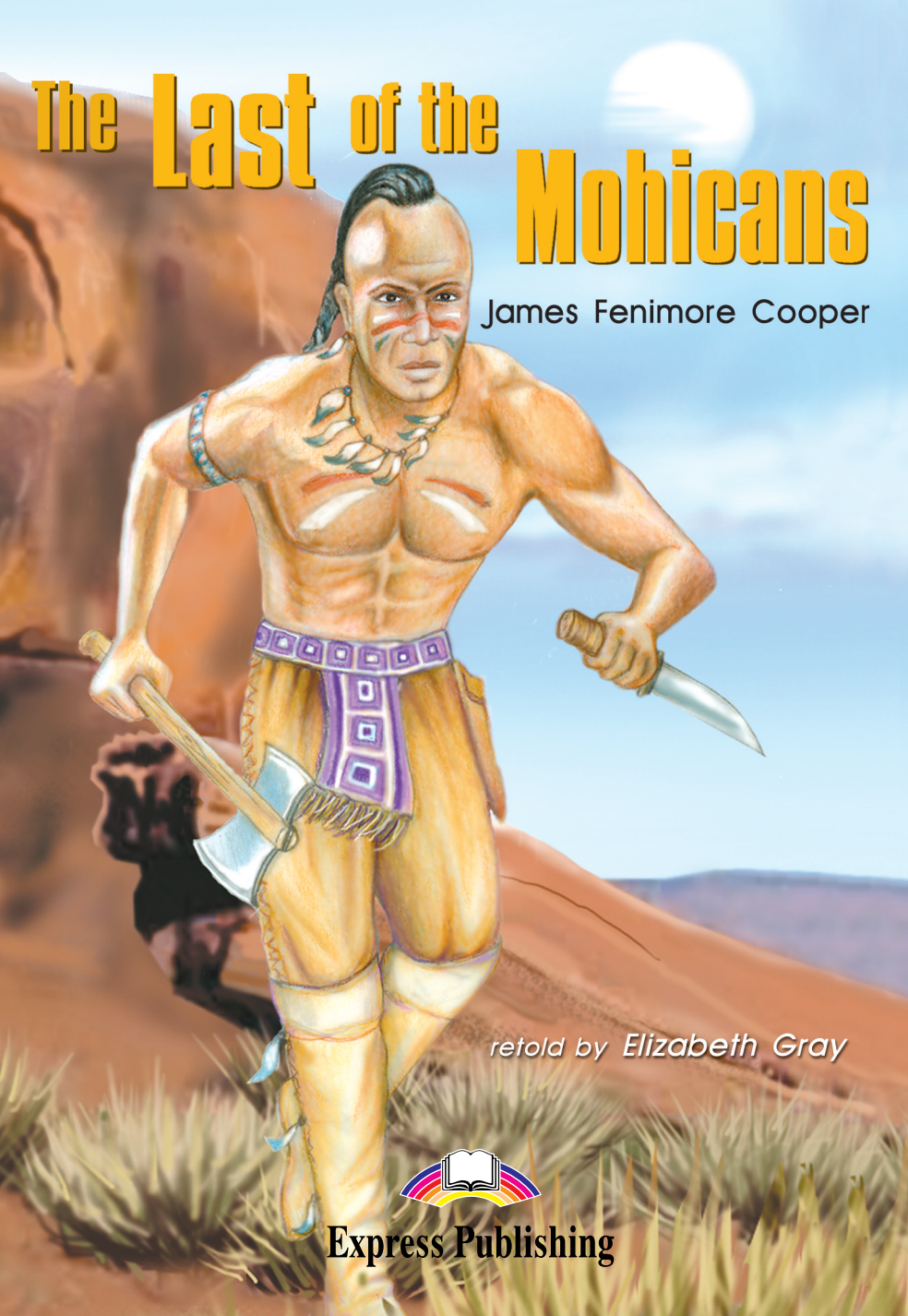
The Last of the Mohicans

James Fenimore Cooper



retold by Elizabeth Gray

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Chapter 4

English Prisoners

Gamut had been shot in the leg, but it was not serious. He sat on a blanket next to Cora and Alice, singing a sad song quietly to himself. Alice was terribly frightened by the fighting. She sat on the bed, crying in Cora's arms.

"I'm scared. I want to get out of here."

"It's all right. Father's coming. We'll leave in the morning."

An Indian had stabbed Major Heyward in the arm. His white shirt was now red with blood.

Heyward walked through the tunnels to see if there was another way out. He saw a big hole in the rock on the side of the mountain, and he heard Indian voices outside. He waited quietly, and when they left, he returned to the others.

As he turned the corner to go to the back of the cave, he saw an Indian watching the women from the tunnel, at the opposite end. It was Magua. Heyward fired his gun and the women screamed, but he missed. Magua escaped through another tunnel.

The Indians outside the cave heard the gunshot, and they ran in and captured them. They were not Iroquois Indians but Hurons. When they left the cave, Magua joined them.

The Hurons took them back to the forest where they had left their horses. The sun was rising and the Indian chief wanted to go to the camp first to tell the others that they had prisoners.

"The council will decide what to do with them. Magua, you stay here. If they try to escape, kill them."

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Magua smiled.

Most of the Huron Indians crossed the river, and left the English with Magua and six other Hurons. The Indians caught and killed a deer, and they made a fire to cook it. Magua could not stop looking at Cora. He took her away from the others so he could talk to her alone.

"I see you at Fort Edward. You very pretty. If you make Magua your husband, I let others go free."

"I'd rather die."

Cora turned to go back to the fire, but Magua grabbed her hair and screamed loudly to the other Indians.

"We do not wait for others come back. We kill them now!"

The other Indians began to scream excitedly. All of the English were scared. The Indians tied them to four separate trees.

"I ask you one more time. You marry Magua?"

Cora looked at her sister Alice who was crying.

"Alice, darling, I'll do anything for you. I'll marry this Indian to save you, but I want you to tell me it's all right."

Alice could not stop crying. Finally, she was able to speak.

"No!"

Magua yelled loudly as he threw his tomahawk at Alice's head and cut off part of her hair. Heyward managed to untie himself and he ran at Magua. They fought and rolled on the ground. One of the Huron Indians raised his knife to kill Heyward, but just then they heard a rifle shot. The Indian fell down dead and everyone turned to see Hawkeye with his rifle raised to his eye.

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The Last of the Mohicans

When Uncas, the Mohican Indian, first saw the Englishwoman Cora, he immediately fell in love with her. But he could not imagine at that time the price he would pay for this love. Could his white brother, Hawkeye, help him? Will the Mohican tribe manage to survive in the end?

COMPONENTS:

- **Reader**
- **Activity Book**
- **Teacher's Book**
- **Audio CD**

Level 1 Level 2 Level 3 Level 4 Level 5

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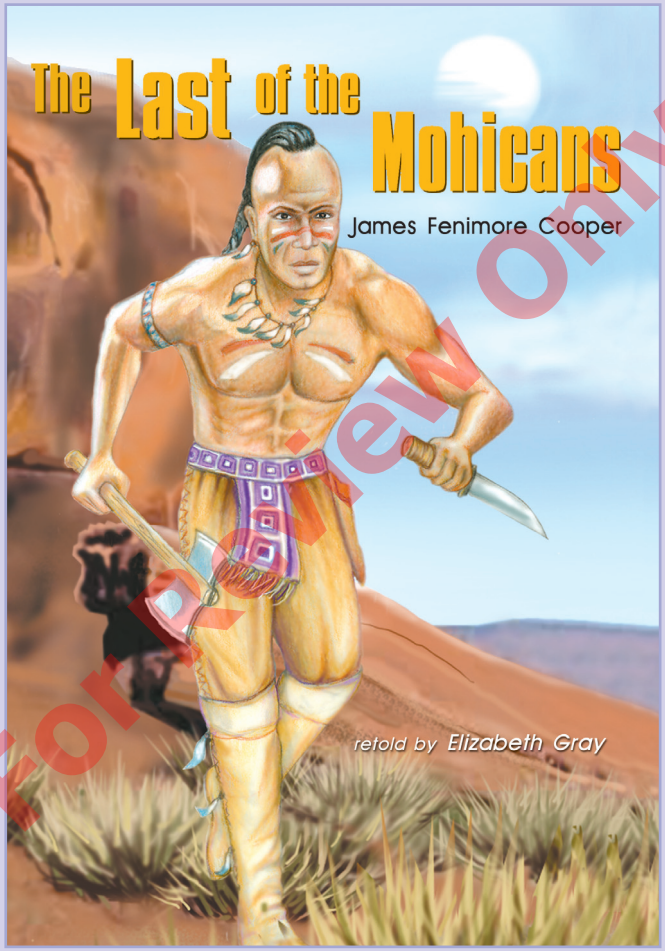
Activity Book



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Lesson 5
Chapter 5

Fog in the Forest

I. Listening

Listen to the recording and correct the mistakes.

1 Uncas took Alice by the hand and led her away from the fighting.
2 When the sun had risen, it was time for them to ride to Fort Edward.
3 It began to get dark as they got close to Fort Henry.
4 They saw some shadows and they realised they were enemies.
5 Colonel Munro was sitting on top of the fortress walls.

II. Comprehension questions

1 What did Chingachgook say when Magua escaped?
2 What was there on top of the hill where Chingachgook and Uncas stopped?
3 What could they hear when they got close to Fort Henry?
4 Why couldn't they see clearly what was going on?
5 What did Colonel Munro say when he heard his daughters' voices?

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III. Topics for discussion

1 Do you think that Magua will cause problems again?
2 The girls reached Fort Henry safely, so the story could have ended here. Can you guess what happens next?
3 Have you ever been inside a fortress? If not, can you imagine what it is like inside?

IV. Activities

A i) *Read the following sentences and guess what the idioms in bold mean. Then, match each idiom with an explanation.*

1 ☐ I'm sure he invited us to dinner to ask for some money; he is **as cunning as a fox**.

2 ☐ He is **as poor as a church mouse** and he lives in a tiny house.

3 ☐ This was a secret but everybody knows about it now. Who **let the cat out of the bag**?

4 ☐ I could stay here and talk to you **until the cows come home**, but I really have to go.

5 ☐ I can't make that speech. I **have a frog in my throat**.

a for a long time
b to reveal a secret
c to be very clever
d to have something wrong with your throat
e to be very poor

ii) *Can you think of any proverbs with animals in your own language? What do they mean?*

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B ***Cora and Alice are telling their father what happened on their way to Fort Henry. They are both very tired and confused though, so they made ten mistakes. Find them and correct them.***

"We were trying to get from Fort Edward to Fort Henry, as you wanted us to do, with the help of the Iroquois Indian, Magua. On our way here, we met Gamut, who is an opera singer, and he joined us. All five of us travelled through the jungle. After travelling for some time we realised that we were lost. Magua went to see where we were and that was when Chingachgook, General Webb and Hawkeye appeared. They told us that Magua was safe and that we couldn't trust him. Magua threw his knife at them and then ran away. Then, Hawkeye and the Mohicans took us to their secret hiding place for the day. It was a hut underneath a big waterfall. It was there that Huron Indians attacked us. We thought that we would be saved only if the Mohicans left the cave because the Iroquois would follow them. So they agreed to leave us behind and Major Heyward and the Mohicans jumped into the river and disappeared ..."

1	.....	=	.....	**6**	.....	=	.....
2	.....	=	.....	**7**	.....	=	.....
3	.....	=	.....	**8**	.....	=	.....
4	.....	=	.....	**9**	.....	=	.....
5	.....	=	.....	**10**	.....	=	.....

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