

Amber's Special Trip

Story by Carmel Reilly

Illustrations by Wendy Tan Shiau Wei



Amber's Special Trip

Level 20

Running Words 602 **Text Type** Narrative

Curriculum Areas English (Literacy, Literature, Language); Humanities (Geography, Civics and Citizenship)

Retelling to Encourage Critical Thinking About the Content

Ask each student to retell the story in their own words.

Record the retelling for further discussion and reflection.

Questions to Reinforce Meaning and Stimulate Discussion

Literal

- 1 Why didn't Amber and Grandma speak to each other very much before the trip to Vietnam?
- 2 How did Amber and her mum and dad get from the airport to Grandma's house?
- 3 Why didn't Amber want to leave Hanoi?

Inferential

- 4 Why did Amber ask if the photo on the wall was of Grandma?
- 5 How did Grandma and Amber teach each other words from their own languages?
- 6 Why do you think Amber chose the photo of herself on a horse to show Grandma?
- 7 Where will Grandma put the photo of Amber on the horse?
- 8 Do you think Amber will want to go back to Vietnam another time? Why?

Applied Knowledge

- 9 How did people talk to their families overseas before we had computers and smartphones?
- 10 Why did Amber repeat the Vietnamese word for 'buffalo', after Grandma told it to her?

Links with Other PM Guided Reading Books

Level 20	Narrative	<i>Ocean Planet Adventure</i>
Level 20	Narrative	<i>Finn's New Game</i>
Level 19	Narrative	<i>Missing Ummi</i>
Level 19	Imaginative Recount	<i>A Visit to a Car Show</i>
Level 19	Procedure	<i>Making Tacos</i>



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Contents

Chapter 1	Some Big News	2
Chapter 2	Arriving in Vietnam	6
Chapter 3	An Old Photo	10
Chapter 4	Fun with Grandma	16
Chapter 5	A Special Gift	20

Chapter 1

Some Big News

“Mum and I have some big news,” said Dad, at dinner one night.

“We’ve decided to go to Vietnam for the holidays.”

Amber was surprised.

“Are we going to visit Grandma?” she asked.

“Yes,” said Mum. “Isn’t that exciting?”

But Amber didn’t know if she felt excited. Amber had never been to Vietnam before. And she had never stayed with Grandma.



Amber only ever saw Grandma on video calls.
They waved and smiled,
but they didn't say a lot to each other.
Amber couldn't speak much Vietnamese,
and Grandma could say only a few words in English.

"I don't really know Grandma," Amber told Dad.

"Don't worry," he said.

"You will get to know her while we are in Vietnam."

For Review Only



Chapter 2

Arriving in Vietnam

Soon it was holiday time, and Mum, Dad and Amber flew to Hanoi, in Vietnam.

Amber looked out the window of the taxi as they drove from the airport into the city. She saw lots of houses painted bright colours and streets filled with motorbikes.



