

Penguin Readers

Penguin Readers is a new series of the best contemporary fiction, essential non-fiction and popular classics specially written for learners of English as a foreign language.

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Penguin Readers are published across **8 levels**, from **Pre-A1 (Starter)** to **B2 (Level 7)**, with each corresponding to the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) and featuring activity types aligned to international exams including Flyers, PET, KET, FCE, CAE, CPE and TOEFL.

The language used in each reader is strictly controlled, with the **grammar syllabus and permitted vocabulary correlating to the CEFR**. A small number of new words are introduced in each story, and are all explained in a glossary at the back of the book.

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CONTENT AND STRUCTURE

Note about the book

In 2018, the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) made the TV programme *Dynasties* about animal families across the world. They chose to film the emperor penguin colonies* in Antarctica. They filmed the penguins and their chicks for many months in the middle of the cold Antarctic winter.

Sometimes families are happy, and sometimes they fight. Sometimes life is good, and sometimes it is difficult. It is the same for emperor penguins and for all animal families.



David Attenborough

David Attenborough works with the BBC. His TV programmes about animals are very famous in Britain and the world. In *Dynasties*, he tells the story of the emperor penguins.

Before-reading questions

- 1 What do you know about emperor penguins? For example, what do they eat? How big are they? When do they have their babies?
- 2 What other penguins are there in the world?
- 3 The emperor penguins were filmed in the winter by a camera crew. Was this easy or difficult, do you think? Why?

*Definitions of words in **bold** can be found in the glossary on pages 62–63.

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Note about the story

Charles Dickens (1812–1870) is one of the most famous and best-loved English writers of all time. He is best known for his fifteen novels, which include *A Christmas Carol* (also in the Penguin Readers series, at Level 1) and *Great Expectations*.

When Dickens was young, his family was poor, and his father spent some time in prison because he owed money. To help his family, Dickens had to leave school for a while, and he worked in a factory for ten hours a day.

When he was twenty, Dickens began working as a journalist and an editor, and he also started to write his own stories. *Oliver Twist* was written in twenty-four parts, which appeared in magazines from February 1837 to April 1839. The story was immediately very popular, and people waited excitedly to read the next part when it came out.

Much of the story of *Oliver Twist* happens in London, where Dickens spent many years, both as a child and as an adult. Dickens showed how hard life was for poor people, many of whom had to live in the **workhouse***. Here they were separated from their families, had to work extremely hard, and were given very little to eat. Dickens also showed how some poor people turned to a life of crime.

Many films, TV and theatre shows have been made of *Oliver Twist*, including the very famous musical *Oliver!*.

*Definitions of words in **bold** can be found in the glossary on pages 109–112.

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Before-reading questions

- 1 Have you read any other stories by Charles Dickens? If yes, which ones?
- 2 What do you know about the life of poor people in Victorian England?
- 3 Read the "Note about the story" on page 4, and look at the definition of "workhouse" on page 112 of the glossary. What do you think life in a workhouse was like?
- 4 Look at the pictures in the story. What sort of characters appear in the story? In what sort of places does the story happen?
- 5 Read the back cover of the book. Are these sentences true or false? Write your answers in your notebook.
 - a Oliver lives with his family.
 - b Life in the workhouse is not easy.
 - c Oliver is taken to London by his parents.
 - d Oliver's life in London is full of danger.

Level 6

Each reader begins with a **short introduction** and some 'Before-reading questions' to help orientate the students towards the subject matter of the story or text.

New words



armour



demon



hornet



king



leopard



monkey

4



snake



soldier



spider



tail



web

5

Glossary

bruise (n.)
a blue, yellow or brown area on your skin where someone or something has hit it

cap (n.)
a small hat

cloth (adj. and n.)
clothes are made of cloth.
A cloth cap is soft.

Commandant (n.)
a title for an important soldier

confused (adj.)
You are confused when you do not understand what is happening

exploring (n.); **explorer** (n.)
Exploring is going to places to learn more about them. An explorer is a person who does this. An explorer explores places.

floor (n.)
A floor is part of a building. When you go into a building, you are on the ground/floor. If you go upstairs, you are on the first floor, and if you go upstairs again, you are on the second floor.

forgive (v.)
to decide that you will not be angry with someone who has hurt you

frown (v.)
to move the top part of your face down that you are not happy or you are thinking hard

history (n.)
a school subject about all things that happened before now

imaginary (adj.); **imagine** (v.)
imaginary things are not real. You imagine them in your mind.

Jew (n.)
the Jews are a group of people. After the Second World War, many Jews who were not killed left Europe to live in Israel.

leader (n.)
People follow a leader, and they do what their leader tells them.

lice (n.)
small insects that can live in people's hair. We say lice for one of them.

lift (v.)
to move something up

lonely (adj.)
not happy to be alone

maid (n.)
a woman who cleans rooms and washes clothes in a family's house

march (n. and v.)
When a group of people march, they walk together like soldiers. A march is when they do this.

miss (v.)
If you miss someone, you feel sad because they are not with you.

pull (v.)
to move something towards you

put (v.)
to move something into a place

put (v.)
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Any difficult vocabulary is explained in a **picture dictionary** (at lower levels) and in a **glossary** at the back of the book. The new vocabulary is recycled in the text where possible to increase its exposure.

Level 2

Level 2

Level 4

During-reading questions

PAGES 15–18

- 1 When does the story start?
- 2 What is Professor Aronax's work?
- 3 What are people talking about?
- 4 Captain Farragut writes to Professor Aronax. He says, "I will come with me on my boat." Why does he want this?

PAGES 19–23

- 1 For how many months is Professor Aronax on Captain Farragut's boat?
- 2 Whose submarine is the *Nautilus*?
- 3 Captain Nemo tells Professor Aronax, "You're a good scientist..." How does he know this?

PAGES 24–38

- 1 Where does the food on the *Nautilus* come from?
- 2 Why does Ned Land want some pearls?
- 3 The sea is ice! How can the *Nautilus* go to the South Pole?

PAGES 39–51

- 1 Who is the first person at the South Pole?
- 2 The *Nautilus* cannot move in the ice. How much air does it have?
- 3 What attacks the *Nautilus* on day 14200?

After-reading questions

- 1 Professor Aronax says, "There is no animal!" What does she think this?

- 2 Captain Farragut says, "This is Ned Land, a good animal for us." Why does he want this?

- 3 Why does Captain Nemo make the *Nautilus*?

- 4 Is Captain Nemo a good man or a bad man?

- 5 Does Professor Aronax like the *Nautilus*? Why/why not?

- 6 Is Ned Land happy on the *Nautilus*, do you think?

- 7 How can Captain Nemo walk in the sea?

- 8 On page 29, Professor Aronax says to Captain Nemo, "I will come with me on my boat." Why does he say this, do you think?

- 9 Why does Captain Nemo give the pearls to the scientists?

- 10 Professor Aronax asks Captain Nemo, "What is his answer, do you think?"

- 11 On page 51, where is Captain Nemo, do you think?

- 12 Why is the name of the book "Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea"?

During-reading questions

INTRODUCTION

- 1 What did Will McCallum find in the water when he was on a ship in the Atlantic?
- 2 Why did Will McCallum write this book?

CHAPTER ONE

- 1 Where and when was the first ban on plastic bags?
- 2 What is a deposit scheme?
- 3 What makes Luke Massey angry?

CHAPTER TWO

- 1 How much plastic is already in the ocean?
- 2 About one-third of the plastic in the oceans comes from one thing. What is it?
- 3 What is the waste trade?

CHAPTER THREE

- 1 How long does a plastic bag take to break down?
- 2 What, according to Louise Edge, is the best thing that people can do to help?

CHAPTER FOUR

- 1 What are "the Big 4"?

CHAPTER FIVE

- 1 What are refillables? Why are they good for the environment?
- 2 How can you avoid buying products with microbeads in?

CHAPTER SIX

- 1 How can you reduce plastic when you are shopping for clothes?

After-reading questions

- 1 Read your answer to "Before-reading question 1" again. Has your answer changed after reading this book?
- 2 What things have you already done to reduce your plastic use?
- 3 What things do you plan to do soon to reduce your plastic use?
- 4 When thinking about plastic use, what makes you angry?
- 5 Which chapter did you find most interesting and why?
- 6 Which fact or statistic did you find most surprising and why?
- 7 What is the biggest problem with plastic in your country or area?
- 8 Has your country introduced any plastic bans?

Exercises

INTRODUCTION

- 1 Complete these sentences with the correct word in your notebook.

break down straw give up tiny packaging
pollution reusable free

- 1 This book helps you to _____ plastic so you can have a plastic _____ life.
- 2 Plastic _____ is a problem for every country in the world.
- 3 _____ pieces of plastic enter the ocean.
- 4 Single-use plastics include _____, which people use to drink with, and plastic _____.
- 5 They take centuries to _____.
- 6 For this reason, it is better to buy _____ coffee cups, bags and containers.

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Level 5

Comprehension questions directly follow the text and test the students' understanding of each chapter. When students have finished reading the entire book, there is a set of questions to test understanding of the text as a whole.

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Exercises

INTRODUCTION AND HUA MULAN – A STORY FROM CHINA

1 Write the correct word in your notebook. Then write sentences in your notebook.

- 1 erpaw *erpaw* *Mulan's special power is fighting.*
- 2 beare
- 3 rwa
- 4 resete
- 5 kmae-pu
- 6 yram
- 7 ymte
- 8 relagen

2 Complete these sentences in your notebook with the correct form of the verb.

Hua put a tree in his garden and it *(grow)* tall.
Mulan *(be)* wonderful with horses, and she *(learn)* to fight with a sword. Mulan *(put)* her long hair on top of her head and *(take)* off her make-up. Mulan *(ride)* away from the village on her best horse. She *(meet)* some men from other villages. "I'm a woman, but nobody knows," she *(think)*.

HANUMAN THE FIGHTER – A STORY FROM INDIA

3 Are these sentences true or false? Write the correct answers in your notebook.

- 1 Rama and Lakshmana have fine clothes. *false*
- 2 Rama and Lakshmana are hunting Sugriva the Monkey King. *true*
- 3 Ravana is a demon with many heads and arms. *true*
- 4 Sita is in the land of demons. *true*
- 5 Hanuman swims to Lanka. *true*
- 6 Hanuman gives Sita a sword. *true*
- 7 The demons start a fire on Hanuman's tail. *true*
- 8 Hanuman kills a demon with a sword. *true*

4 Complete these sentences in your notebook, using the words from the box.

- | | | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|---------|--------|
| mountain | terrible | destroys | hunting | swords |
| army | prisoner | herb | | |
- 1 Rama and his brother are *hunting* Ravana.
 - 2 Sita is a *prisoner* in Lanka.
 - 3 Rama and Lakshmana have fine *swords*
 - 4 Ravana is a *terrible* demon.
 - 5 Sugriva's *army* helps Rama and Lakshmana.
 - 6 Hanuman jumps from a high *mountain*
 - 7 Hanuman *destroys* the trees and buildings of the demons' city.
 - 8 Hanuman finds a magical *herb* for Lakshmana.

Exercises

CHAPTER ONE

1 Match the words with their definitions in your notebook.

- Example: 1 - d**
- | | |
|--------------|--|
| 1 panic | a a large, thin book with stories and photographs |
| 2 envelope | b money, as paper or coins |
| 3 sale | c they write articles for newspapers and magazines |
| 4 account | d to suddenly feel very worried |
| 5 journalist | e the things in a shop are very cheap for a short time |
| 6 magazine | f something made of paper to put letters in |
| 7 cash | g It is at a bank. You put money in it and take money out of it. |

CHAPTERS ONE AND TWO

2 Write the correct names in your notebook.

- | | | | | |
|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Clare | Suzie | Philip | Luke | Alicia |
| Elly | Janice | James | Martin | |
- 1 She shares a flat with Becky in Fulham. *Suzie*
 - 2 She works in Becky's office and is very tidy. *Clare*
 - 3 He is Becky's boss. *Philip*
 - 4 He is a work friend of Becky's. *James*
 - 5 He is a friend of Becky's. *Luke*
 - 6 He is a friend of Becky's. *Alicia*
 - 7 He is a friend of Becky's. *Elly*
 - 8 He is a friend of Becky's. *Janice*

CHAPTER THREE

3 Complete these sentences in your notebook with the correct form of the verb.

- 1 I buy a notebook *to write* *(write)* everything down.
- 2 I pass all the shops without *look* at them.
- 3 I try not *think* about chocolate cake.
- 4 I'll save money by *make* my own dishes.
- 5 I buy some things *make* nice coffee.
- 6 I love *eat* out.
- 7 Suzie and Fenella keep *jump* up to other tables.
- 8 I feel uncomfortable just *be* with Tarquin.

CHAPTERS FOUR AND FIVE

4 Write the comparative or superlative of these words in your notebook.

- 1 I have much *more important* things to think about.
- 2 Making the curry is *difficult* than I thought.
- 3 I'm already feeling much *good*
- 4 A job in a clothes shop will be much *easier* than being a banker.
- 5 Half an hour later, I come out with an even *bigger* smile.
- 6 "Let's have a *close* look!" I say.
- 7 I see that the *cheapest* one is £1,000.
- 8 The leather suitcase is *heavier* than the green one.

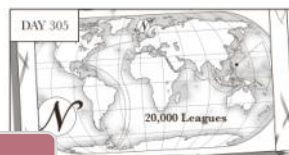
Level 2

An **exercises section** includes grammar-, vocabulary- or comprehension-based questions dedicated to most chapters.

Level 3

Project work

- 1 Write an ending to the story for Captain Nemo.
- 2 You are Ned Land. Write about a day on the *Nautilus*. What is good? What is bad?
- 3 You are Professor Aronnax. In the story, you learn and see a lot. Your friend is a scientist, too. Write to him/her.
- 4 This story is from the 1860s. Write a story about a scientist in the 2100s. Where does he/she go? How does he/she go there? What does he/she see?
- 5 You work on the *Nautilus* for Captain Nemo. Tell your story.
- 6 Look at this picture. Where does the *Nautilus* go? What do Professor Aronnax and Ned Land see?



Starter

Project work

- 1 You are writing a history book about the Party many years after the power of the Party has ended. Choose at least six of the topics (a-k) and write a short paragraph on each, explaining what they are and how they fit into the world of *Nineteen Eighty-Four*:
 - a Big Brother
 - b Hate Week
 - c Daily life for Outer Party members
 - d Daily life for Inner Party members
 - e The Records Department
 - f Room 101
 - g Goldstein and the Brotherhood
 - h The Four Ministries
 - i The Spies
 - j The Thought Police
 - k The war
- 2 You have a job working on the Newspeak Dictionary. Re-read what Syme says about his work in Chapter Four:
 - a Write definitions of these words. You can choose to write in Oldspeak or Newspeak.

facecrime memory hole prole speakwrite telescreen thoughtcrime to vaporize doubleplusgood

- b Invent six new Newspeak words and write definitions for them.

Essay questions

- 1 How is technology used in *Nineteen Eighty-Four*? Do you recognize any similarities between its use in the story and the use of technology now? (500 words)
- 2 Compare the ways Julia and Winston feel and behave. Then give your opinions about their differences. For example, do you have more sympathy for one character than the other? (500 words)
- 3 "Nineteen Eighty-Four is not dystopian fiction. In fact, it holds a mirror up to the modern world." Do you agree? Explain why or why not. (500 words)

Level 7

At the end of the book, students are given **extension work** in the form of written projects and in-depth essay questions.

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OVERVIEW

Penguin Readers

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|---|--|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| Fiction | | | | | | | |
| Loki and the Giants The Moor Stones The Scissor-Man Caves | SilverFin Tales of Adventurous Girls | Boy in the Tower Mulan and Other Tales of Heroes Private Sundiata the Lion King and Other Royal Tales The Puffin Keeper | Frankly in Love The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole Aged 13 ¾ The Secret Dreamworld of a Shopaholic Wonder Zoo | Artemis Fowl How High the Moon Killing Floor Me Before You Pig-Heart Boy The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas The Kissing Booth | Doctor Who: Borrowed Time Simon vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda The One Memory of Flora Banks Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close The Night Manager | The Spy Who Came in from the Cold Slumdog Millionaire One of Us is Lying The Girl on the Train | Homegoing Tales of the Greek Heroes The Children Act White Teeth |
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| Robin Hood Romeo and Juliet The Hound of the Baskervilles The Knight's Tale Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea | A Christmas Carol Little Women Macbeth Jekyll and Hyde The Canterville Ghost The Phantom of the Opera | Anne of Green Gables Ballet Shoes The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn The Adventures of Tom Sawyer The Call of the Wild The Little Prince | Animal Farm Dracula Ghost Stories The Great Gatsby The Picture of Dorian Gray | Pride and Prejudice Jane Eyre Emma The Invisible Man | Far from the Madding Crowd Wuthering Heights Frankenstein Sense and Sensibility The Three Musketeers David Copperfield | Oliver Twist Great Expectations White Fang The Turn of the Screw Dubliners Tess of the D'Urbervilles The Talented Mr Ripley | Moby Dick Mrs Dalloway Nineteen Eighty-Four The Woman in White |
| Non-fiction | | | | | | | |
| | Plastic Dynasties: Lions Dynasties: Wolves Taylor Swift The Extraordinary Life of Serena Williams | Boy Climate Rebels Dynasties: Penguins How to Turn Down a Billion Dollars Life in Space The Extraordinary Life of Anne Frank The Extraordinary Life of Malala Yousafzai The Extraordinary Life of Rosa Parks Wild Cities | Amazing Muslims Who Changed the World Climate Change Dynasties: Chimpanzees Elon Musk The Extraordinary Life of Michelle Obama The Extraordinary Life of Stephen Hawking | Women Who Changed the World Going Solo Viruses and Pandemics | Freddie Mercury Unlocking the Universe How to Give Up Plastic | Sprint Darkest Hour | Artificial Intelligence Digital Minimalism Originals |