flying Man

Word count 1,099
Reader 978 0 19 424943 0 AmE
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 424945 7 AmE

Lisa’s Song

Al Brown plays the guitar in a band with friends. He writes songs, too. ‘Our boy can’t live without his music,’ his parents say.

Merlin

‘Be careful with Morfran,’ Princess Adhan tells her young son, Merlin.

Word count 1,458
Reader 978 0 19 424974 4 BrE
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 424976 0 BrE

The Little Match Girl

‘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 Çelebi 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.

Word count 1,426
Reader 978 0 19 424940 9 BrE
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 424941 6 BrE

Lisa’s Song

Hans Christian Andersen

Word count 1,032
Reader 978 0 19 424944 5 BrE
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 424945 2 BrE

Al Brown plays the guitar in a band with friends. He writes songs, too. ‘Our boy can’t live without his music,’ his parents say.

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?

Word count 1,139
Reader 978 0 19 424948 5 AmE
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 424949 2 AmE

Pebbles on the Beach

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 in California. Here – with Aunt May and her neighbours Diego and Bianca – she learns to see things differently. But, one night, there’s an oil spill on the beautiful beach near their home.

Word count 1,106
Reader 978 0 19 424946 8 BrE
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 424947 6 BrE

Quick Starter

250 Headwords • CEFR A1
• Story length: 17 pages • Average word count: 1,125
• Cambridge English: Starters • Cambridge English: Movers • IELTS 1.0–2.0 • TOEIC 120–215 • TOEFL 8-23

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!
Perseus is the son of Danae, Princess of Argos, and the god Zeus. When he is very young, his mother moves with him to live on the island of Seriphos. Later, Polydectes – the king of Seriphos – wants to marry Danae. Perseus says ‘no’ to this, so Polydectes sends the young man away. Perseus finds and kills Medusa – a she-monster for the head of Medusa. His way back to Seriphos? After he goes back to Seriphos?

It's my garden,' says the Giant, 'People must understand. Nobody can play here – only me!' So the children leave, and the Giant puts a wall around his garden. After that, it's always winter there. Later, the Giant feels sorry for a young boy in the snow. He knocks down the garden wall – and the children, and the spring, come back. But where is the young boy now? And how can the Giant find him again?

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 her 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.' 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.
It is the 24th of December – the night before Christmas. Ebenezer Scrooge doesn’t like Christmas. Christmas is an expensive time, and Scrooge likes one thing: money. So he doesn’t like to give money to poor children in the London streets – or to Bob Cratchit. Cratchit works in Scrooge’s office, and gets little money for his hard work.

This is his story…

Bring me a BIG story! says Rosie’s editor at The Record newspaper.

And, when she leaves the office, Rosie does find a story. A story that is bigger than she expects. A story that takes her across Europe, into a dangerous world of art and art thieves.

This story is recorded in British English, with some American characters.

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…

Can the ghosts change this bad old man into a better man?

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.

Bring me something new and exciting. Bring me a BIG story!’ says Rosie’s editor at The Record newspaper.

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But how does the fire begin and who can stop it? What is the King of England doing to help?

Can the ghosts change this bad old man into a better man?
The Happy Prince by Oscar Wilde

The Happy Prince is a beautiful golden statue high up on a column in the city. Everyone loves him. He feels sad about the city’s poor people, but what can he do? He can’t leave his column. Then the swallow arrives, and helps the Happy Prince to do many good things.

Hercules by Retold by Janet Hardy-Gould

Hercules is the strongest man in the world, but one day he does something very bad. The priestess at Delphi tells him: ‘The gods are angry with you. For twelve years you must work for King Eurystheus, and do twelve tasks for him. When you finish, the gods can forgive your crime.’

Some tasks are easier, and some tasks are more difficult. Can Hercules finish all twelve of them? And what happens when he does?

In Hamburg, Germany, Professor Otto Lidenbrock comes home with an old Icelandic book. In it there is a message about a journey to the centre of the Earth. This is the beginning of one of Jules Verne’s most exciting stories.

Can Lidenbrock and Axel – and their Icelandic guide, Hans – find the centre of the Earth? And can they all get home alive after their many underground adventures?

Kidnap! by John Escott

‘My friend Queequeg and I are looking for whaling work,’ Ishmael says. Ishmael is a sailor from New York. With Queequeg the harpooner, he takes work on Captain Ahab’s whaling-ship, the Pequod. The ship’s first mate, Starbuck, wants to hunt whales for their oil. But Captain Ahab isn’t interested. In the hunt for a white whale twenty years earlier, the captain lost a leg. So now Ahab wants revenge on the white whale – Moby-Dick! Who lives? Who dies? And what happens to Ishmael?

When the Emperor calls every man to join the army and fight the enemy, Mulan’s father is old and ill, and cannot go. Wearing men’s clothes and riding a horse, Mulan leaves her family and fights bravely for the Emperor in her father’s place.

She is soon a hero for all the soldiers in the Chinese army. One of them, Ye Ming, is her best friend. But does he know that she is a woman? And can Mulan fall in love with a friend?

Word count 3,137
Reader 978 0 19 424712 2
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 463929 3

Word count 3,716
Reader 978 0 19 424913 3
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 463925 3

Word count 4,308
Reader 978 0 19 424715 3
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 463926 2

Word count 2,674
Reader 978 0 19 424711 5
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 463915 6

Word count 1,933
Reader 978 0 19 424978 2
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 463917 0

Word count 1,917
Reader 978 0 19 424706 1
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 463918 8
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 the play?

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.

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

Sherlock Holmes needs a rest, so Dr Watson takes him to the country. They stay with an old friend, Watson's old friend, Colonel Roylott, is very angry and does not want Holmes there. Roylott, is very angry and does not want Holmes there. If they cannot, then Helen Stoner died, two years ago. Helen Stoner will die too. But her stepfather, Dr Grimesby Roylott, is very angry and does not want Holmes there. '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.

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.

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 2,541
Reader 978 0 19 424704 7 AmE
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 463923 1 AmE

Word count 2,000
Reader 978 0 19 424702 3
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 463918 7 AmE

Word count 3,355
Reader 978 0 19 424716 0 Reader with Audio 978 0 19 463919 4 BrE

Word count 3,176
Reader 978 0 19 460745 2 Reader with Audio 978 0 19 460744 5 BrE

Word count 3,371
Reader 978 0 19 460905 0 Reader with Audio 978 0 19 463920 0 BrE

Word count 2,782
Reader 978 0 19 424709 2 Reader with Audio 978 0 19 463921 7 BrE

Word count 2,359
Reader 978 0 19 424708 8 Reader with Audio 978 0 19 463931 6 BrE
Tristan and Isolde
Retold by Bill Bowler

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?

Deep Trouble
Lesley Thompson

Amy and Matt are bored. They don’t want to study for their exams. They want to have a good time. So they drive to the marina at West Palm Beach, and Matt jumps onto one of the boats. ‘We can go anywhere!’ he jokes.

But when the owners of the boat come back and find them, Amy and Matt are in deep trouble. Matt is a good swimmer and enjoys scuba-diving, but now he must dive for their lives.

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.
'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 destroyed his life. But how does the monster feel about its maker?

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?

Anna is a new student at Oxford University. When she arrives in Oxford, she meets Selim, and they become good friends. But Selim is not English, and living in a different country is not easy for him. Anna tries to help – but she knows that her father isn’t going to like it.

‘What’s happened to Hamlet, Prince of Denmark? He was all right – he had friends, liked studying, and loved his girlfriend, Ophelia. Then his father, the king, died. The ghost of Hamlet’s father came to Elsinore Castle and spoke to Hamlet. What terrible story did he tell his son? Can Hamlet’s uncle really be so bad? What will Hamlet do?’

Read Shakespeare’s famous story as an exciting comic with beautiful illustrations.

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’s not easy to find a house to share in a big city. Every house has its problems, and not all of Chris’s housemates are easy to live with.

‘Can Chris find the house that he needs with housemates that he can live with? * This story is recorded in Australian English to reflect its origin and setting.’

When Jake Stevens goes to work for some months in Ireland, he feels happy. He loves travelling, and talking about his job – making computer games for BananaTech in America.

‘Your new game’s going back? Before the show. Who – or what can help him to get it back?’

‘Tripitaka, can you go to the west for me – and for Buddha?’ When the holy woman Guanyin asks the young Chinese monk Tripitaka to bring some holy writings back from India, he says ‘yes’. But how can he travel across rivers, and fight terrible monsters and demons, on his long journey? He needs three strong helpers – Monkey, Pigsy, and Sandy – to do that! But where do they come from? Do they always help? And can they bring the holy writings home again? Read this old Chinese story, and find out.
In the Indian jungle, a boy lives like a young wolf with his wolf family. Meet little Mowgli…

Mowgli grows up with his wolf brothers, but there are many other animals here, too. There are friends like Baloo the bear and Bagheera the panther. There is important Akela, leader of the wolf pack – so many wonderful animals to learn from. But Shere Khan the tiger is a man-killer, so there are very big dangers, too, in the jungle…

Enjoy the classic Rudyard Kipling stories about Mowgli, the jungle…

A dark, rainy day in Scotland, long ago. Returning from battle, Macbeth and his friend Banquo meet three witches. ‘Macbeth, the king!’ they say, but Macbeth is not a king, he is just a simple soldier.

Macbeth and Banquo cannot forget the witches’ words. Soon Macbeth is king, but his wife walks in his sleep at night, and dreams of blood. What lies in the future for Banquo? And how many people must die before Scotland finds peace once more?

‘How long is she in Oman for?’

‘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 homes 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?

Peter Pan is the boy who never grows up. He lives in Neverland, an island with fairies and pirates – and he isn’t real. Or is he?

Wendy and her brothers learn the truth when Peter and the fairy Tinkerbell come and take them all to Neverland. Neverland is wonderful – and dangerous. Peter Pan is real, but so are the pirates, and their terrible leader, Captain Hook. Peter cuts off Hook’s hand, and now Hook wants revenge.

Who will win – Pan or Hook? And will Wendy and her brothers ever go home to London?

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?’

‘No, I’m not. I’m used to it. But it’s a bit of a shock.’

Miss Polly’s life goes on as before. But one day her niece arrives, and Maggie, the new girl, is a bit different. And she seems to make Mary feel happier…

‘Is it true, Peter?’

‘Peter what?’

‘Is it true that everyone ends up dead in London?’

‘It’s not true, Peter. But you’re only ten, so you know nothing. ’
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.

‘There’s going to be a storm,’ Father told Fritz. ‘Find your brothers and bring them to our room.’

A Swiss family are going to Australia when their ship sinks in a storm. After that, Mother, Father, Fritz, Hans, Ernst, and little Franz must make their home on a Pacific Island. Like Robinson Crusoe, they have many exciting times on the island, and they learn a lot about its animals and plants. But do they always want to stay there, or are they going to leave one day?

Are men cleverer than women? Is a poor man cleverer than a rich man? And what about teachers? Are they always cleverer than their students? The people in these six well-known folk tales from around the world all want to be clever. But are some of them just stupid?

Each story is recorded in American or British English to reflect its origin and setting.

‘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…
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 after a long journey under the sea in Nemo’s submarine, the Nautilus.

‘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...

‘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?’

Can Gromit save Wallace from the danger of a ‘close shave’?

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?
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? From nuclear power plants to Nemo the clownfish, from polar bears to pesticides, from Greenpeace to global warming, this book brings together many different stories that have made environmental history. Read it, and perhaps you too can help to make our planet greener!

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. She is happy to meet the famous Dr Malone and the wise Dr Al Barwani, and to help to research birds, snakes, and insects. But things start to go wrong. Someone has a terrible secret, and there is danger for Jemma – and for the bird. Who has a secret plan, and what is it? What will happen to the bird? And what will happen to Jemma?
The three stories in this book are about ordinary people, people like you and me; but they find themselves in surprising situations.

Lord Arthur Savile, a rich man with no enemies, finds out that he must do something terrible before he can marry. Poor young Hughie Erskine gives money to an old beggar – but the beggar is not what he seems. And Lord Murchison falls in love with a mystery woman – but what is the strange secret behind the door in Cumnor Street?

You said that you wanted danger, didn’t you?” says McArdie, the editor of the Daily Gazette. And he sends his young reporter, Malone, on a strange journey into South America with the famous Professor Challenger. Challenger believes that he can find a lost world full of dinosaurs in the middle of the Amazon Forest. But this world is dangerous to reach, and, once the Professor and his small group of explorers arrive, things get even more dangerous for them.

Will they return alive?

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 the octopus. Smythe lives in Jamaica. But years earlier, he took someone’s life for gold, and now James Bond wants the full story. What can the major do?

‘It’s not a nice job, but someone has to do it,’ said M. 272, a British spy, is leaving East Berlin for the West. The Russians want to shoot him at the border. 007’s job is to kill the Russian sniper. Then a beautiful cellist arrives. Do Bond’s plans change?

Two great James Bond stories in one book!

Everyone knows Shakespeare’s famous love story – Romeo and Juliet are in love, but their families are enemies so their love cannot be. But this exciting retelling puts Romeo and Juliet in a dark and difficult future world – a terrible tomorrow where people are born as Normals or Perfects.

Of course, Juliet is a Perfect, so what happens when she meets Romeo – and her horrible brother Tybalt finds out? You need to read this amazing science fiction Romeo and Juliet.

‘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?

Sara tries to find out what’s going on. She’s a top student at school, but she’s going to have to break a few rules if she’s going to learn what’s happened to Luke. Can she solve the mystery before it’s too late?
‘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?

The year is 1895, and the place is the London home of a famous scientist. Here he shows his friends a strange machine – a time machine! He has built this, he tells them, to travel into the future, and into the past. He will be a time traveller! His friends don’t know what to think. Time travel is not possible, is it?

He leaves them, and his machine takes him to a troubling future – the land of the Eloi, where terrible creatures live below ground. He must soon fight for his life – and the life of his new friend Weena.

A re-release of the existing Dominoes The Turn of the Screw, with new and improved illustrations. 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 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.'

Violet's mum moves to Paris, so she has to go too. Living in Paris as a fourteen year old girl should be very exciting, but Violet doesn't like it. Her only hope is to talk to her friends from London online. But will that work? Will Violet ever enjoy Paris?

Word count 8,213
Reader 978 0 19 424574 6
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 460922 7

'So what?' I said. 'Places don't make you happy, do they? People make you happy. And all my friends are in London.'

'Will you 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? What will the Germans and the French do to him when they find him? And how will Albert find Joey again?

Word count 9,068
Reader 978 0 19 424982 9
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 460811 4

Life is hard and dangerous for both people and animals in the frozen Canadian North. For a wolf like White Fang it is a continuous fight to find food – a fight in which many animals die.

When White Fang meets the people of the North – first Indians and then White Men – he learns to live with them like a dog. But some men are cruel to their dogs and others are kind. Will White Fang's life be any easier now?

Word count 8,440
Reader 978 0 19 463975 0
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 460812 1

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...

Will Vic's mistake hurt people, or can he stop it in time? What will happen to Vic? And what will happen to the monster he has made?

Word count 8,495
Reader 978 0 19 460922 7
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 460811 4

A re-release of the existing Dominoes The Count of Monte Cristo, with new and improved illustrations. Marseille, France, 1815. It is Edmond Dantès' wedding day. But his enemies have other plans, and Edmond is arrested and sent to the terrible island prison of Château d'If. For fourteen long years he waits for the right moment to escape. And now Edmond is a rich man, with many disguises, and a new name. The Count of Monte Cristo begins his revenge...

Word count 11,844
Reader 978 0 19 460812 1
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 460811 4

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
Over the years hunters, poachers, and war have killed many of the gorillas of central Africa. But there are still a few hundred living high in the mists of the Virunga Mountains.

When Dian Fossey first saw a family of wild mountain gorillas in the Virungas she knew that she must help these wonderful animals. This true story tells of the twenty years she lived with them, watched them, wrote about them, and protected them. In the end, she gave her life for them.

A 'Tall Tale' is a story that's hard to believe, and the five tall tales in this book all tell of ghosts. Some have dark secrets buried in the past, others bring messages for the living. Some are laughable, some are sad, and some are just evil.

Sometimes there's a logical explanation for the strangest happenings, but often things cannot be explained by logic alone. Either way, you're sure to find some frightening reading between the covers of this book.

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 the way they meet friends and enemies, and many adventures. Some people will become heroes and some people will die. But what will happen to their friend Uncas, the last of the Mohican Indians?
The Moonstone
Wilkie Collins
Text adaptation by Merinda Wilson

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?

Word count 12,981
Reader 978 0 19 424821 1
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 463983 5 BrE

My Family and Other Animals
Gerald Durrell
Text adaptation by Bill Bowler

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.

Word count 14,085
Reader 978 0 19 424824 2
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 424782 5 BrE

The Secret Agent
Joseph Conrad
Text adaptation by Lesley Thompson

A re-release of the existing Dominoes The Secret Agent, with new and improved illustrations.

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?

Word count 13,324
Reader 978 0 19 424826 6
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 463981 1 AmE

The Vesuvius Mosaic
Joyce Hannam

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?

Word count 11,549
Reader 978 0 19 424829 7
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 463985 9 BrE

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?

Word count 13,857
Reader 978 0 19 424823 5
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 460829 8 BrE
# How to choose a *Domino*?

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*Comic Strips* use a small amount of text and are very closely supported by the illustrations. Great for reluctant readers!
Oxford Bookworms Library

Series Editor: Rachel Bladon

BEGINNER TOADVANCED CEFR: A1–C1
FICTION/NON-FICTION: 7 Levels

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> Audio helps build reading and listening skills
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New

Hachiko: Japan’s Most Faithful Dog, Level 1

“Sit down,” Lyco says, but he is laughing.
I ask. I cannot stop smiling. The horses are walking quickly now. We come down the hill and soon we arrive at the Hachiko Gate. There are more people there. They are carrying apples, bread, meat...

We go through the gate, between the tall walls, and – we are in Pompeii! Look at the people! Look at the houses!

“Apples!”

I look down. A boy is walking next to us on the street. He is small, but he is carrying lots and lots of apples.

“Hungry? Lyco asks me.

“I can eat ten of them!” I say.

Soon we arrive at the Herculaneum Gate.

MP3 Audio Files
Available when you purchase the Reader with Audio. Download via the access card in the reader at www.oup.com/elt/download
But on that day in New York, Malala said to the UN – and to the world – that nothing would stop her trying to get education for everyone. She spent months in hospital after the gunman tried to kill her, but now she felt even stronger than before. ‘I am the same Malala,’ she said. ‘My hopes are the same. And my dreams are the same.’

So, who is Malala Yousafzai? Why does she think that education is so important? And what happened to her after the gunman shot her?
# How to choose a Bookworm

Choose from over 270 books

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**LEVEL 6**

- Barchester Towers
- Dubliners
- Jane Eyre
- Oliver Twist
- Pride and Prejudice
- Tess of the d’Urbervilles
- Vanity Fair

**LEVEL 5**

- The Age of Innocence
- David Copperfield
- Far from the Madding Crowd
- Great Expectations
- The Great Gatsby
- Little Dorrit
- The Ape of Jericho
- The Merchant of Venice
- Sense and Sensibility
- Wuthering Heights

**LEVEL 4**

- Cranford
- Gulliver’s Travels
- Lord Jim
- Persuasion
- The Scarlet Letter
- The Call of the Wild
- A Christmas Carol
- A Midsummer Night’s Dream
- Othello
- The Three Strangers and Other Stories
- Through the Looking-Glass
- The Wind in the Willows

**LEVEL 3**

- Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland
- Huckleberry Finn
- The Jungle Book
- Love among the Haystacks
- The Mysteries of Agatha
- The Prince and the Pauper
- Robinson Crusoe
- Tales from Longpudle
- Death in the Freezer
- The Murders in the Rue Morgue
- Sherlock Holmes: More Short Stories
- Sherlock Holmes Short Stories

**LEVEL 2**

- The Adventures of Tom Sawyer
- The Withered Arm
- Love or Money?
- Sherlock Holmes and the Duke’s Son
- Sherlock Holmes and the Sport of Kings
- Shirley Homes and the Cyber Thief
- Shirley Homes and the Lithuanian Case
- Sister Love and Other Crime Stories

**LEVEL 1**

- A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur’s Court
- The Ransom of Red Chief
- The Cat
- Dead Man’s Money
- Girl on a Motorcycle
- The Girl with Green Eyes
- Give Us the Money

**STARTER**

- The Cat
- Dead Man’s Money
- Girl on a Motorcycle
- The Girl with Green Eyes
- Give Us the Money
- Omen Man
- Starman
- Vampire Killer
- New York Call
- Starman
- Vampire Killer

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**CLASSICS**

- Black Beauty
- Little Women
- Lorna Doone
- Three Men in a Boat
- A Passage to India

**CRIME & MYSTERY**

- The Big Sleep
- Death of an Englishman
- The Hound of the Baskervilles
- American Crime Stories
- Love or Money?
- Sherlock Holmes and the Duke’s Son
- Sherlock Holmes and the Sport of Kings
- Sherlock Holmes and the Cyber Thief
- The Perils of Sherlock Holmes

**FANTASY & HORROR**

- The Cat
- Dead Man’s Money
- Girl on a Motorcycle
- The Girl with Green Eyes
- Give Us the Money

**HUMAN INTEREST**

- The Cat
- Dead Man’s Money
- Girl on a Motorcycle
- The Girl with Green Eyes
- Give Us the Money

**PLAYSCRIPTS**

- The Cat
- Dead Man’s Money
- Girl on a Motorcycle
- The Girl with Green Eyes
- Give Us the Money
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<td>The Enemy</td>
<td>Stories about the lives of real people.</td>
<td>Short stories from around the world. Great for making cross-cultural connections.</td>
<td>Bring CLIL into your classroom and study other subjects through English.</td>
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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.

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?

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.

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?
‘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?

Mystery in London
Helen Brooke

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 open the door. Someone in the music room is singing. Tom and Milly are afraid, but they can’t move.

Can Tom and Milly discover the mystery of Manor Hall?

The Mystery of Manor Hall
Jane Cammack

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.

Oranges in the Snow
Phillip Burrows and Mark Foster

‘Everything’s ready now. We can do the experiment,’ says your assistant Joe.

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?

Word count 1,450
Reader 978 0 19 423428 3

Word count 1,390
Reader 978 0 19 478599 0
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 462031 4 BrE

Word count 1,610
Reader 978 0 19 423423 8
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 462027 7 AmE

New York Café
Michael Dean

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.

Orca
Phillip Burrows and Mark Foster

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!’ they shout.

They are all ready to go – but are they afraid of Tom Creek’s curse?

Word count 950
Reader 978 0 19 479364 3
‘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?

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.

‘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...

‘You’re a brave man, but I am afraid for you,’ says Lady Marian to Robin of Locksley. She is afraid because Robin does not like Prince John’s new taxes and wants to do something for the poor people of Nottingham. When Prince John hears this, Robin is suddenly in great danger.

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, she suddenly has a different phone... and it changes her life.

Kate loves singing and playing her guitar – and she’s good, too. One Saturday, she goes to the town square with her friend Lucy, and plays there. It’s a big thing, playing in front of people, and Kate isn’t the only street performer in the square that day. The silver statue is there, and that’s OK because she never moves or speaks. But Joe the drummer is there too, and Kate’s music and Joe’s drums aren’t good together. Or are they?

‘Sing to Win’ is the biggest programme on TV – everyone watches it and every singer wants to win it. Sofia loves singing, so she goes to an audition for Sing to Win – and makes friends with Emma. Emma is a very good singer, too, and soon there are stories about the two friends on TV and online. But not all the stories are true – and suddenly, being friends is not easy...
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…

Word count 1,400
Reader 978 0 19 423427 6
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 463734 3 BrE

The people on this island don’t like archaeologists, the woman on the ferry says. You only want to study the 4,500-year-old Irish megalithic stones, but very soon strange things begin to happen to you. Can you solve the mystery in time?

Word count 1,160
Reader 978 0 19 423419 1

Audio recording: AmE = American English  BrE = British English

Selected titles available as e-books through the Oxford Learner’s Bookshelf
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 47 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.

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, 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 than a ghost – much, much worse...

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?

Luna is a good-looking, young man, but he’s not very clever with words. Gemma is clever with words, but what does she want? Luke 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, laughter, and sometimes great sadness. But love will nearly always find a way...

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.

The story of the 47 ronin continues...
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. In the summer of 1910, a race to be the first man at the South Pole, a famous and dangerous race. And on this ship was Roald Amundsen, and of their never returned home. The true story of Scott and Amundsen, and 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? Our world is full of these kinds of problems. They make life interesting, and sometimes very funny. These five short plays show people trying to decide what to do in unexpected situations.

Do you believe in ghosts? Jerry doesn’t. He’s a 19-year-old American, who just wants a good holiday with his friend, Brad. They 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 17th 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.

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 who is the man at the next table – the man with short white hair? Nick learns the answers to these questions three long days later – in a police station on Vancouver Island.

The true story of Hachiko, Japan’s most famous dog, begins in the early 1920s, when he comes to live in Tokyo with Professor Ueno. Hachiko loves his new master. When the professor takes the train to work every morning, Hachiko goes with him to the station – and when the professor comes home in the evening, his faithful dog is always waiting. Hachiko soon has many friends in the streets of Tokyo – people like Nobu, the young son of a food seller. Life is good for Hachiko – until one day, everything changes…

France, 1815. Jean Valjean leaves prison after 19 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 50 films for television and cinema.
Cedric Errol is seven years old. He lives with his mother, in a little house, in New York. They don’t have much money, but mother and son are very good friends. Cedric is a kind, friendly, little boy, and everybody likes him. His father was English, but he is now dead, and Cedric and his mother are alone in the world.

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

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 on her eleventh birthday, something terrible happens, and now Sara has no family, no home, and not a penny in the world…

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 73 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 handsome… But does he like Maria? And what does Emilia think about Jack?

It is Molly Clarkson’s 15th 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. And there are other people who are also waiting for her to die.

But one person can’t wait. And so, on her 15th birthday, Molly Clarkson is going to die.

Maria is from Pamplona in Spain, and she’s having English classes at a summer school in London. She’s nervous at first, but soon she has a new friend, Emilia, and they do everything together. But then she meets Jack. He’s tall with blue eyes, very handsome… But does he like Maria? And what does Emilia think about Jack?

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England and Scotland in the 1500s. Two famous queens – Mary, the Catholic Queen of Scots, and Elizabeth I, the Protestant Queen of England. It was an exciting and a dangerous time to be alive, and to be a queen.

Mary was Queen of Scotland when she was one week old. At 16, 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.’

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 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. The visitor waits. 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.

At the start of this play, the court room is full for today’s trial. Two young men, Simon Clark and Dan Smith, stand up. The clerk asks, ‘Are you guilty of the murder of Mary Jones?’ ‘Not guilty!’ they reply. But perhaps they are guilty. The police found the murder weapon in their stolen car, and there was blood on Simon’s face. If the court finds them guilty, they will go to prison for a very long time.

Can the lawyers find out the truth, by asking the right questions? Everyone in court wants to know who murdered Mary Jones. You can help to find the answer, too!

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, he learnt 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.

Alex’s family are always moving from town to town. He doesn’t make new friends now, because he doesn’t like saying goodbye to them. He has his music, his songs, and his guitar, and they’re only for him. It’s best like that, he thinks. Then he meets Bella, and everything gets difficult. He likes her. He likes her very much. But she wants him to play his music for everyone. And how can he say goodbye to her, when his parents decide to move again?

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.

This is a collection of short stories about adventures on trains: Strange, wonderful, and frightening things can happen on trains – and all of them happen here.
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 has no face, he has black holes for eyes. Everybody is afraid of the Phantom – he is a head without a body, he is a body without a head. He still 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 cannot speak. He is a man without a voice.

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 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.

It is early morning on a warm day in Roman Italy. Sixteen-year-old Tiro gets the water, makes breakfast, and works in the kitchen – like he does day after day. Tiro is a slave. He can never be free, never eat when he wants to eat, or sleep when he wants to sleep.

But today is different. He is going to Pompeii for the first time. He is excited, but tired and needs to sleep.

Two men: the hunter and his son in the school. Huxtable is happy to have his son in the school.

But two weeks later Dr Huxtable is the unhappiest man in England. When the Duke of Holderness 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.

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.

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Two men: the hunter and the hunted. Which will win and which will lose? Long live the President!
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 someone kills his trainer. The police want the killer, and the owner wants his horse, but they can’t find them. So what do they do? They write to 221B Baker Street, of course – to ask for the help of the great detective, Sherlock Holmes.

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 Homes, private investigator. Like Sherlock Holmes one 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 Shirley Holmes 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…

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…
Sarah Harland is 19, and she is in prison. At the airport, they find heroin in her bag. So, now she is waiting to go to court. If the court decides that it was her heroin, then she must die. She says she did not do it. But if she did not, who did? Only two people can help Sarah: her mother, and an old boyfriend who does not love her now. Can they work together? Can they find the real criminal before it is too late?

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, then break it... and a few weeks later you are dead.

Today, of course, most people don’t believe in witches. But in 1612 everybody was afraid of them. Young Jennet Device in Lancashire knew a lot about them because she lived with the Witches of Pendle. They were her family...

A woman and a man... words 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, marries her... It’s an old story.

Yes, it’s an old, old story. It happens all the time – today, tomorrow, one 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...

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?
Hollywood – nine big white letters against the Hollywood Hills. Every year millions of people come from all over the world and look up at this famous sign. Why do they come? They come to see the stars on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, and to see the hand and foot prints outside Grauman’s Chinese Theatre. They come to visit Universal Studios, and perhaps to see a movie star or two. Most of all, they come to be in the most famous place in movie history – exciting, wonderful Hollywood!

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; high mountains and hot springs; cherry blossom in the spring; quiet gardens with water and trees. Here the past meets the future all the time. From sumo wrestlers to robots, Japan has something 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 away that dream for ever…”

Come with us to London – a city as old as the Romans, and as new as the 21st 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.

‘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 for gold – to take one 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. There is no noise from the ship in the world is waiting. In the beautiful first-class rooms, rich passengers eat and drink. 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.

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 19-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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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 all. Life is always exciting for Amelia Earhart. At 41, she is nearly ready to slow down, but she wants to make one last important flight...
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.

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 is one of the Un-Dead – a vampire that drinks the blood of living people...

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.

New York, 1925. While her children play, Rosalia unpacks boxes in the family’s new apartment. In one of them, she finds her old sketchbook, and when she looks at the pictures, they take her back to her journey to America from Italy by sea in 1910, as a fourteen-year-old girl...

It was a strange little girl... it was a very important time for Rosalia. Like so many other people, she was leaving her home and country, and people who she loved, and crossing the Atlantic to start a new life. On that journey, she was at times afraid and lonely – but she also found adventure, new friends and something more, too.

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 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. 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 wild and dangerous sea. The Forfarshire was wrecked off the north-east coast of England in 1838. This is the true story of Grace Darling – a girl who became a famous heroine on that stormy night.
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? Is he worried about him. He sits alone, and his friends, who were at school together, 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?

In the jungle of Southern India the Seeonee Wolf-Pack has a new cub. He is not a wolf – he is Mowgli, a human child, but he knows nothing of the world of men. He lives and hunts with his brothers the wolves. Baloo the bear and Bagheera the panther are his friends and teachers. And Shere Khan, the man-eating tiger, is his enemy. Kipling’s famous story of Mowgli’s adventures in the jungle has been loved by young and old for more than a hundred years.

It is hay-making time on the Wookey farm. 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...

Oxford Bookworms Library

Hamlet
William Shakespeare
Retold by Alistair McCallum

Henry VIII and his Six Wives
Janet Hardy-Gould

Huckleberry Finn
Mark Twain
Retold by Diane Mowat

The Importance of Being Earnest
Oscar Wilde
Retold by Susan Kingslay

The Jungle Book
Rudyard Kipling
Retold by Jennifer Bassett

The Love of a King
Peter Dainty

Retold by Ralph Mowat

Word count: 5,945
Reader 978 0 19 420953 3
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 462087 1

Word count: 6,310
Reader 978 0 19 479062 8
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 462087 1

Word count: 6,180
Reader 978 0 19 479063 5
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 462087 1

Word count: 6,347
Reader 978 0 19 423518 1
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 463769 5

Word count: 6,510
Reader 978 0 19 479064 2
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 463769 5

Word count: 7,038
Reader 978 0 19 479080 2
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 463764 9

Word count: 4,150
Reader 978 0 19 479084 4
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 463765 7

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

Audio recording: AmE = American English BrE = British English
There are two love stories in this fast-moving comedy. Brave young Claudio and Leonato’s pretty daughter Hero are in love and want to marry, but Don John has a wicked plan to stop their wedding. Will he succeed, or will the truth come out? Will Claudio and Hero marry, after all?

Beatrice and Benedick are always arguing with each other, but how do they really feel? Perhaps they are more interested in each other than they seem to be!

Their friends work hard to see them. But only a clever man could solve this mystery.

The room was on the fourth floor, and the door was locked – with the key on the inside. The windows were closed and fastened – on the inside. The chimney was too narrow for a cat to get through. So how did the murderer escape? And whose were the two angry voices heard by the neighbours as they ran up the stairs? Nobody in Paris could find any answers to this mystery.

Except Auguste Dupin, who could see further and who could see more clearly than other people. The answers to the mystery were all there, but only a clever man could see them.

Claudia 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 hands and face are cold, so cold…

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 smell. You try to sleep. You turn over to go back to your own warm bed, and see. Then you wake up, in things you can hear but not see. Terrible things move towards you in the dark, and fear can send you mad.

Retold by John Escott
Edgar Allan Poe
and Other Stories
The Pit and the Pendulum

Retold by Jennifer Bassett
Louis de Bernières
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 love is more important to them than their work. Harl plans to leave Earth, on a long and dangerous journey through space. Ellen plans to stay on Earth, to change the way life together because their work and their lives.

Harl and Ellen talk about their work and their lives. 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 love is more important to them than their work. Harl plans to leave Earth, on a long and dangerous journey through space. Ellen plans to stay on Earth, to change the way life together because their work and their lives.

When Harl returns to Earth, Ellen will be long dead... and the world will be a very different place.

Word count: 6,300
Reader: 978 0 19 479070 3
Reader with Audio: 978 0 19 462043 6
BrE

Word count: 6,830
Reader: 978 0 19 479069 7
Reader with Audio: 978 0 19 462046 8
BrE

Word count: 8,351
Reader: 978 0 19 402419 8
Reader with Audio: 978 0 19 402420 4

Sherlock Holmes is famous around the world. When the police cannot solve a crime, they turn to Holmes. He never misses a clue, and when he looks carefully at a person, he can understand everything about them. These are two of the best Sherlock Holmes stories. In 'The Dead Coachman', Holmes investigates a burglary and a murder while he is staying in the countryside with his friend Doctor Watson. In 'The Last Mystery', Holmes is in danger from the evil Professor Moriarty, who is as clever as the detective himself. They are both ready to fight to the death. But who will win?
who can help them. The only man in the world who bring their troubles to in Baker Street – visitors to the famous flat stories, Holmes has three will ask.

He listens, and watches, and smokes his pipe. All. He sits in his room, greatest detective of them all. Sherlock Holmes is the strangest things. He lives 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.

From Nigeria to New Zealand, from Jamaica to Malaysia, from India to South Africa, these stories show us that the human heart is the same in every place. People everywhere have the same feelings of fear and pain, happiness and sadness. Bookworms World Stories collect stories written in English from around the world, and the eight stories in this book were selected from the winning entries in the Commonwealth Short Story Competition. All the stories in this edition are from two previous Bookworms titles: Cries from the Heart and Songs from the Soul.

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…

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?

Tony Kytes is a favourite of 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 19th century, but Hardy’s tales of mistakes and muddles and marriages belong in any place, at any time.

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.
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 12 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.

Chocolate
Janet Hardy-Gould

You can drink it, and you can cook with 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 – everybody loves chocolate.

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Climate Change
Barnaby Newbolt

It’s a terrible problem – or it’s really not as bad as people say. There will be sudden big changes – or slower changes that we can learn to live with. It means the end for many animals, people, even whole islands – or the beginning for growing food in the Sahara.

What is the true story about climate change? Who is right – and what can we do about it? If we learn about the past, then perhaps there will be time to make changes for the future…
Sport, the ‘Beautiful Game’. The rules – they’re all a part of the world’s favourite game. World Cup finals, the stars, teams, cities. "Women’s football isn’t nice’. The grounds because ‘Women’s football isn’t nice’. The players never see the ball. Some call it football, some call it soccer, and to others it’s a sport with many names. It’s a sport with a beautiful game. By Steve Flinders, Tim Vicary, Anne Collins, Alex Raynham, Rachel Bladon, Janet Hardy-Gould, Andrea Sarto.

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 and the women players who learnt lessons about life from playing football, and the women players who had to leave the club. There’s the French writer who learnt lessons about life from playing football. Tim Vicary, Anne Collins.

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 eight 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 backwards, and tried to win a war by moving a river...

Malala loved going to school. But in Pakistan, the Taliban became very important and they did not want girls to have an education. Malala was not afraid to speak out against the Taliban. In 2012, she was shot in the head and survived, and now more than ever she wants to fight for education for every child.

For a child in the great city of Venice in the 3rd 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...

Even as a young boy, Muhammad Ali knew that he wanted to do great things in his life, and make changes in the world. By the time he was eighteen, Ali was an Olympic Champion in boxing, and he went on to be World Champion three times. But Ali’s fights were not just in the boxing ring. He fought for other things too: for peace, for black people’s rights, for the sick, and for those in need. This is the story of how he became ‘The Greatest’.

Word count: 7,015
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Audio recording: AmE = American English  BrE = British English

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Oceans
Barnaby Newbolt

The Olympic Games
Alex Raynham

Rainforests
Rowena Akinyemi

Seasons and Celebrations
Jackie Maguire

Stephen Hawking
Alex Raynham

World Wonders
Barnaby Newbolt

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 animals and plants live near the land? And what can stay alive in a place like this? And is there any light? Surely nothing of the ocean, thousands of metres down, where there is no light? Surely nothing can stay alive in a place like that...

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 40 different sports win and lose their events, and set new world records, in front of crowds of people.

The Olympic Games are more than 2,500 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.

Stephen Hawking was one of the greatest scientists and thinkers of our time, and is famous around the world because he wrote and talked about cosmology – the science of the universe – in a way that people could understand. He had a terrible disease called ALS, and for many years he could only move and speak with the help of machines. But this did not stop him working to try and understand our world better.

Will people travel in time one day? Where did the universe come from? Most of us cannot even begin to think about questions like this – but Stephen Hawking was always looking for the answers.

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 11 wonders. Some of them are made by people, and others are natural. Come and discover new wonders...

Word count 6,778
Reader 978 0 19 479443 5
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 463778 7

Word count 6,448
Reader 978 0 19 420957 1
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 462084 0

Word count 6,480
Reader 978 0 19 423381 5
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 463779 4

Word count 6,508
Reader 978 0 19 423383 5
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 463778 7

Word count 6,406
Reader 978 0 19 402402 0
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 463778 7

Word count 6,738
Reader 978 0 19 423776 5
Reader with Audio 978 0 19 463780 0
As the Inspector Said

“I can’t 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 thief who breaks into a house and finds a dead body...

Every town should have a ‘card’ – someone who gets talked about, someone who does mad and wonderful things, someone who makes you laugh. But the job was too good. The murder plan seems so neat, so clever... How could it possibly fail? And how could Sonia’s stupid, boring little husband be left, alone with his memories.

When men find gold in the frozen north of Canada, they need dogs – big, strong dogs to pull the sledges on the long journeys to and from the gold mines. But they did not live to grow old or to enjoy their fame. Only their father brought up his young family, 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 then? Branwell died young, and his sisters became famous writers. But they did not live to grow old or to enjoy their fame. Only their father brought up his young family, and within a few years the two oldest were dead, too.

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Life is always hard for the poor, in any place and at any time. Ethan Frome is a farmer in Massachusetts. He works long hours, but his farm makes little money. His wife, Zeena, is a thin, grey woman, always complaining, and only interested in her own ill health.

Then Mattie Silver, a young cousin, comes to live with the Fromes, to help Zeena and do the housework. Her bright smile and laughing voice bring light and hope into Ethan's lonely life. But poverty is a prison to which few people escape…

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. But nobody gives him love, and soon he learns to hate. And, because he is so strong, the next thing he learns is how to kill…

The Leander pearls were stolen 19 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 boy who knows where the pearls are hidden.

Carmady agrees to talk to the boy who says he knows. But he finds him dead in his bed, with burned 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…

London: November. Terrorists blow up the Queen's coach outside Parliament. The Queen escapes, but five people are killed, and 40 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 Jane there is more terror to come, in the search for the truth behind the bombing. Will the terrorists be caught and brought to justice?

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

Love stories with a difference… There's a kiss by a fireside that was a mistake, there's a man-hating 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…

These love stories are by US writers Kate Chopin, Orne Jewett, O. Henry, and Stephen Crane, Sarah Orne Jewett, O. Henry, and Canadian writer Lucy Maud Montgomery (author of the famous Anne of Green Gables).
'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.

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.

So they get married, and make a home together. They work hard, they enjoy life, they make plans for the future. Then they learn that they don’t have much time left.

Their story has made people laugh, and cry, all over the world.

There are broken hearts and kisses and then weddings, so this is a story about love. There are actors who are funny because they cannot act, so it is also a story that makes people laugh. And there are fairies, spirits of the night, so it is a story about mischief and magic too. What happens when love and laughter come together with magic in an Athenian forest?

A Midsummer Night’s Dream was written in about 1596 and is one of Shakespeare’s most popular plays. It has been retold for Bookworms, not as a play, but as a story.

Charles Bravo died from the poison antimony. He took three days to die, and the doctors could do nothing to help him.

There were three people who had reasons for wanting Charles Bravo dead – Florence Bravo herself, Charles Bravo’s new young wife; Dr James Gully, Florence’s former lover, and Mrs Jane Cox, Florence’s friend and companion.

But the enquiry into the death in 1876 could not decide who the murderer was, and for more than 130 years people have wondered who did kill Charles Bravo...

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 musicammers 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...

Outside, Jimmy stares through the trees at the lonely house on the hill. She hears strange noises, but she turns away. After all, it’s none of her business...

Life is sweet for Othello. He is deeply in love with his new wife, Desdemona, and as the Duke’s general, he is the most important person in Venice’s army. But Othello does not know that his flag-bearer, Iago, hates him and wants revenge.

As Iago begins to succeed with his clever plans, a frightening emotion takes hold of Othello: will jealousy destroy him? This is one of Shakespeare’s most famous tragedies, retold here as a story, not a play.

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?

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.
The Picture of Dorian Gray
Oscar Wilde
Retold by Jill Nevile

Playing with Fire: Stories from the Pacific Rim
Anthony Hope
Retold by Diane Mowat

Rabbit-Proof Fence
Doris Pilkington Garimara
Retold by Jennifer Bassett

The Railway Children
Frances Hodgson Burnett
Retold by Claire West

The Secret Garden
Oscar Wilde
Retold by John Escott

Skyjack!
Tim Vicary

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Reader with Audio: 978 0 19 462093 2 (BrE)

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Reader: 978 0 19 479130 4
Reader with Audio: 978 0 19 462094 9 (BrE)

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Reader with Audio: 978 0 19 462094 9 (BrE)

When a large plane is hijacked, the Prime Minister looks at the list of passengers and suddenly becomes very, very frightened. There is a name on the list that the Prime Minister knows very well – too well.

There is nothing to do all day except walk in the gardens – and watch the robin flying over the high walls of the secret garden...

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

Audio recording: AmE = American English  BrE = British English
In our world today a hummingbird is a small, brilliantly coloured bird in tropical forests.

In the far distant future, Hummingbird [Hummy for short] is a girl of 16 who lives somewhere in the Galaxy, on a planet called Just Like Home. She has never seen a real hummingbird. The name ‘Hummingbird’ lies in every shadow of the mind…

The human mind is a dark, bottomless pit, and sometimes it works in strange and frightening ways. That sound in the night… is it a door banging 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 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…

‘I wish I could get through into looking-glass house,’ Alice said. ‘Let’s pretend that the glass has gone soft and… Why, I do believe it has! It’s turning into a kind of cloud!’ A moment later Alice is inside the looking-glass world. There she finds herself part of a great game of chess, travelling through forests and jumping across brooks. The chess pieces talk and argue with her, give orders and repeat poems… It is the strangest dream that anyone ever had…

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 the garden shed. The animal chooses for the competition against the rich students of Greycosts 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. ‘Never in a million years!’

But you don’t know what you can do – until you try…

Down by the river bank, where the wind whispers through the willow trees, is a very pleasant place to have a lunch party with a few friends. But life is not always so peaceful for the Mole and the Water Rat. There is the time, for example, when Toad gets interested in motor-cars – goes mad about them in fact…

The story of the adventures of Mole, Rat, Badger, and Toad has been loved by young and old for over one hundred years.
From the smallest fly to the biggest elephant, and from fish living at the bottom of the ocean to birds that fly several kilometres above land: this is the animal kingdom, the biggest group of living things in the world. Some are very different, others are the same in many ways – but these mammals, birds, fish, reptiles, amphibians, and invertebrates have all managed to live for thousands and thousands of years. How do they find food, grow, keep safe, and invertebrates have fish, reptiles, amphibians, these mammals, birds, the same in many ways – but the world. Some are very beautiful or surprising Kingdom

Animal Kingdom Rachel Bladon

Australia and New Zealand Christine Lindop

Dinosaurs Tim Vicary

The Everest Story Tim Vicary

Future Energy Alex Raynham

Global Issues Alex Raynham and Rachel Bladon

Factfiles (non-fiction)

What do you find in these two countries at the end of the world? One is an enormous island, where only 20 million people live – and the other is two long, narrow islands, with ten sheep for every person. One country has the biggest rock in all the world, and a town where everybody lives under the ground; the other has a beach where you can sit beside the sea in a pool of hot water, and lakes that are bright yellow, green, and blue.

Open this book and start your journey – to two countries where something beautiful or surprising waits around every corner.

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 is beautiful to look at, hard to reach, and terribly difficult to climb. Winds of 200 kilometres per hour or more scream across it day and night, while the temperature falls to -20°C or lower. Every year, some who try to climb the highest mountain in the world do not return.

But for a century people have been coming to climb Everest – some alone, some in groups, but all with a dream of going to the highest place in the world. This is their story.

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. Get ready for the children whose running feet make the power station that uses warm and cold water to make energy; for the car that saves energy by growing like a plant...

Our world is changing fast. We can travel and speak to people around the world, and use computers to do all kinds of things. But in some places, children go to bed hungry at night, and cannot drink clean water. And many species of animals and plants are now in danger as our climate changes and pollution worsens. These are just a few of today’s many important global issues. So how and why are they changing, and are there any answers to these problems?

Audio recording: AmE = American English  BrE = British English

Selected titles available as e-books through the Oxford Learner’s Bookshelf
It is hard to imagine the modern world without information technology. At home, at work, and at play, mobile phones, emails, and computers have become part of daily life. The story of information technology is a story of machines - from the ancient abacus to the small powerful computer chips of today. But it is also a story of people. Meet a woman who wrote computer programs two hundred years ago, a man who began with a paperclip and ended with a house - and meet the criminals who want your name and your money.

From 1942 until 1944, Anne Frank and her family lived secretly in a few small rooms at the back of her father’s office in Amsterdam, never leaving the building. Like many other Jewish families at that time, they were hiding from Hitler’s Nazis. While she was in hiding, Anne wrote diaries which described her secret life, and the loves, hopes, fears and dreams of a teenage girl in extraordinary times. After the war, the diaries became famous around the world. This is the story of the diaries of Anne Frank’s early years, and of her life during and after the time in hiding.

The United States in the 1950s and 1960s 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.

What will we do when there is nowhere to put our rubbish? Every day, all over the world, people drop cans, boxes, paper, and bottles into bins and never think about them again. And the rubbish mountains get bigger and bigger. But there is another way - a way that makes old paper into houses, broken bottles into jewellery, and old cans into bridges. Anyone can recycle – it’s easy, it saves money, and it’s a way to say, ‘I care about the Earth.’ Saving the world starts with you – here now.

Is there anyone who has not looked at the dark sky, and the shining points of light above us, and asked themselves questions about what is out there? Where did our planet come from? When did the universe begin? Could we live on another planet? And one question above all – is there life anywhere else in space? Begin a journey into space – where spacecraft travel at thousands of kilometres an hour, temperatures are millions of degrees, and a planet may be hard rock – or a ball of gas. In space, everything is extraordinary...
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 he discovers a new underworld, full of little arguments, jealousies, sudden deaths and unexpected marriages...

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.

But in the 19th 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.

Why aren’t the students at Mangrove High School allowed to study maths or use computers? Who are the strange Warden who watch over them all the time? And is someone listening in on their thoughts, when they are sent to The Room? Finn and Ellie both know that something isn’t right in their world. But when they start asking questions, their lives are turned upside-down – and suddenly even their families are no longer what they seemed. Finn is in great danger, but when his brother Adam offers to help, he needs to find out fast if he can really trust him...

Life in the small English town of Cranford seems very quiet and peaceful. The ladies of Cranford lead tidy, regular lives. They make their visits between the hours of twelve and three, give little evening parties, and worry about their maid-servants. But life is not always smooth – there are little arguments and jealousies, sudden deaths and unexpected marriages...

Mrs Gaskell’s timeless picture of small-town life in the first half of the 19th 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.
Three different parts of the world, but all of them dangerous, lonely places. Three different women, but all of them determined to go – and to come back alive!

Robyn Davidson walked nearly 3,000 kilometres across the Australian desert – with a dog and four camels.

Arlene Blum led a team of ten women to the top of Annapurna – one of the highest mountains in the world. Only eight came back, and to learn how his father died. But the tribesmen were so desperate to get home quickly. 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 hates you. You have 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.

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 wive, 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?

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.

But that is only the first of many surprises which Gulliver has on his travels. He visits a land of giants and a flying island, meets ghosts from the past and horses which talk…

But that is only the first of many surprises which Gulliver has on his travels. He visits a land of giants and a flying island, meets ghosts from the past and horses which talk…
My brother preferred being with mother and me. He used to help us prepare vegetables in the kitchen or used to help us prepare with mother and me. He liked best was listening to my mother's stories. ‘Mercy, who are you looking at? Careful, Connie, please. Your little sister’s eyes are looking angry. Look at the sudden lines around her mouth. Connie, a sister is a proud of his ‘little women’ when he comes home. This heart-warming story of family life has been popular for more than one hundred years. 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 girls in America than Meg, Jo, Beth, and Amy. They miss their father, of course, who is away at the Civil War, but they try hard to be good so that he will be proud of his ‘little women’ when he comes home. One hundred years ago a seaman’s life was full of danger, but Jim, the first mate on board the Patna, is not afraid of danger. He is young, strong, confident of his bravery. He dreams of great adventures – and the chance to show the world what a hero he is. But the sea is no place for dreamers. When the chance comes, on a calm moonlit night in the Indian Ocean, Jim fails the test, and his world falls to pieces around him. He disappears into the jungles of south-east Asia, searching for a way to prove himself, once and for all... At 19 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. Eight years later Wentworth returns, 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... 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 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. But in the years to come he meets Lorna Doone, with her lovely smile and big dark eyes. And soon he is deeply, hopelessly in love... One hundred years ago a seaman’s life was full of danger, but Jim, the first mate on board the Patna, is not afraid of danger. He is young, strong, confident of his bravery. He dreams of great adventures – and the chance to show the world what a hero he is. But the sea is no place for dreamers. 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the loss of his only friend?
possibly comfort him for
Silas do then? What could
his gold away? What will
come in the night and take
reason for living.
his friend, his delight, his
friends. Only the gold is
and he has no family, no
villagers are afraid of him
them again and again. The
feeling them and counting
the bright coins lovingly,
the gold out and holds
works hard at his weaving,
the linen-weaver keeps
floorboards Silas Marner
In a hole under the

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 silver sword is
only a paper knife, but it
gives Jan and his friends
hope. Hungry, cold, and
afraid, the four children
try to stay alive among the
ruins of bombed cities in
war-torn Europe. Soon
they will begin the long
dangerous journey
south, from Poland to
Switzerland, where
they hope to find their
parents again.

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:
The French Revolution
brings terror and death
to many people. But even
in these troubled times
people can still love and be
generous and true-hearted... and
brave.

‘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.’

Soon Richard Hannay is
running for his life across
the hills of Scotland. The
crime is chasing him for
a murder he did not do, and
another, more dangerous
enemy is chasing him
as well – the mysterious
‘Black Stone’. Who are
these people? And why
do they want Hannay dead?

‘I like work. I find it
interesting... I can sit and
look at it for hours.’

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 one 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 shady,
some are sad, some are
blackly funny. A few are
shocking – when Lin Lin
returns home for a funeral,
she learns a dark and
terrifying family secret
which may destroy her.

Bookworms World Stories
collect stories written in
English from around the
world. These stories are
from Australia, Canada,
India, Malaysia, Nigeria,
Singapore, South Africa,
and Trinidad.
If you find a locked room in a lonely inn, don’t try to open it, even on a bright sunny day. If you find a strange whistle hidden among the stones of an old church, don’t blow it. If a mysterious man gives you a piece of paper with strange writing on it, give it back - do not expect to sleep peacefully ever again.

Read these five ghost stories by daylight, and make sure your door is locked.

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 of her home in Washington Square 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...

‘I don’t know that you have done anything wrong,’ Miss Hepplewhite said. ‘But it is possible that you have done something rather dangerous.’ William and Susie thought they were just playing a game when they cooked a witch’s brew in the old barn and said a spell over it, but Martha was not so sure. And indeed, the three friends soon learn that they have called up something dark and evil out of the distant past...

From out of the sky, from under the earth, from far out at sea – disaster comes. We build and invent new things – and sometimes bring disaster on ourselves. Today television and the Internet mean that we can watch disasters as they happen, and see their terrible results.

From Pompeii to the Asian Tsunami, from the Great Fire of London to Chernobyl, the stories of disasters are frightening, but they have much to tell us. Disasters bring stories of fear, pain, loss, and death – but also of people whose extraordinary bravery and feeling for others will touch your heart.

Who will speak for the poor? Who will listen to slaves, and those who have no rights? Who will work for a future where everyone is equal? Who will give up his house, job, and money to fight for people who are shut out by everyone else?

‘I will,’ said Mohandas Gandhi. And he began to fight in a way the world had not seen before – not with weapons, and wild crowds, and words of hate, but with the power of non-violence. This is the story of a man who became the Father of the Nation in his own country of India, and a great leader for the whole world.

It is more than 40 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? What happened to Shergar? Who knows the truth about Azaria Chamberlain? Not all the answers are known. Join the world’s detectives and discover the love, death, hate, money, and mystery held in the stories of these great crimes.

About a quarter of the people in the world today speak or use English. In homes and schools, offices and meeting rooms, ships and airports, people are speaking English… How has this happened? How did English begin, and what will become of it? The history of English is a journey through space and time, from thousands of years ago to today and beyond, and to all parts of the world. Come on that journey and meet the monks and soldiers, the kings and scientists, the printers, poets, and travellers who have helped to make the English of today.
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 student and an enthusiastic sportsman.

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 Edward starts to bite people, and he has to send for Muriel, the dog trainer. And day by day, Macon’s life gets more and more complicated.

Into the narrow social world of New York in the 1870s comes Countess Ellen Olenska, surrounded by shocked whispers about her failed marriage to a rich Polish Count. A woman who leaves her husband can never be accepted in polite society.

Newland Archer is engaged to young May Welland, but the beautiful and mysterious Countess needs his help. He becomes her friend and defender, but friendship with an unhappy, lonely woman is a dangerous path for a young man to follow – especially a young man who is soon to be married.

When her father dies, Aku-nna and her young brother have no one to look after them. They are in love, although they are separated – the more the world tries to separate them, the more they are drawn together – until, finally, something has to break.

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‘After dinner we turned the lights out and played ‘hide-and-seek’. In the dark, I touched a hand, a very cold hand. Now, because of the game, I had to hide in the dark with… with this cold person – not speaking, not knowing who it was. Slowly the others found us, hid with us, until we were all there – all 13. Thirteen? But there were only 13 people in the house!

We touched each other in the dark, counting. Thirteen. Quickly, nervously, I lit a match to see…’
In a gloomy, neglected house Miss Havisham sits, as she has sat year after year, in a wedding dress and veil that were once white, and are now faded and yellow with age. Her face is like a death’s head; and yellow with age. Her white, and are now faded veil that were once

Gatsby’s mansion on Long Island blazes with light, and the beautiful, the wealthy, and the famous drive out from New York to drink Gatsby’s champagne and to party all night long. But Jay Gatsby, the owner of all this wealth, wants only one thing – to find again the woman of his dreams, the woman he has held in his heart and his memory for five long years. The Great Gatsby, F. Scott Fitzgerald’s masterpiece, is one of the great American novels of the 20th century. It captures perfectly the Jazz Age of the 1920s, and goes deep into the hollow heart of the American Dream. A human being is a soft, weak creature. It needs constant supplies of air, water, and food; it has to spend a third of its life asleep, and it can’t work if the temperature is too hot or too cold. But a robot is made of strong metal. It uses electrical energy directly, never sleeps, and can work in any temperature. It is never sleeps, and can work in any temperature. It is never asleep, and it can’t work if the temperature is too hot or too cold.

‘Calling all cars, calling all cars. Here’s the story on the Smoke Rise kidnapping. The missing boy is eight years old, fair hair, wearing a red sweater. His name is Jeffry Reynolds, son of Charles Reynolds, chauffeur to 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. And they want a ransom of $500,000. A lot of money. But it’s not too much to pay for a little boy’s life... isn’t it?

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, kind girl who sews for his family? Little Dorrit, the quiet, kind girl who sews for his family? As Arthur gets to know the Dorrit family, he is too busy looking for the truth about his mother’s secret to notice that he has perhaps found the answer to his own happiness...

It is 2088, and life in the city is hard: it’s overcrowded, there are no jobs, and no one can leave, because the world outside is contaminated. Sala is lucky, because she has Cham, and they love each other. But when Cham gets the chance for a new future, and Sala begins to move forwards and what to do with their lives?

In 16th 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...
hundred years ago. To read today as it was a story, and is still as exciting the first great modern spy published in 1903, was danger for England. secret that could mean great and looking for a secret – a German Frisian Islands, and sandbanks around the Sea, exploring the channels stormy waters of the North themselves sailing in the He and Davies soon find adventure of a different kind. But the holiday turns into an holiday in the Baltic Sea. expecting a pleasant sailing, he is his yacht friend Arthur Davies on When Carruthers joins his Erskine Childers’ novel, published in 1903, was the first great modern spy story, and is still as exciting as a hundred years ago. Sometimes the Dashwood girls do not seem like sisters. Elinor is all calmness and reason, and can be relied upon for practical, common sense opinions. Marianne, on the other hand, is all sensibility, full of passionate and romantic feeling. She has no time for dull common sense – or for middle-aged men of thirty-five, long past the age of marriage. True love can only be felt by the young, of course. And if your heart is broken At the age of seventeen, how can you ever expect to recover from the passionate misery that fills your life, waking and sleeping? The Greek island of Corfu lies like a jewel, green and gold, in the Ionian sea, where dolphins swim in the sparkling blue water. What better place for an out-of-work actress to relax for a few weeks? But the island is full of danger and mysteries, and Lucy Waring’s holiday is far from peaceful. She meets a rude young man, who seems to have something to hide. Then there is a death by drowning, and then another... The wind is strong on the Yorkshire moors. There are few trees, and fewer houses, to block its path. There is one house, however, that does not hide from the wind. It stands out from the hill and challenges the wind to do its worst. The house is called Wuthering Heights. When Mr Earnshaw brings a strange, small, dark child back home to Wuthering Heights, it seems he has opened his doors to trouble. He has invited in something that, like the wind, is safer kept out of the house. ‘Curtis Colt didn’t kill that liquor store woman, and that’s a fact. It’s not right that he should have to ride the lightning – that’s what prisoners call dying in the electric chair. Curtis doesn’t belong in it, and I can prove it.’ But can Curtis’s girlfriend prove it? Murder has undoubtedly been done, and if Curtis doesn’t ride the lightning for it, then who will? These seven short stories, by well-known writers such as Dashiel Hammett, Patricia Highsmith, and Nancy Pickard, will keep you on the edge of your seat.
The Fly and Other Horror Stories
Retold by John Escott

Jane Eyre
Retold by Clare West

Night Without End
Retold by Margaret Naudi

Dubliners
James Joyce
Retold by Clare West

The Enemy
Desmond Bagley
Retold by Ralph Mowat

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.

They said Steve Biko was a man of violence; then why did he talk of peace? They said he died of hunger; why was his body broken and bruised?
This is the story of a man’s fight with the government of South Africa. It is the story of all people who prefer truth to lies. It is the story of all people who are not afraid to die.
London in the 1830s was no place to be if you were a hungry ten-year-old boy, an orphan without friends or family, with no home to go to, and only a penny in your pocket to buy a piece of bread.

But Oliver Twist finds some friends – Fagin, the Artful Dodger, and Charley Bates. They give him food and shelter, and play games with him, but it is not until some days later that Oliver finds out what kind of ‘games’ they are and what kind of ‘friends’ they play...

A mysterious incident at the Marabar Caves, involving Adela Quested, newly arrived from England, and Dr Aziz, an Indian doctor, leads to a drama that divides the British and Indian communities in anger, distrust, and fear.

Forster’s great novel brings to life all the dangers and misunderstandings of colonialism but, as Forster himself wrote, the story is ‘about something wider than politics, about the search of the human race for a more lasting home, about the universe as embodied in the Indian earth and the Indian sky, about the horror lurking in the Marabar Caves…’

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.

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