

William Shakespeare
The Tempest

Prospero lives on an island with his daughter, Miranda. One night, with his magic, he makes a storm to bring his brother and the King of Naples to the island. They must pay for what they did in the past. Ferdinand also arrives on the island and finds love. Read the play and see how the island and Prospero's magic change the lives of these people.

In this reader you'll find:

- Focus on sections: William Shakespeare, The Elizabethan Theatre
- Glossary of difficult words
- Comprehension and grammar activities including A2 Key style exercises and 21st century skills activities
- Final test

Tags

Drama | Magic | Love | Forgiveness

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William Shakespeare

The Tempest

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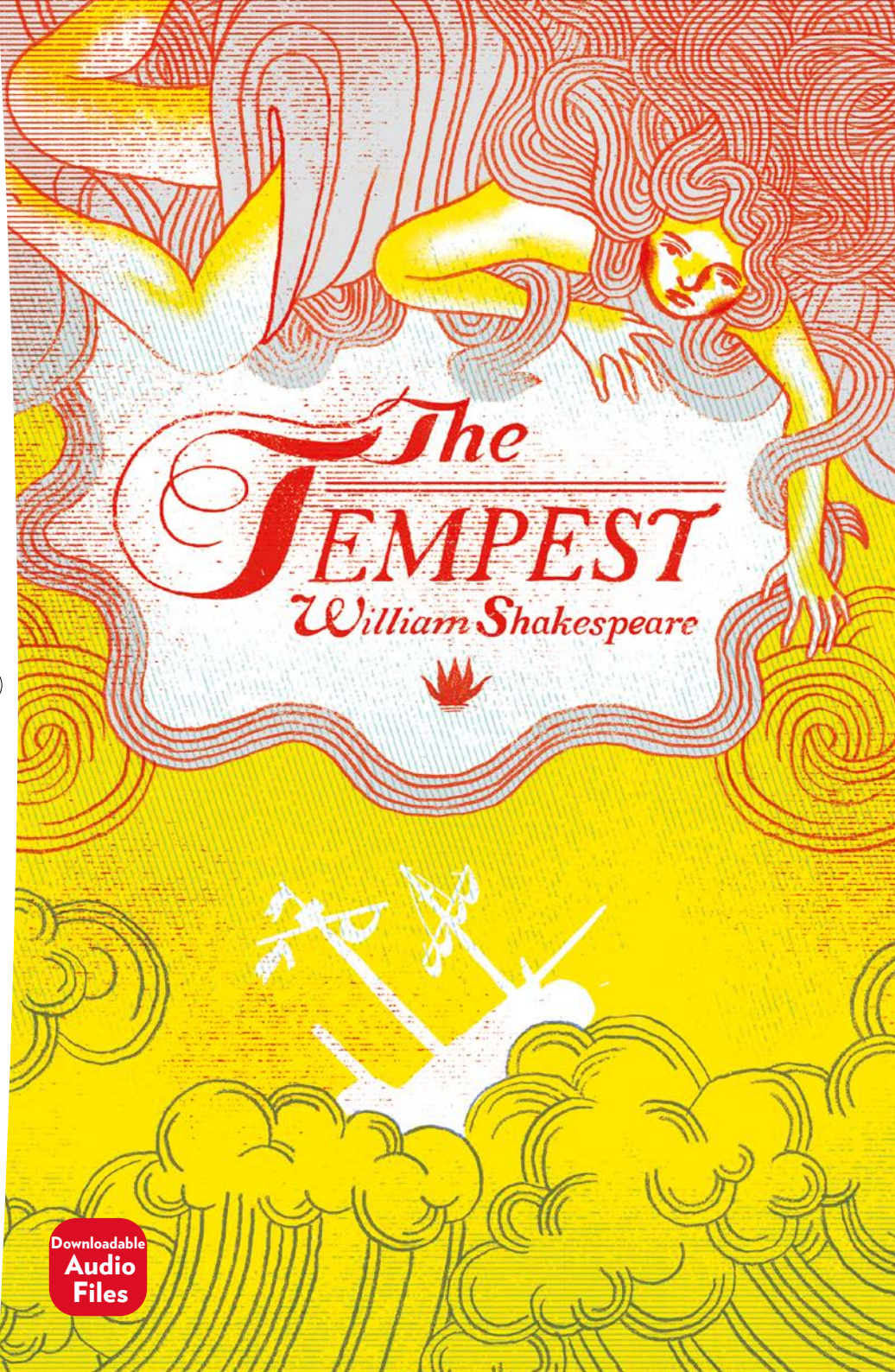
Stage 2 A2

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TEEN ELI READERS
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Book brief

- 1** *The Tempest* is a play written by William Shakespeare in 1610-11 and is thought to be one of the last plays Shakespeare wrote alone.
- 2** After the opening scene on a ship at sea, the rest of the play is set on an island, where Prospero, once Duke of Milan, lives with his daughter Miranda, a spirit called Ariel and Caliban who hates Prospero.
- 3** The play contains both elements of tragedy and comedy as well as elements of magic and the supernatural.
- 4** Prospero uses his 'good' magic to bring his brother and his friends to the island. He makes them feel sorry for what they did to him and his daughter 12 years ago, and shows them that he has forgiven them.
- 5** Main theme: love and forgiveness can bring peace to the world.

William Shakespeare

The Tempest

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For Review Only

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Main Characters



Prospero

The real Duke of Milan

With his magic, he makes a storm so that everybody on the ship will come to his island.



Alonso

King of Naples

He helped Antonio to try to kill Prospero many years ago.



Miranda

Prospero's daughter

She has lived with her father on the island since she was three years old.



Caliban

Son of the witch Sycorax

He now works for Prospero but he hates him.



Antonio

Prospero's brother

He's now the Duke of Milan. He tried to kill Prospero many years ago.



Gonzalo

A kind man

*He helped Prospero
and Miranda many
years ago.*



Ariel

A Spirit

*Ariel will do anything
for Prospero because
Prospero helped Ariel
in the past.*



Ferdinand

Alonso's son

*He finds love
on the island.*



Stephano

A sailor

*He hates the people
he worked for
on the ship.*



Sebastian

Alonso's brother

*He plans to kill his
brother with the help
of Antonio.*

Reading A2 Key

- 1 Read about Shakespeare. Choose the correct word (A, B or C) to complete the text.

William Shakespeare was born in Stratford-upon-Avon, (1) _____ April 1564. He was the eldest son and studied (2) _____ at school. When he (3) _____ eighteen, he got married (4) _____ Anne Hathaway and they (5) _____ three children. In 1584, he went (6) _____ London and started working for a theatre. He ~~wasn't~~ a really good actor, but the plays he wrote became (7) _____ popular. People went to see (8) _____ at the Globe Theatre. He wrote plays about history, love and also sad stories. In (9) _____ plays, you can find stories about all different kinds of people and they're often about families. At the end of his life, he went to Stratford-upon-Avon, where he (10) _____ at the age of fifty-two.

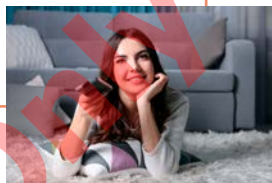
- | | | | |
|----|--------|---|------------|
| | A is | ☒ B was | C has been |
| 1 | A on | B in | C at |
| 2 | A many | B very | C hard |
| 3 | A was | B had | C has |
| 4 | A with | B to | C together |
| 5 | A had | B did | C have |
| 6 | A at | B to | C in |
| 7 | A much | B lots | C very |
| 8 | A it | B them | C their |
| 9 | A his | B your | C her |
| 10 | A dead | B died | C has died |

Speaking

2 Answer the following questions.

21st
Century
Skills

- 1 Would you like to go to the theatre?
Why / Why not?
- 2 Do you like going to the cinema?
Why / Why not?
- 3 What kind of TV programmes do
you like and why?
- 4 What do you use your PC or tablet for?
- 5 How often do you play video games?



Vocabulary

3 Read and complete the missing word.

- You can read a story in this: b o o k
- 1 Very bad weather: s _ _ _ _
 - 2 You can travel on this at sea: s _ _ _
 - 3 The Queen is married to this man: K _ _ _
 - 4 Your father's brother to you: u _ _ _ _
 - 5 This has water all around it: i _ _ _ _ _
 - 6 A place with a lot of trees: w _ _ _

Listening

3 4 Listen to Act 1 Scene 2 and decide if these sentences are true (T) or false (F).

The people on the ship aren't in any real danger.

- 1 Miranda's father was the King of Naples.
- 2 Miranda and her father now live on an island.
- 3 Miranda has got a brother called Antonio.
- 4 Ariel isn't free yet.
- 5 Caliban is good and kind.
- 6 Ferdinand doesn't want to leave Miranda.

T F

☒ ☐
☐ ☐
☐ ☐
☐ ☐
☐ ☐
☐ ☐
☐ ☐

Act 1

▶ 2 Act 1 Scene 1

On a ship at sea. It's stormy.

[Enter sailor¹, Alonso, Sebastian, Antonio, Ferdinand and Gonzalo.]

ALONSO. Good sailor, be careful! Where's the Captain²?

SAILOR. Please, go below.

ANTONIO. Where's the Captain?

SAILOR. Can't you hear me? Go to your rooms! All of you!

GONZALO. Remember who you're talking to!

SAILOR. I love my King, but now we must work against the tempest³. Please, go back to your rooms. It's dangerous here!

GONZALO. I'm sure you can save us.

SAILOR. I'm afraid all is lost. The ship is going down.

SEBASTIAN. Swim for your life!

FERDINAND. Father!

ALONSO. My son!

[Exit all.] ■

¹ **sailor** a person who works on a ship

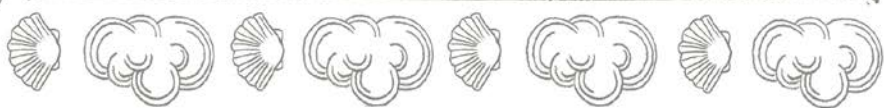
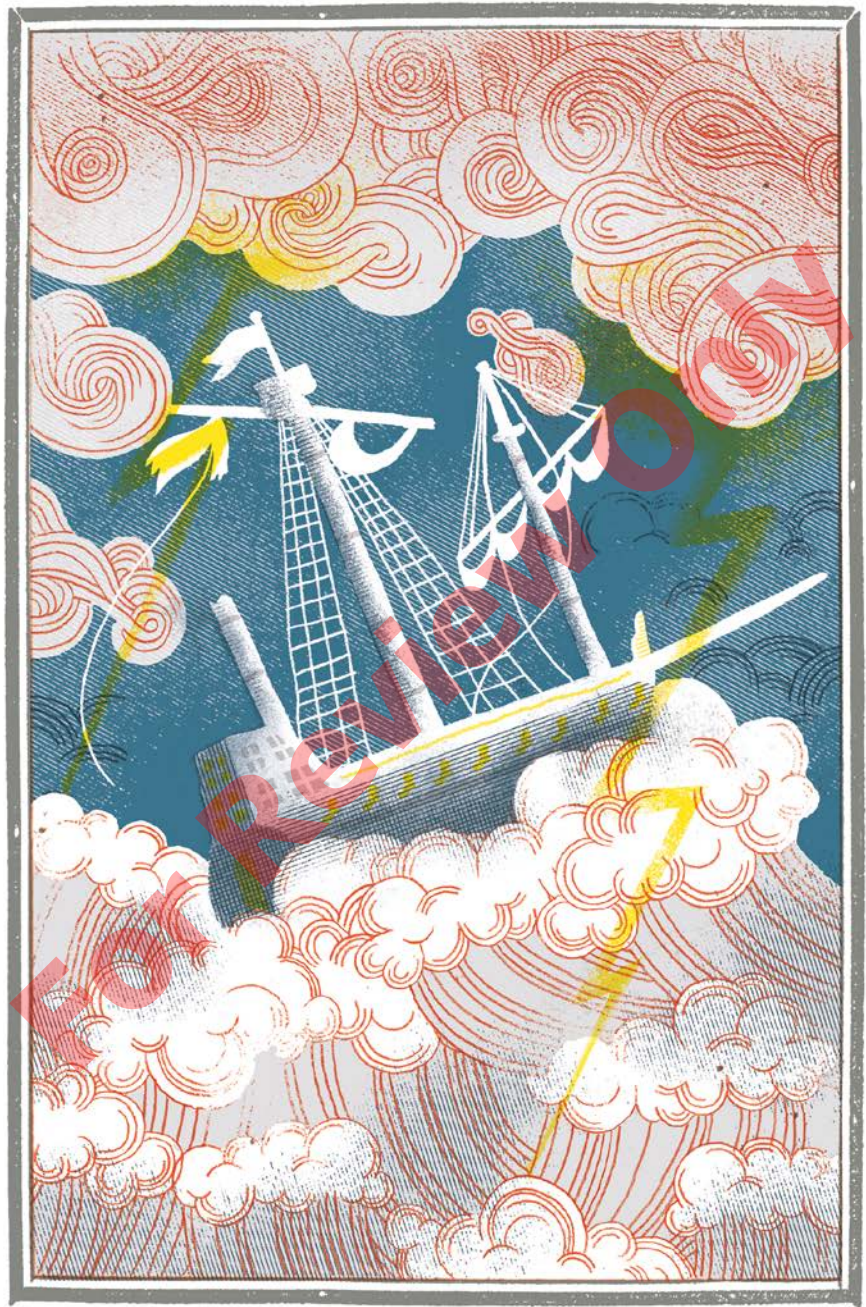
² **captain** the head of the ship

³ **tempest** a storm

A ship is in a terrible storm at sea and the sailor tells everyone that he can do nothing to save them. The boat is going down. All is lost.



The ship is in a terrible storm.



William Shakespeare

3 Act 1 Scene 2

Miranda is worried about the people on the ship and asks her father, Prospero, to help them with his magic. He tells her not to worry as he planned it all and they'll all be safe.

Miranda can't remember much about her past. She has been on the island since she was three. Her father tells her that he was once Duke of Milan.

An island. In front of Prospero's cave¹.

[Enter Prospero and Miranda. They look at the sea.]

MIRANDA. Father, please stop this storm with your magic. Maybe somebody is in danger. Look! A ship is going down! Can you do nothing to help the people?

PROSPERO. Don't worry, my dear daughter. I've organised² it all. Everybody on the ship will soon be safe. I've done all this for you, Miranda. You don't know anything about your past. You know only that I'm your father and that I live in a poor cave. You were only three when we came here. Can you remember anything before that?

MIRANDA. Certainly, Father, I can.

PROSPERO. What? Please tell me, my child.

MIRANDA. For me, it's like a dream. Didn't I have four or five women who looked after me?

PROSPERO. Yes, you did, and more, Miranda. Twelve years ago, I, your father, was Duke of Milan. You were my only child and had everything you needed.

MIRANDA. What happened to bring us to this island?

¹ cave



² organise plan, prepare

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PROSPERO. Well, I wanted more time to study art, magic and other subjects, so I asked my brother, Antonio, to become Duke of Milan.

MIRANDA. You mean I've got an uncle?

PROSPERO. Yes, my dear child; but he wasn't a good man. After he became Duke, Antonio planned to kill us. Alonso, the King of Naples, helped him.

MIRANDA. So, how did we get to this island?

PROSPERO. Antonio took us on a ship far out at sea. Then, he pushed us into a smaller boat and left us there to die. Fortunately, a kind man, Gonzalo, put some food and water in the boat for us. He even remembered my book about magic! Many days later, we arrived on this island.

MIRANDA. Oh! My poor Father! Was I a problem for you?

PROSPERO. Not at all; you were wonderful.

MIRANDA. Thank you, Father, for all you've done for me; but why did you start the tempest?

PROSPERO. The King of Naples and my terrible brother, Antonio, are on that ship out there. The ship is going down, and they'll have to swim to

Prospero tells his daughter how his brother Antonio and the King of Naples tried to kill them, but thanks to Gonzalo, they had enough food and water until they arrived on the island.

Prospero started the tempest so that the King of Naples and his brother Antonio will have to swim to the island.

William Shakespeare

Prospero has brought the people on the ship to the island to teach them a lesson. With his magic, he makes Miranda sleep so he can speak to the spirit Ariel.

Prospero speaks to Ariel, a spirit who helped him make the storm. All the people who were on the ship are now on different parts of the island. Ferdinand is sad because he thinks his father, Alonso, is dead.

this island. Then, I'll teach them a lesson. Now, sleep my child. [aside.] I must speak to the spirit¹, Ariel.

[With Prospero's magic, Miranda closes her eyes and sleeps.]

PROSPERO. Ariel! My good spirit! Where are you?
[Enter Ariel.]

ARIEL. Here I am, great Prospero!

PROSPERO. Well, my good spirit, how did you do your business?

ARIEL. As you told me. There was a terrible storm and the angry sea washed over the ship!

PROSPERO. Was anybody afraid?

ARIEL. Yes, everybody! Ferdinand, the King's son, was the first to jump into the sea. Then, all the others followed.

PROSPERO. That's my spirit! But, were they near the island?

ARIEL. Yes, they're all safe on different parts of the island. Ferdinand is well, but he's sad because he thinks his father, the King, is lost at sea.

PROSPERO. Wonderful, Ariel! Bring him here; my daughter, Miranda, must meet this young

¹ **spirit** a supernatural or magical being

The Tempest

prince¹. What about the King and my brother?

ARIEL. They're looking for Ferdinand. The Captain and the sailors are all on the island too. Even the ship is safe, but they don't know this.

PROSPERO. Ariel, you've done a good job; but there's still more work to do.

ARIEL. More work? But, am I not free now? I've done everything you asked.

PROSPERO. Ariel! Don't you remember when you were inside a tree and couldn't move?

ARIEL. Yes, the witch, Sycorax, put me there.

PROSPERO. Yes, she kept you there for twelve years. After Sycorax died, her terrible son, Caliban, became head of the island. You were still in the tree when I found you. Do you remember now?

ARIEL. Yes, great Prospero. And now, Caliban works for you! You've been so good to me, Prospero. Thank you! What can I still do for you?

PROSPERO. Bring me Ferdinand. I'll wake up Miranda so she can meet the Prince.

ARIEL. Of course!

[Exit Ariel.]

PROSPERO. Wake up, Miranda, my sweet child!

Ariel asks Prospero if he can be free but Prospero says there's more work to do. Prospero tells Ariel to remember how he saved him when he first came to the island, so that Ariel will still work for him.

Prospero wants Miranda to meet Prince Ferdinand, the King of Naples' son.

¹ **prince** the King's son

William Shakespeare

Caliban's mother was the witch Sycorax. He now works for Prospero but he hates him because Prospero took the island from him.

The spirit, Ariel arrives with Ferdinand, but Miranda and Ferdinand can't see Ariel like Prospero can. Ferdinand can only hear the spirit singing. He has followed this sound and it has brought him to Miranda.

MIRANDA. Father, have I slept for a long time?

PROSPERO. Enough. Let's talk. Oh! We need wood for the fire. Where's that lazy Caliban?

MIRANDA. I don't know. I don't like him. He's never been kind to me.

PROSPERO. I know. He's almost worse than his mother, the witch, Sycorax. [shouting.] Caliban!

[Enter Caliban.]

CALIBAN. I'm coming!

PROSPERO. Get some wood for the fire! Can't you see there isn't any?

CALIBAN *[aside]*. I must do as he says because he can use his magic against me, but I hate him. He took this island from me!

PROSPERO. Caliban! Did you hear me?

CALIBAN. Yes! I'll get it now!

[Exit Caliban.]

PROSPERO. So, Miranda, now we can talk. Oh, look! Somebody is coming this way.

[Enter Ariel, followed by Ferdinand. Only Prospero can see Ariel, but Ferdinand can hear the spirit singing, and has followed the sound.]

FERDINAND. Where's this music coming from?



Prospero and Miranda are talking while Caliban is bringing wood for the fire.



William Shakespeare

While I was crying for my dear father, this song came across the water. I started to follow it, and now I feel less angry and sad.

The only man
Miranda has
seen until now
is her father.
When she sees
Ferdinand,
she thinks
he's really
handsome.

PROSPERO. Miranda, what can you see? The only man you've ever seen is me, your father.

MIRANDA. Oh, Father! It's beautiful to see! What is it? Is it a spirit?

PROSPERO. No, my child; it eats and sleeps like us. This is a young man; he was on the ship that was in the tempest. He's handsome¹, but he's sad because he has lost the people he was travelling with and is trying to find them.

Ferdinand
finds Miranda
very beautiful
too and thinks
she's Queen
of the island.

MIRANDA. My father, I've never seen a man as handsome as this!

PROSPERO *[aside]*. Well done, Ariel; everything is going as planned.

[Ferdinand sees Miranda and thinks she's amazing.]

FERDINAND. You're so beautiful; you must be the Queen of this magic island. Please, stay here with me and give me some good advice.

MIRANDA. I'm not a queen, just a girl.

FERDINAND: Oh, how wonderful! The sweet girl speaks my language!

¹ handsome beautiful

The Tempest

PROSPERO *[aside]*. It's love already! But first, I must be sure about Ferdinand *[to Ferdinand]*.

I'm afraid you want my island, young man!

MIRANDA *[aside]*. Why does my father speak so?

FERDINAND. Please, believe me, it's not true!

MIRANDA. Please, Father, he's a good young man.

PROSPERO *[to Ferdinand]*. Follow me! *[to Miranda]*.

Don't speak for him; he's come to steal from us.

[to Ferdinand]. Come! Leave my daughter alone!

FERDINAND. No! I want to stay here with her!

[Ferdinand pulls out his sword¹, but Prospero, with his magic, stops him.]

MIRANDA. Please, Father, don't be too hard on him.

PROSPERO. Be quiet! Believe me, there are many more who are better than him.

MIRANDA. I don't want a better man.

PROSPERO *[to Ferdinand]*. Follow me to my cave!

FERDINAND. I can't stop myself; but I don't mind.

I'll do anything to see this beautiful girl again.

MIRANDA. Don't be afraid, my father is good.

PROSPERO. My child, be quiet! Come, young man!

[Exit all.] ■

Prospero sees that the two young people love each other already, but he wants to be sure Ferdinand is good enough for his daughter. He says Ferdinand has come to take the island from them. He makes Ferdinand follow him to his cave, while Miranda can't understand why her father has become so angry with this handsome young man.

Think

What do you think Prospero will do to Ferdinand?

¹ sword



Reading Comprehension

1 Choose A, B or C to make true sentences about Act 1.

On the ship, there was

A Miranda.

B Alonso.

C Prospero.

1 When Miranda first came to the island she was

A 3 years old.

B 4 years old.

C 5 years old.

2 Prospero and Miranda have been on the island for

A 3 years.

B 12 years.

C 10 years.

3 Antonio is

A Miranda's
brother.

B Miranda's
cousin.

C Miranda's
uncle.

4 Prospero was helped by

A Alonso.

B Gonzalo.

C Antonio.

5 Ariel was put in a tree by

A Prospero.

B Sycorax.

C Caliban.

6 Ferdinand is

A a prince.

B a spirit.

C a king.



Grammar

2 Choose the correct word.

Prospero hasn't seen *somebody* / ~~*anybody*~~ from home for years.

1 *Everything* / *Everybody* on the ship was afraid of the storm.

2 Caliban doesn't like *anybody* / *nobody* on the island.

3 Prospero organised *anything* / *everything* to bring his brother to the island.

4 Miranda remembers *something* / *anything* about her past.

5 Ferdinand will do *everything* / *everywhere* to see Miranda again.

6 Ferdinand doesn't know *anything* / *something* about Miranda.

Speaking

- 3 Act 1 starts with a storm. Talk to a partner about the weather in the different seasons in your country. Say which season you like best and why.

21st
Century
Skills



Before-reading Activity

Listening A2 Key

- 4 Listen to Act 2 Scene 1 and choose the correct answer – A, B or C.

Alonso is looking for

A ☐ his brother.

B ☒ his son.

C ☐ his daughter.

- 1 Sebastian is surprised because

A ☐ their clothes aren't wet.

B ☐ their clothes have become old.

C ☐ their clothes are dirty.

- 2 Alonso's daughter, Claribel,

A ☐ has lost her husband.

B ☐ has married the King of Tunis.

C ☐ has gone to Naples.

- 3 Antonio wants to kill

A ☐ Sebastian.

B ☐ Alonso.

C ☐ Claribel.

- 4 Gonzalo wakes up because Ariel

A ☐ pulls his ear.

B ☐ takes his sword.

C ☐ sings in his ear.

- 5 Antonio says he heard

A ☐ elephants.

B ☐ lions.

C ☐ dogs.