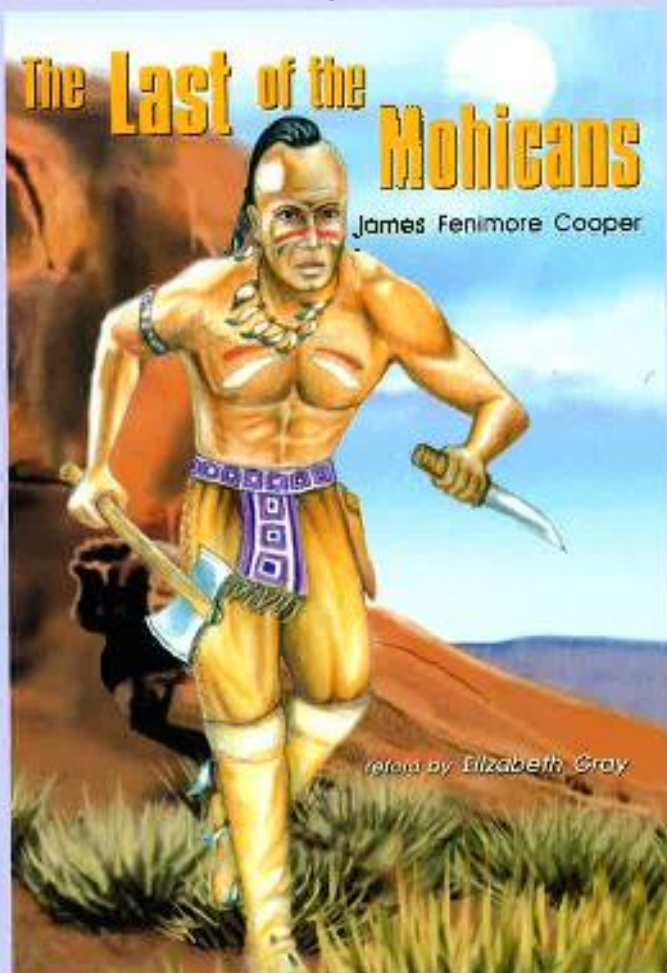


Activity Book

The Last of the Mohicans

James Fenimore Cooper



reprint by Elizabeth Gray



Express Publishing

For Teachers' inspection ONLY

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Introductory Lesson

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About the author:

1

James Fenimore Cooper

James Fenimore Cooper was born in Burlington, New Jersey, in the United States, in 1789. He came from a wealthy family and was the 11th of 12 children. He attended a private school in Albany and then Yale, one of the oldest and best colleges in the United States. He didn't finish his studies there, though. Soon after that, he went to sea as a sailor but he resigned when he got married in 1811. It was almost ten years later that he started writing his first novel.

'The Last of the Mohicans' was written in 1826 and it is the second of five books about life in the north-east part of New York state in North America. Out of the more than thirty novels that he wrote, it was 'The Last of the Mohicans' that became his 'classic'.

His novels are about the history of the American colonianism, the frontier and the sea.

James Fenimore Cooper became popular in America as well as in Europe. He is one of America's most important writers and is considered America's 'national novelist.'

He died in Cooperstown, New York, in 1851.

- 1 Which country did James Fenimore Cooper come from?
- 2 How many brothers and sisters did he have?
- 3 Which college did he study at?
- 4 When did he write 'The Last of the Mohicans'?
- 5 When did he die?

2

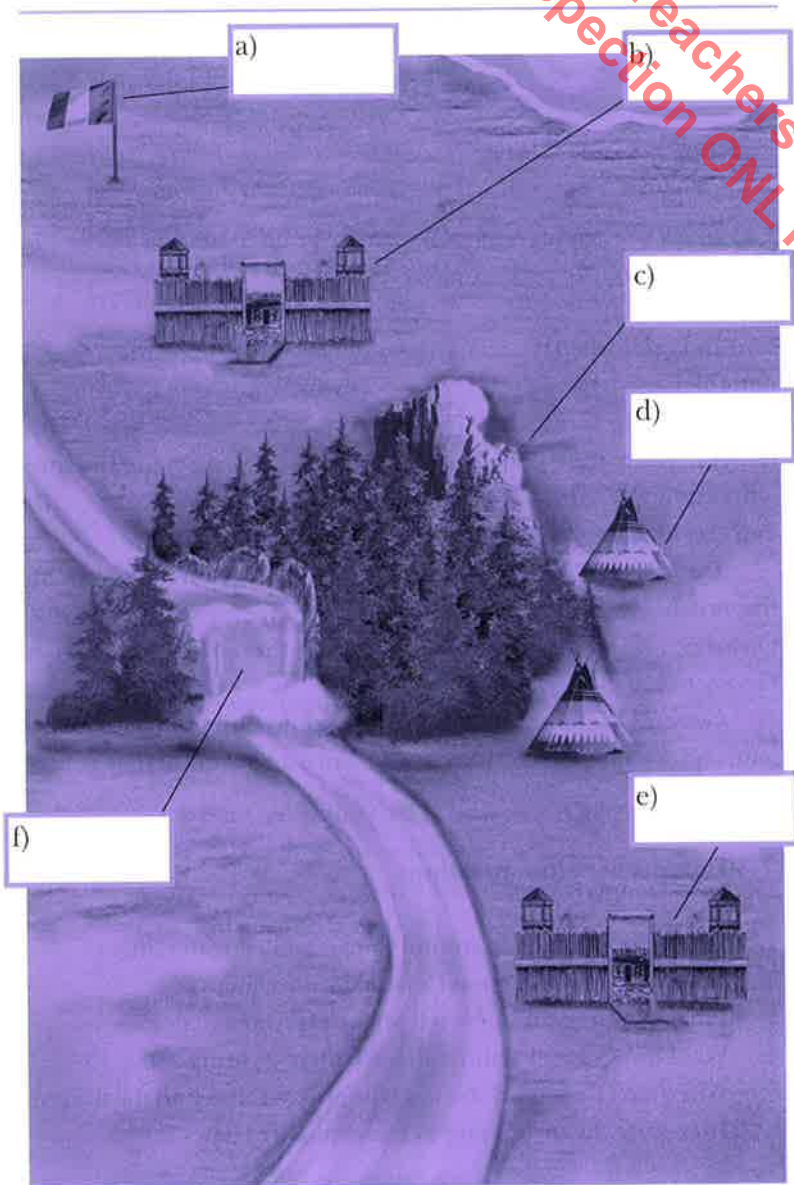
This is Hudson River Valley. It is on the north-east part of New York state. The year is 1757 and the English and the French are fighting over who will one day control the land. There are two English forts in the area. General Webb is the commander of Fort Edward in the north of the valley. The other fort, Fort Henry, is in the south-east and Colonel Munro is the commander there.

The French troops are further north. They are moving south towards Fort Henry trying to fight off the English and control the land.

There are also many Indian tribes in the area; the Iroquois, the Hurons, the Mohicans and the Delawares.

Meanwhile, a group of English people, Major Heyward, Cora and Alice, together with an Indian, Magua, are trying to get from Fort Edward to Fort Henry. There are many dangers on their way, as they have to travel through the forest and there are enemy soldiers and Indians everywhere.

- 1 Look at the map of the opposite page and label: Fort Edward, Fort Henry, French troops, Indian camps, forest and waterfall.
- 2 Name the Indian tribes who live in the area.
- 3 Who are the people who are trying to get to Fort Henry?



Lesson 1

Chapter 1

For Teachers' inspection ONLY

The War

I. Listening



Read the passage, then listen to the cassette and fill in the gaps with the correct word.

In 1757, in the 1) part of New York state, the English and the French were 2) over who would one day control the land. The forests around this 3) were filled with danger. There were enemy soldiers 4) Also, the Indians, who knew the land very well, were either very 5) or extremely dangerous.

Everybody in Fort Edward, an 6) fortress built on the northern part of the Hudson 7) , was very busy. One day, an Indian called Magua arrived there 8) Fort Henry to see General Webb.

General Webb was a 9) , powerful man with white hair and a white 10) He wore a row of medals across his chest.

II. Comprehension questions

- 1 Why were the forests around the area filled with danger?
- 2 What was the news from Colonel Munro about?
- 3 What did General Webb tell Major Heyward to do?
- 4 What did Colonel Munro also ask them to bring him?
- 5 Why didn't General Webb want the girls to travel with the troops?
- 6 How were the girls going to travel to Fort Henry?

Topics for discussion

- 1 What would you do if you were General Webb?
- 2 Do you think that Magua can be trusted? Why/Why not?
- 3 Look at the map on page 5. What dangers might Alice and Cora meet on their way to Fort Henry?
- 4 Have you ever met any dangers when you were in a forest? What happened?

Activities

A *Read the descriptions and fill in the correct names.*

General Webb		Major Heyward	
Alice	Cora	Magua	

- 1 is tall with curly, blond hair and a handsome face.
- 2 is a small, blonde girl with rosy cheeks.
- 3 is small with a bald head and a long, black ponytail at the back. His face is painted in red, white and yellow war paint.
- 4 is a short, powerful man with white hair and a white beard.
- 5 is tall with long, black hair and darker skin.

Chapter 1

For Teachers' inspection ONLY

B Fill in the table with words from activity A.

General appearance	e.g. <i>handsome</i>
Height	
Build	
Hair	
Other features	

C Now, write descriptions of yourself, your friend and your favourite TV character using words from activity B.

My name is I

.....

.....

.....

My friend's name is He/She

.....

.....

.....

My favourite TV character is He/She

.....

.....

.....



Vocabulary Exercises

Choose the correct item.

- 1 All the soldiers were wearing the same **uniform/suit**.
- 2 I've hurt my **beard/knee** and can't walk properly now.
- 3 During a test, students should remain **silent/powerful**.
- 4 When you are in a museum, you must not **touch/hold** anything.
- 5 Many wild animals live in the **fortress/forest**.

II. Fill in the gaps with the correct form of the words in brackets.

- 1 It's cold in the North Pole. (**extreme**)
- 2 The new neighbours seem to be very (**friend**)
- 3 Young children need (**protect**)
- 4 I don't feel when I walk along dark streets. (**safely**)
- 5 It was snowing heavily all night and in the morning our car was covered in snow. (**complete**)

III. Fill in the correct prepositions.

back up off for with

- 1 The English were trying to fight the French and control the area.
- 2 When is Jim coming ?
- 3 Fill the pan water and boil it.
- 4 I was asking you everywhere. Where have you been?
- 5 Hang your coats over there, please.

IV. Match the pictures to the words in the list.

ride	nature	bushes	shirt
leaf	mountains	singer	pipe



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8

Danger in the Forest

Listening

Listen to the cassette and tick (✓) True or False.

- 1 Gamut was a church singer.
- 2 Gamut didn't want to go to Fort Henry.
- 3 Magua didn't know where they were.
- 4 They met three Mohican Indians.
- 5 Magua was a Huron Indian.

True	False

II. Comprehension questions

- 1 How did the English travel through the forest?
- 2 Who did they find in the forest?
- 3 Why did Magua decide to go to the mountain and have a look around?
- 4 Who did the English see while they were waiting for Magua?
- 5 Which Indians could not be trusted?
- 6 What did the English hear when the white man disappeared into the trees?

III. Topics for discussion

- 1 What do you think happened when the English heard the scream and the gunshot in the forest?