



4000 Essential English Words

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2

Paul Nation



The Twelve Months

An awful woman lived with her daughter and stepdaughter in her household. She possessed feelings of hate for her stepdaughter, Anna. Anna worked while her stepsister did nothing. On a cold January night, Anna's stepmother remarked, "Your stepsister desires flowers. Go and find some."

Anna wasn't anxious to walk through the chilled landscape. The cold air made her lungs burn. She walked at a slow pace because of the snow. Soon she saw a group of people. It consisted of twelve men. Anna told them about the flowers.

One of the man said they were the twelve months and that they would help Anna. January walked to her and made a motion with his hand. The days of the month passed rapidly until it was February's turn. February also made the month speed up. Then March made the sun shine and flowers grew in the field.

Anna loaded her basket with so many flowers that she could hardly lift it. Then she gave a quick but polite "thank you" to the twelve men and returned home. She was very eager to show her stepmother all the flowers. Back at the house, she spilled the flowers onto the table. Then she told her stepmother about the twelve men. Anna's stepmother and stepsister went to seek the twelve months. Their intent was to ask for gifts. They looked and looked. They became very lost and never found their way home. Anna lived happily by herself.



The Dragon

An evil dragon lived in a **castle** in the **remote southern** mountains.

One day the **monster landed** in a town. The dragon **commanded** the people, "Give me food now, or I will eat you!" The dragon lifted its **wings** so that its lungs could be completely filled with hot **steam**, and breathed it upon the people. A man turned into a stone **statue**!

The people **submitted** and brought food. The dragon ate all of it and left.

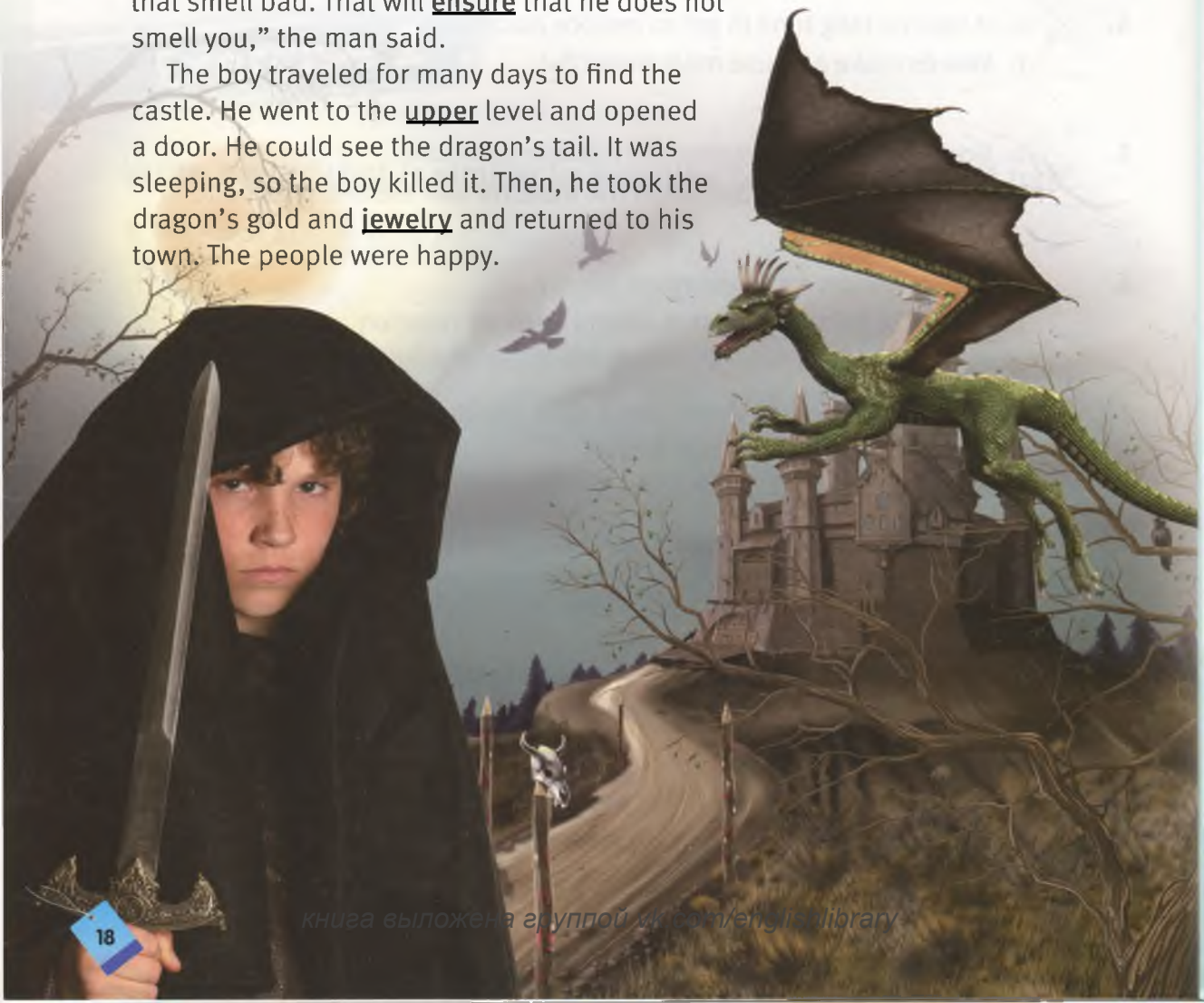
The people sent a boy to ask for help from a wise old man. He resided in a **temple**.

The boy told the old man about the dragon. Then, the old man **counseled** the boy. "A **meteor** will fall in the **northern** sky. It will make a huge **explosion**. Find the meteor and **bring** it to me. I will use it to make a sword for you."

The boy did as the old man said. Soon, the sword was ready.

"Use this to kill the dragon. But be careful. You must cover yourself with **weeds** that smell bad. That will **ensure** that he does not smell you," the man said.

The boy traveled for many days to find the castle. He went to the **upper** level and opened a door. He could see the dragon's tail. It was sleeping, so the boy killed it. Then, he took the dragon's gold and **jewelry** and returned to his town. The people were happy.



The Battle of Thermopylae

This is a true story. It happened long ago in Greece. . . .

“We must fight,” the Spartan* **chief** told his small army of **brave** men. They were at a great **disadvantage**. There were only three hundred of them. The Persian **military** had hundreds of thousands of men.

They were going to lose **unless** they could **secure** a small **entrance**. The **enemy** couldn't move through it easily. They **intended** to stop the enemy here. The chief and his men got ready for the **battle**.

Soon, long lines of the enemy's army **twisted** around the hills. The chief met the enemy with **laughter**. He knew that his men's **weapons** and skills were better. The Spartans **trusted** their leader and **obeyed** him.

First, the enemy soldiers shot **arrows** from their **bows**. The chief told his men to lift their **shields***. The arrows stuck into the shields but did not hurt any of the men.

Then the enemy's soldiers attacked the Spartans with long spears. The chief surprised them. His troops rolled **logs** down on the enemy.

They fought for three days. Though they **hardly** slept at all, the chief and his men remained **steady**.

But the enemy found a way to beat the Spartans. The chief and all of his men were killed. Even though they lost, the Battle of Thermopylae is one of the most famous battles in history.

* Spartan – a soldier from the city of Sparta in Greece

* shield – a piece of wood or metal that soldiers carried to protect themselves

The Deer and His Image

A deer told himself every day, “I am the most handsome deer in the forest. My large chest is a symbol of my power. And my beautiful horns impress other animals.”

But he did not like his legs and hooves*. “My legs are narrow, and my hooves are ugly. They do not satisfy me.”

One day, the deer saw a big dog. The deer made some noise and disturbed the dog. The dog woke up and chased him. The deer felt terror. He screamed. He did not want to be a victim, so he ran into the forest. His strong legs helped him run fast. His pale brown hooves were hard, so they were not sensitive to rough rocks. However, his horns got caught in branches, slowing him down. His large chest could not fit between thick trees.

The deer estimated that he ran for an hour. He felt like he was running a marathon. In the end, the deer escaped the threat of the dog. He sat in the shade of a tree. “That was almost a disaster! I almost did not escape because of my chest and horns. My legs and hooves saved me.” As a consequence, the deer learned to honor his fast legs and have confidence in his strong hooves. “Pretty things only supplement important things,” he thought.

*hooves – the feet of animals like deer and horses



May 29, 1953

Today is the most important day of my life. I finally climbed Mt. Everest, the tallest mountain in the world.

The top of the mountain was amazing. It felt like we were close to **heaven**. The snow was so thick that my **boots sank**. The air was **silent**. I looked at the beauty that **surrounded** me. Maybe my story will be a **legend** someday.

I want people to remember this forever. I was the **senior** explorer in my group, and I knew we needed proof of our climb. I took many pictures with my camera. I'll put them in a **frame** and hang them.

On the mountain, the air was very cold. I **wrapped** my coat around my body. I looked over the side of the mountaintop. From that **angle**, I saw the **border** of the clouds touch the rocks below. The snow was **thick**. It looked **pure**. There was no sign of modern life. Thousands of years ago, my **ancestors** saw the world this way.

After fifteen minutes, I knew it was time to **proceed** down the mountain. The whole team **congratulated** us. My **superior**, John Hunt, **praised** us all. I sent messages to my **relatives** to tell them that I was safe. But it was hard to leave the mountain so quickly. I wanted to enjoy the **incredible** sight even longer.



The Frog Prince

A lovely princess sat by the pool and played with a **sculpture** of a bear. Suddenly, she dropped it, and it rolled away. She **chased** it, but it fell into the water. She began to cry. A large, ugly frog asked, "Why are you crying?" After the princess told him, the frog said, "I can get the sculpture. What will you give me in **exchange** for the **favor**?"

"I can pay you a **fee** in gold," she said.

But the frog **protested**. "I want to sleep in your bed, and you must kiss me in the morning."

"He'd die without water. So, I don't have to keep my promise," she thought.

The frog **dove** for a **brief** moment and got the sculpture. Then the princess ran away with it. Later, the frog went to the **palace**. The king told her to keep her promise. This put the princess in a bad **mood**. She **permitted** the frog to sleep on her pillow. In the morning, she gave him a kiss.

Suddenly, he turned into a **guy**. He said, "I'm from a kingdom **abroad**. In my **youth**, I **angered** a **tribe** of cruel witches, who turned me into a frog."

The princess asked him, "Can I be your **bride** and stay with you **forever**?" But the prince said, "No. You **disappointed** me. You didn't keep your promise."



A Beautiful Bird

Dr. Norton's **occupation** was a **scholar** of **biology**. He learned about all animals on a daily **basis**. One day he met a sailor from a **colony overseas**. The man told Dr. Norton about a talking bird! The bird **fascinated** Dr. Norton, so he told his **colleagues** about it. They **debated** with him: no one thought a bird could talk. He tried to **persuade** them, but they laughed at him. **Nevertheless**, Dr. Norton believed the bird was real. His new **mission** was to find it. He wanted **factual** proof.

The next day he **departed** for the colony. The sailor he had met told him to look for a man named Jai, who would be able to help him in his search. After a month of sailing, Dr. Norton finally reached the colony where he met Jai.

"I can take you to where it lives. It lives by the **volcano**," Jai said.

They left the next day. A week later, they arrived at the volcano. Every day they walked around and looked for the bird, but they couldn't find it. After one month, Dr. Norton could not find the bird, and this **depressed** him. He decided to go home. On the **route** back, he walked past some old **ruins**. He heard someone say, "Hello."

"Who are you?" he asked. Dr. Norton looked up and saw a bird!

Dr. Norton put the talking bird into a **cage**. Then he returned home. He had made a **significant** discovery.



Tricky Turtle

Ricky the rabbit and Tera the turtle met by the **edge** of the river. “No one is **capable** of beating me in a race!” Ricky said. He was **confident**—his smile **conveyed** that.

“I can beat you,” Tera said.

Ricky laughed with **delight**.

Tera said, “We will race tomorrow. The **destination** is the hill.”

Ricky agreed. Tera **concentrated** on winning the race. She was not faster than Ricky. She needed a **definite** way to **succeed**. She told her family about the race, “I have **concluded** that I have to **resort** to something bad. I will **cheat**.” She **dictated** her instructions to them.

At the race, they all wore white feathers. They looked exactly the same! Then, her family members hid in **shadows** on the **path**.

The race began. Tera was soon far behind. However, Tera’s brother hid behind a **bush** in the **valley** below. When Ricky got close, Tera’s brother began to run. He looked just like Tera! Ricky ran as fast as he could along the path. But, to him, it seemed like Tera was always ahead. Ricky had used a **considerable** amount of energy.

He reached the top, but Tera’s sister was already there. “Well, you win,” Ricky said.

Later, Tera had a **broad** smile on her face. Ricky never **suspected**. He had been tricked by a family of slow turtles.



The Tale of Bartelby O'Boyle

Long ago, there was a clever man by the name of Bartelby O'Boyle. As a boy, he was kept as a **slave** by the **royal** family. He saw other children play, but he always had to work. This **frustrated** him very much. But he was not **stupid**, and he wanted to change things.

Then one day there was a **struggle** for **authority** in the kingdom. There was a **division** of the people, and one group fought against another group to see which would **govern** the kingdom. There was **disorder** in the kingdom. Bartelby ran

away. He saw much fighting and **destruction**. Many people had nothing to eat; Bartelby decided to **aid** them. He would help them get food. But how?

Bartelby went to the **capital** to find an answer. There, he met a man named Gilliam. A group of men **attempted** to hurt Gilliam. Bartelby **defended** him. Then, he gave Gilliam some food to **relieve** his hunger. After that, the two became friends. They took food from the rich and gave it to the poor.

Soon, other people **cooperated** with them. Working together **enabled** them to take more food. But they only took food from people who had **plenty**, and they always gave it to those who had none. Because of this, Bartelby gained a **reputation** across the kingdom. Even today, many people **admire** him for helping the poor.

Blackbeard

A long time ago, I had my first job. It didn't give me much of an **income**. It was on a **giant** pirate ship. On my first night, there was a thick **fog** over the water. A lamp on the ship **revealed** an **enormous** man. He had a **sword** in his belt. His name was Blackbeard, and he was one of the most **violent** pirates ever.

One day, Blackbeard did an **extraordinary** thing. He attacked several ships near a town. He took some of the town's **citizens**. Then he **declared**, "You give me medicine!" Blackbeard wanted the medicine for some of the sick pirates on his ship.

The people had a bad **impression** of him. They were **mad**, and they **resisted**. But they were **trapped**. They wanted to get rid of him. So the town's **council** decided to give him the medicine.

After this, there was a reward for catching Blackbeard. If Blackbeard was caught, he would have a **trial**. He didn't want to go to jail, so he quit being a pirate.

Blackbeard became a fisherman. But he **ought** to have stayed on land. The Royal Navy was still looking for him. They attacked him while he was fishing on his boat. Blackbeard fought against many men. Finally, he was killed. He didn't even get a **funeral**. But people still tell **tales** about him many years later.



Dinosaur Drawings

It was the worst morning ever. When Carl woke up, he realized that he didn't do his **astronomy** and **chemistry** homework. Also, the **forecast** called for rain and that would affect baseball practice. Suddenly, his mother yelled, "Take out the garbage right now!" When Carl returned from taking the garbage outside, he was all **wet**. "What a terrible day," he said.

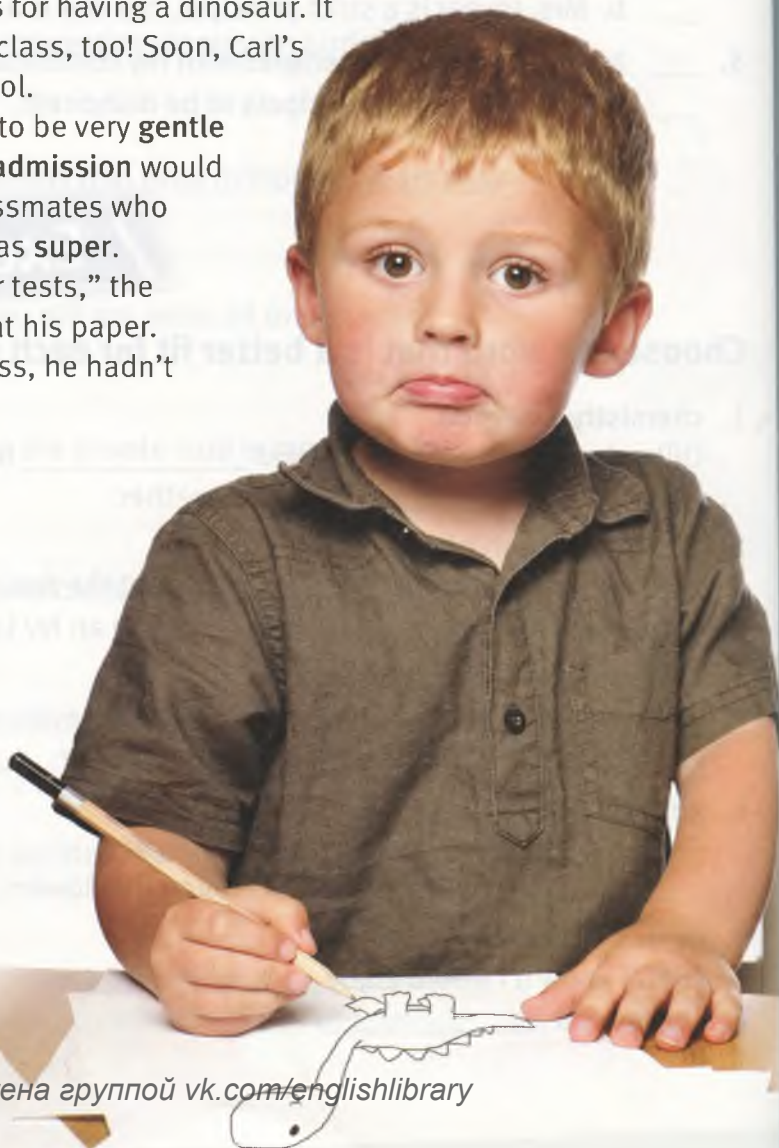
He walked to class. He put his umbrella on the **shelf** and sat in the third **row**. But the teacher asked why Carl's umbrella was on the floor. He told her not to **blame** him. But she sent him to the **principal** out of **spite**.

Next, he took a **geography** test. **Despite** studying, Carl didn't know the answers. He started drawing **lightly** on his paper.

Carl drew a huge **dinosaur**. What if it were real? He saw it in his mind. Carl's class said he was a **genius** for having a dinosaur. It could **interfere** with math class, too! Soon, Carl's **fame** spread through school.

He taught his dinosaur to be very **gentle** and put it on **exhibit**. But **admission** would only be given to those classmates who paid him a fee. His idea was **super**.

"It's time to turn in your tests," the teacher said. Carl looked at his paper. As he was dreaming in class, he hadn't finished the test!



The Mean Chef

Once there was a chef, who was mean to his cooks. He was mean to the people who came in to eat. He charged too much for meals. Many people were not able to **afford** the cheapest **bean** dish. When his **metal** oven broke, he did not have it fixed. So everything **baked** in it burned. The only light was from **candles**, and the whole place was a **mess**. Sometimes, he didn't pay his waiters. Since they had no **funds**, they had many **debts**.

The chef behaved this way all the time. He **monitored** the cooks and yelled if they did not do things his way.

One day, the cooks decided that they were tired of the **abuse** and that they would not be **passive** anymore. Everyone **opposed** the chef. At first, they thought about **suing** him. Instead, they tied up the chef with rope. Now, they controlled the restaurant! They **decreased** the price of food. They used the best **ingredients** and made large **quantities** of food. They turned on the lights. The restaurant was **converted** into a happy place. For the first time, many people came to eat.

The chef realized that the restaurant's problems were his **fault**. The chef learned an important lesson. The new, **generous** chef **insisted** on giving the customers a free meal.



The Cat and the Fox

One day, a cat **hiked** on a mountain. When he reached the **peak**, he met a fox. They began talking about how they get away from their enemies.

“I am very smart. I have **billions** of ideas. I can **carve** a **tiny** hole in a tree, and then climb in,” the fox said. He added, “I have a lot of friends. If I am in trouble, I can call them to **lend** their help. I can escape an entire **army** if I have to!”

Then, the fox asked, “What are your **potential** plans?” The cat said, “I have only one plan.” The fox said, “I hope you have good **fortune**, then! Do you want me to be your **tutor**? I can teach you many things.” The cat said, “I **guarantee** that my plan works every time. We can **quit** talking about it.”

Soon, they saw a group of wolves. It was an **emergency**. The cat quickly used her plan. She ran up a tree. The fox could not decide which plan to use. “What should my **initial** move be? Should I **consult** my friends?” The fox felt **intense anxiety**. All he could do was **spin** in a circle. The wolves caught the fox. The cat was full of **pride**. This is **proof** that having a good plan is better than having many bad plans.



The Good Student

Sue left her **dormitory** early that morning. She had even washed her **uniform** the night before. She wanted to look nice for the day.

Sue was **committed** to learning, and she had a **talent** for getting good grades. In fact, Sue didn't sleep much. She **composed** a paper and found the perfect **thesis** about the importance of **greenhouses**. She also studied for her **physics** test. Sue was already tired.

During the test, she **calculated** her answers. Soon, she felt sick. Her face got hot, and her **vision** began to blur. She was **blind** for a moment. The teacher saw Sue's **apparent** sickness. He wanted to send her to the nurse. But she wouldn't go. Sue still had a **portion** of the test to finish.

After that, Sue went to the nurse. After seeing the **secretary**, she waited. A few minutes later, the nurse came in with a glass of juice and told Sue they needed to **chat**. "It is **obvious** that you have **exhausted** yourself," the nurse said. "If you keep working so hard, it could have **severe** results."

"My parents tell me that all the time. I guess I shouldn't **ignore** them," Sue said.

"You have to **remind** yourself it is OK to rest," the nurse said.

When Sue got back to her room, she went right to bed. She made sure she got enough rest every night after that.



The Lucky Knife

I've devoted my life to studying past **generations**. Last year, I had a **unique** chance to work with my uncle. Our job was to find old treasures for a school's history **foundation**. He also hired a **crew** of students. They signed a **contract** to work with him. He was the **boss**. The place was strange, though. I **dined** on many things that I had never tasted before. They had an unusual **flavor**.

We had been there about a month and hadn't found anything. One day, I began to **dig** in the **soil**. The ground's **layers** got wetter. Soon I was digging in the **mud**. My shovel began to get very heavy. It felt like it had **doubled** in weight because the ground had **absorbed** a lot of water.

Finally, I saw something in the mud. It was an old knife! The **handle** felt **smooth** in my hand. I **elevated** it so I could see it better. There was writing on it.

"It says it will bring good luck," my uncle said with a smile. "Why don't you keep it?"

I put it in my tent. The next day, we found many more things. There were pots, jewelry and weapons. My uncle **donated** all of the things to a special **committee**. Many newspapers wrote stories about it. It seemed the knife really did bring good luck!



Prince Sam

Sam's mother cooked at the royal palace. One day, he went to work with her. She **emphasized** that he should stay in the kitchen. But Sam was bored. **Thus**, he decided to look around.

He went around a corner. It **shocked** him to see a boy who had a strong **likeness** to him. Sam soon **recovered**. The other boy **stared** at him. Then he spoke. "Come with me."

He needed to be **rational**. But he couldn't **deny** that he wanted to go. So he followed the boy to a **chamber**. "I am Prince Bertram," the boy said.

Sam felt **shy** talking to a prince. "I'm Sam."

"Trade places with me." The prince said.

"We can't. My mother will kill me. **Moreover**, I don't know anything about being a prince."

"No one will find out," the prince **interrupted**. "We look the same, and even our **gestures** are the same. It will only **last** for a week."

Sam said OK. Soon, Sam's **perspective** on being a prince changed. He spent most of his day signing royal **documents**. At night, the prince's chamber was cold. He thought he was going to **freeze** or get sick with a **fever** or the **flu**. He was happy when the week ended. So was the prince.

"I didn't know how to do anything," the prince said. "I've always **relied** on my servants to do everything for me."

"I think I like being a regular person," Sam said. "Being a prince isn't fun." So, they both returned to their normal positions and enjoyed their lives more than before.



Henry Ford's Famous Car

My name is Henry Ford, and I **invented** a car called the Model T. I used to watch **carriages** on the streets. They fascinated me. Then I got a job as a **junior mechanic**. My father **criticized** me. He wanted me to run the farm. But I did not **shift** my plans.

Then I worked for the Detroit Auto Company. But I wanted to make cars using less **labor**. That way, there would be fewer **expenses**. I started the Ford Motor Company in 1903. At first, the company did not do well. But many people were **betting** on my success. I also had a **sincere aim** to make a car that anybody could buy.

Then, in 1908, I introduced the Model-T in a **formal** ceremony. It **confirmed** that I was right: it was possible to build a car my way!

The Model T **differed** from other vehicles. Workers could **attach** different parts for cars or trucks. This saved time. One Model T could be put together in 93 minutes. All of them had the same **classic** design. They were all the same size and **height**. The **prime** reason for doing this was to save money.

Over 19 years, I sold over 15 million Model Ts. This sent a **signal** to other companies. People would buy cars to **commute** to work if the price was low enough.



The Priest

A young **priest** was always sad. He was good at his **profession**, but he still had no **joy**. He visited a group of wise **monks**.

When he got to the monks' house, they **greeted** him and let him in. The monks asked the priest, "What is the matter?" The priest said, "I should be happy, but I am not. I don't know what to do." The wise monks **paused** for a minute. Then one said, "We are **convinced** of your **faith**. You are a very good priest. But to find joy, you have to do more. Above all, **investigate** the **elements** of your life that you love." The priest thought that this answer was **odd**, but he was **curious**.

The next day, the priest thought about his **abilities**. He got a few ideas, and he did not want to **delay** any longer. He liked to draw, so he made some **cartoons**. He also liked to write, so he started a **diary**. He was interested in **agriculture**, so he planted some **grains**. He made jam from berries. He made his own **labels** to put on the jars of jam. He painted his **ceiling**. The priest learned something. It is not too hard to be happy after all. All one has to do is find things they like doing, and do them!



Mrs. May and the Green Girl

One morning, people from a small town found a little girl by a **stream**. She seemed to be wearing a green **costume**. As the people got closer, they saw that the girl's skin was green!

"Oh my!" The people **exclaimed**. "What if her **motive** for coming to our town is bad? What if she has a strange **origin**?"

An old woman **kindly** went to her. "Look how scared she is. Please," she **begged**. "Do not **reject** her. I will **adopt** her."

There was **silence** until the judge spoke. "I don't know," he said in a worried **tone**. "But we cannot **forbid** you. I **indeed** hope you're not being a **fool**."

Mrs. May **extended** her hand to the girl. "Come with me. I won't hurt you."

The girl spoke a language Mrs. May didn't know. But she was able to **interpret** what the girl was trying to say. Sometimes the girl drew pictures to **illustrate** what she meant.

The green girl was from a place far **beyond** the sun. There, people lived in **nests** built in trees. They only ate green leaves, which made their skin green.

"Well, you can't just eat leaves," Mrs. May said. She fed the green girl home-cooked meals, and soon the girl wasn't green anymore. The people had a huge **reception** to welcome her as a citizen of the town.



Albert Einstein

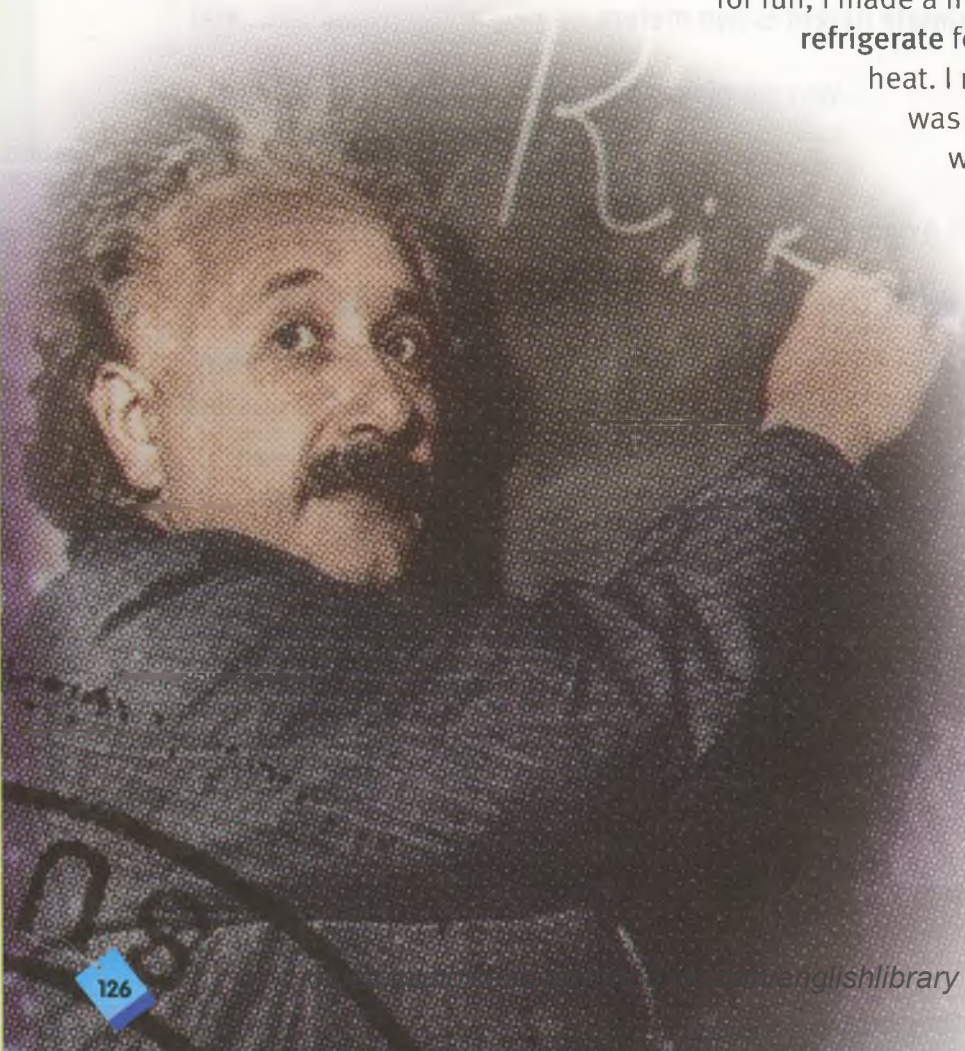
My name is Albert Einstein. Many people know about the great things I've **accomplished**. But I had many **barriers** before I became famous.

I was born in Germany. When I was in **elementary** school, I already knew about math and **statistics**. When I was a boy, I **pretended** to be a great scientist. I loved school, but my life at home was hard. My father lost his job, so my family lived in **poverty**. We could not pay the **rent** in Germany. We became **immigrants** and went to Italy. I finished high school and went to college in Switzerland.

After college, I began writing about science. I did not reach success in an **instant**, though. At first, other scientists did not **approve** of my work. They thought I was a **failure**. Rising to the **rank** of an admired scientist was a **gradual** process. Soon, people started to notice that I was right. At last, I began to get some **recognition**.

I showed how to find the **approximate** size of very big things, like stars. I also **detected** and explained the movement of very small things, like atoms. And

for fun, I made a machine that could **refrigerate** food by **inserting** heat. I never **retired**. It was my **duty** to keep working. I overcame many hard times, and I will be remembered for my important works.



From the Earth to the Stars

Jeremy was from a family of **miners**. Like them, he worked **underground** during the day. His job was to gather **raw minerals** and **jewels**. Each night after work, he lay **awake** in an open field. With his **telescope**, he looked at the stars. He was amazed by the **scale** of space. He wished someday he might travel there.

One day there was an accident in the mine. Water **poured** into the mine. Everything was dark. Jeremy **stretched** out and grabbed a piece of wood. It kept him from sinking. Jeremy felt a **presence** nearby.

“I am an angel,” said a voice.

“What?” Jeremy exclaimed.

“You must never come underground again. Have the **courage** to make your wishes come true.”

For a long time he **floated** in silence. Then he heard other voices. The other miners were coming to rescue him.

The next day Jeremy **skipped** work. He decided to become an **astronaut**. For the next two years, he studied hard. One day, he was given **permission** to **participate** in a mission to space. His wish had been **granted**.

His spaceship left the ground. It went higher until there was no more **gravity**. He saw **satellites** floating next to the ship.

Then Jeremy saw a beautiful angel outside his spaceship. It smiled at Jeremy. For some minutes, Jeremy could not speak. Finally, he said, “Thank you.”



The Farm Festival

Once there was a farm. Many animals lived there. One day, they had a **contest** in the **yard**. They were going to race from the barn to the farmer's **garage**. The barn and the garage were far **apart**. It would be a long race. The winner **qualified** to win a bag full of apples as an **award**.

But the race did not start well. The cart with all the apples was not **stable**, and the animals had to **repair** it. Then the **pup** knocked over the apples. The pig yelled, "We are going to **slip**! We must clean up this mess." The pup felt bad, and she began to cry. The dog gave her a **tissue** to wipe her tears.

Then the race **resumed**. But the duck tried to **rob** them and take all the apples. The cat said, "I will have you **arrested**!" The duck said, "You can't **convict** me! You can't prove I took it." The race stopped yet again.

The animals tried to race one more time. Then they heard an **alarm** coming from the barn. There was a fire! They got **buckets** of water to put out the fire. A **journalist** came to write a story about the festival and the race. The horse told her, "I am a special **breed** of horse. I would have won the race easily." The pig said, "It was **somewhat** hard to have the race. But we had fun. That is what's important!"



The Clever Thief

A new king **inherited** a lot of gold. He loved his gold very much. He even wanted to keep it after he died. Therefore, he had a large **tomb** built for himself and his riches.

However, the tomb's builder had a plan. Most of the stones were **solid**, but he put one special stone on the **roof**. It was made of a lighter **substance**.

When the tomb was done, the king moved in his **stock** of gold. One night, the builder went to the tomb. His **excitement mounted**. Because all the stones looked **alike**, he had left a **distinct** mark on the **artificial** block. The mark helped him **distinguish** the difference in the **architecture**.

The builder lifted the stone. Using a **chain**, he climbed into the tomb. He filled his pockets with gold.

The builder followed this **manner** night after night. Soon, the king noticed a **shortage** in his gold. This **annoyed** the king.

At last he hired a guard to hide inside the tomb. When the builder entered the tomb, the guard **wounded** him. He climbed a pole to the roof. The builder left drops of blood in the **dust**. The guard followed them and caught him.

When the builder **healed**, he explained to the king that he didn't keep any of the gold. He had given it all away to the poor.



The Doctor's Cure

James Fry was a **fantastic** doctor. His **surgeries** helped many **disabled** people **overcome** their injuries. He also wrote for a popular medical **journal**. James was very busy. His son, Steve, rarely saw him.

One day, James was walking and **inspecting** a patient's file. There was water all over the floor. James slipped on the **liquid** and fell. He fell on a broken glass **tube**. He was hurt.

Steve came to visit him in the hospital. James said, "It will be **tough** for me to stay in bed. But I can hardly **bend** my legs."

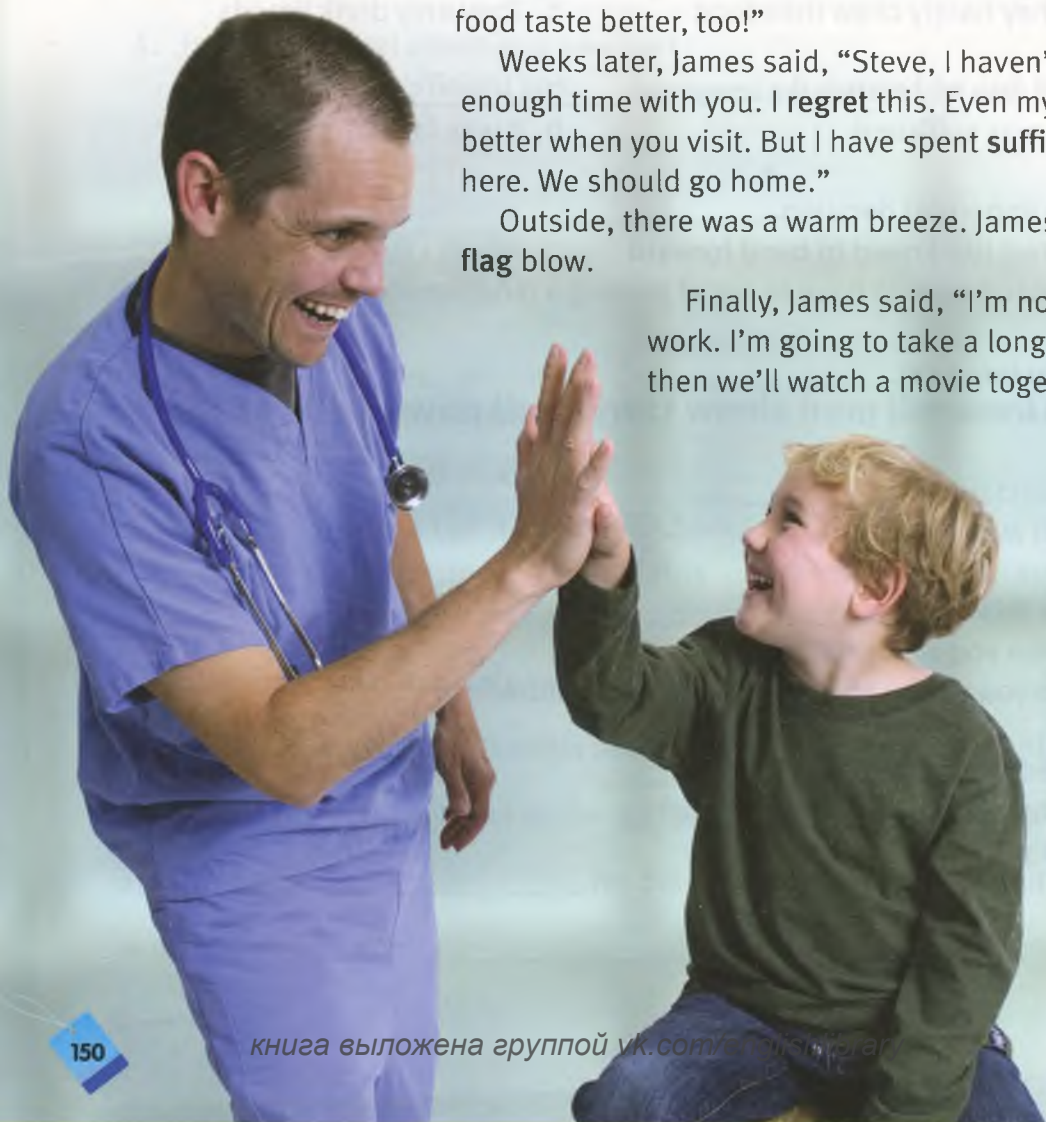
"Then let's watch a movie." Steve said. It made them laugh together. Steve said, "I have to leave, but here's some **fiction** to read."

James started to **recall** fun parts of life. He **marveled** at small things, like food. He was too busy to notice them before. "Steve," he said, "you get more **nutrients** when you **chew** slowly. But I think it makes food taste better, too!"

Weeks later, James said, "Steve, I haven't spent enough time with you. I **regret** this. Even my **soul** feels better when you visit. But I have spent **sufficient** time here. We should go home."

Outside, there was a warm breeze. James watched a **flag** blow.

Finally, James said, "I'm not ready to work. I'm going to take a long **bath**. And then we'll watch a movie together."



The Criminal

A man had been in jail because he stole things. The **criminal** never felt bad. One day, he escaped and ran into the woods. He found a **cabin** with a **fence**. The cabin was very **neat**. Inside, the criminal found a **bowl** of fruit, a bottle of milk, and a **dozen** eggs. He ate the fruit and drank the milk. But the eggs smelled funny, so he put them in the trash **bin**. Soon, he heard the sound of a **vehicle's** motor.

An old man came in and saw the criminal. The old man **yelled**, "Why are you in my house?" The criminal lied, "I am a policeman." The old man replied, "I am your **elder**. You cannot fool me. You are the criminal." The criminal's **facial** expression became very sad.

He **admitted** that he was a criminal. He said, "I'm sorry. It was **rude** for me to come into your home. Please take the **cash** from my **wallet**. It is a **mere** amount, but it will **settle** our problem." The old man said, "I do not want your money. I just want to **inspire** you to be good. There will be no **penalty** for taking my food."

On this **occasion**, the criminal realized that he had been bad. He listened to the old man and never stole from anyone ever again.



The Two Captains

Once there were two ships. Both ships carried **cotton**. The captains were very different. Thomas was **strict**. He made his crew **engage** in difficult **tasks**. "Make sure the ship's deck is **firm** and that nothing falls! Put more **fuel** in the tank!" he said. His ship was very **plain**, but he never had a problem with it.

The second captain, William, was not serious. He had a **grand** ship, and he loved having fun. His crew **amused** him by singing and dancing. But his crew never fixed anything on the ship. They just wanted to **surf**.

One day, Thomas saw a **hurricane** ahead. He knew that his ship needed to turn around. But he was sure William did not see the storm. He **adjusted** the dials on the radio and called his friend. Thomas said, "You'll hit the **reef**. It's made completely of **coral**. Turn around to ensure that you do not **crash**."

William said, "We will go under the **deck** and **shut** the door. We will dance and sing until we are past the **danger zone**."

When William's ship got to the hurricane, the wind blew it into the reef. The ship crashed, and water flowed below the deck. William's

crew **accused** him of being

a bad captain. The

loss of the ship

taught William

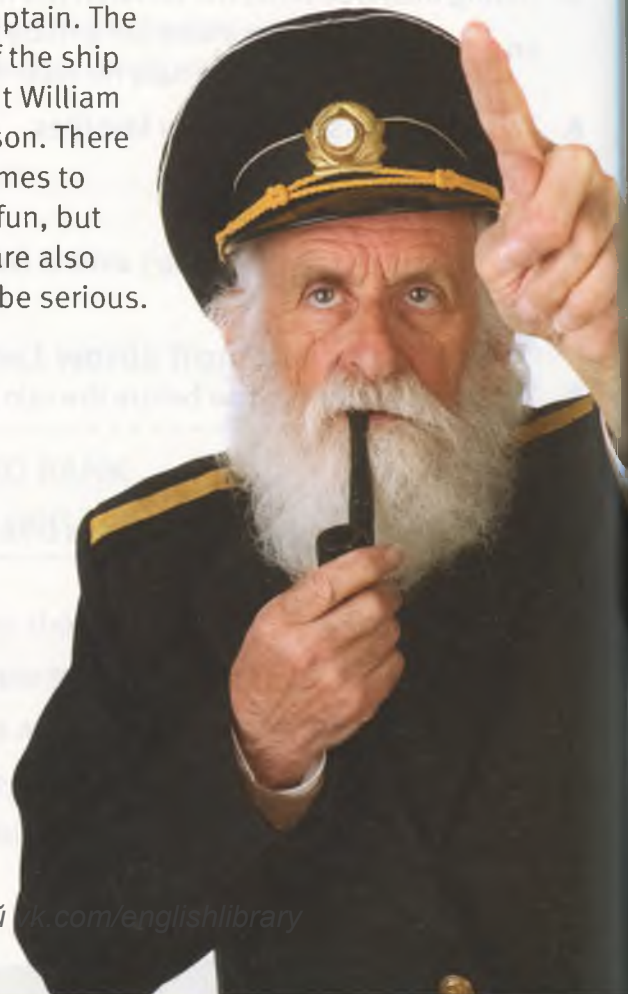
a lesson. There

are times to

have fun, but

there are also

times to be serious.



The Duke and the Minister

A mean **duke** grew **tobacco**, and his **cardinal** rule was to always keep the plants healthy. The duke's top **minister** was his **twin** brother. They closely **resembled** each other. One day, the tobacco plants started to die. He **hired** men to watch the fields. Soon, the men brought a woman to him and said, "We **captured a witch!**"

The Duke asked, "How do you know?"

"She sang magic words. I can't **pronounce** them. She has cursed us. The death of the plants is a **symptom** of her curse," the men said.

"I am just an **ordinary** woman. I was singing a song in a different language," the woman protested.

The duke didn't listen. "You are **guilty**. You will go to **jail**."

The minister thought that she was **innocent**. He needed to **expose** the truth. He asked the duke to loan him one of his plants. He looked at it closely. He saw hundreds of small bugs eating it! Then the minister went to the jail and did something **bold**.

"Let this woman go," he said.

The guards thought he was the duke. They let her go. The minister said, "I owe you an **apology**."

"Thank you. I thought my stay in jail was **permanent**," the woman answered.

The minister thought the duke would punish him. But he didn't. The duke was too busy trying to **preserve** his plants.



The Fisherman

Every day, a fisherman sat on a **bridge**. He ate apples and spit the **seeds** into the water. He had a simple way to catch fish. He cut a **branch** off of a tree and tied a line to it. He put a **sharp** hook on it and made a **tight** knot. Then he **whispered**, "Come here fish." Like magic, the fish bit the hook. He put them in a **big net** and took them home to make **big pots** of fish soup from them.

One day, another man walked up to him. He said, "My name is George. I am staying at the **inn**. I bet that I am a better fisherman than you. I will **accompany** you today. I **dare** you to prove your skill!" The fisherman **cast** his line.

George had a lot of **electronic** tools. One machine gave him the **virtual** locations of fish. His rod **weighed** fish.

At the end of the day, George **subtracted** his fish from the fisherman's. The fisherman had beaten him by forty-seven!

George asked, "How do you catch fish with only a branch and a **bare** line? I have many different **sorts** of tools." The fisherman told George, "My **philosophy** is simple. I am patient, and I believe in myself. Take a **breath**, and try it my way."



Osiris and the Nile

Long ago, Osiris was the king of Egypt, and Isis was the queen. They ruled the **fertile** land by the Nile River. They had great **intelligence**, and they shared their **abstract** ideas with everyone. Osiris taught the Egyptians how to make **wheels** and **furniture**. Isis taught them how to make things from **clay** and **cloth**. The people thought they **deserved** a gift. So they built Osiris and Isis a pyramid. Everyone loved Osiris except his brother, Set. Set wanted to be king.

Osiris made his **annual** trip around Egypt and led **religious** events. The villages gave him beautiful **shells** and colorful **feathers** as gifts.

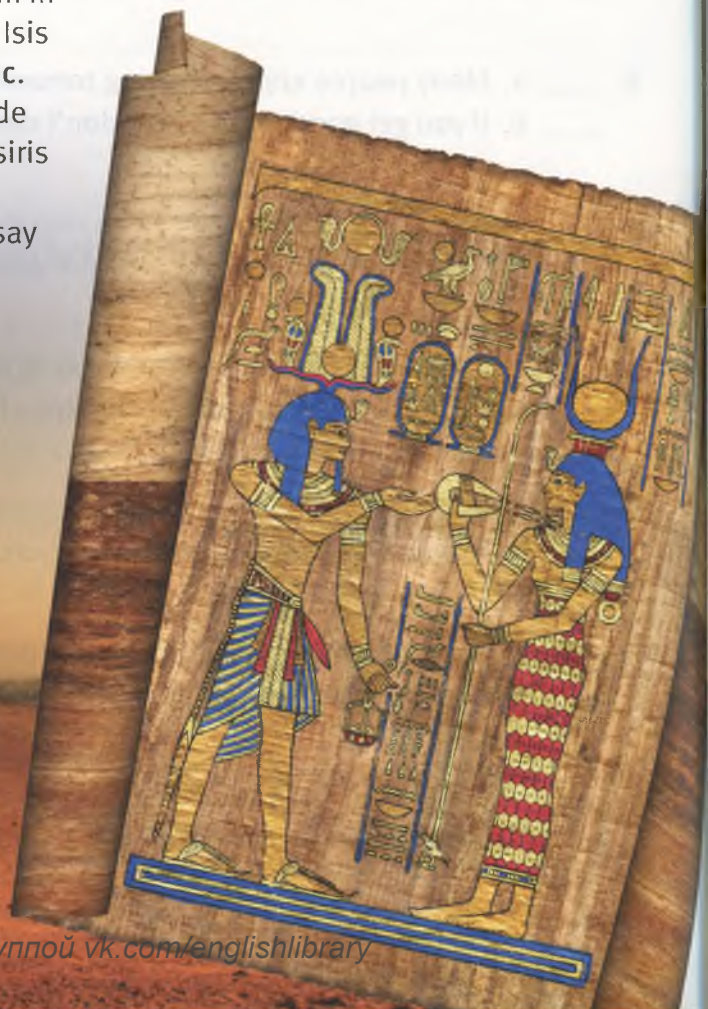
When Osiris returned, Set brought a beautiful wooden box from behind a **curtain**.

“If someone fits inside this box, I will give it to him or her,” Set said.

Osiris got in it. It was an **ideal** fit!

Suddenly, Set closed the box and threw it into the river. “Now I will be king!” Set said.

The box washed up on a foreign **shore** after a **flood**. Isis brought his body home and **obtained** a **grave** for him in Egypt. The Egyptian gods thought Isis had done something very **romantic**. Because of her love, the gods made him the god of the underworld. Osiris returned every spring to help the farmers. Even **nowadays**, people say Osiris keeps their crops alive.



The Taxi Driver

Peter's job was driving a taxi **downtown**. He made a small **salary**. But he liked his job because it wasn't **dull**. Every day, he saw new things that **appealed** to him. Peter was **practical** about the future. "Maybe I can get a **scholarship** to college," he thought. "I could learn mathematical **formulas** and get a job at a bank. I could help **clients invest** their money."

Peter stopped to pick up a passenger. "Where to?" he asked.

"Go to the Fourth Street Bank. And don't talk to me. I've had a rough day," the man said. Peter was angry, but he had a peaceful philosophy. When they stopped, the man's **fare** came to \$10.25. He put his hands in his pockets. "I can't find my wallet!" he said. "I can't pay the fare!"

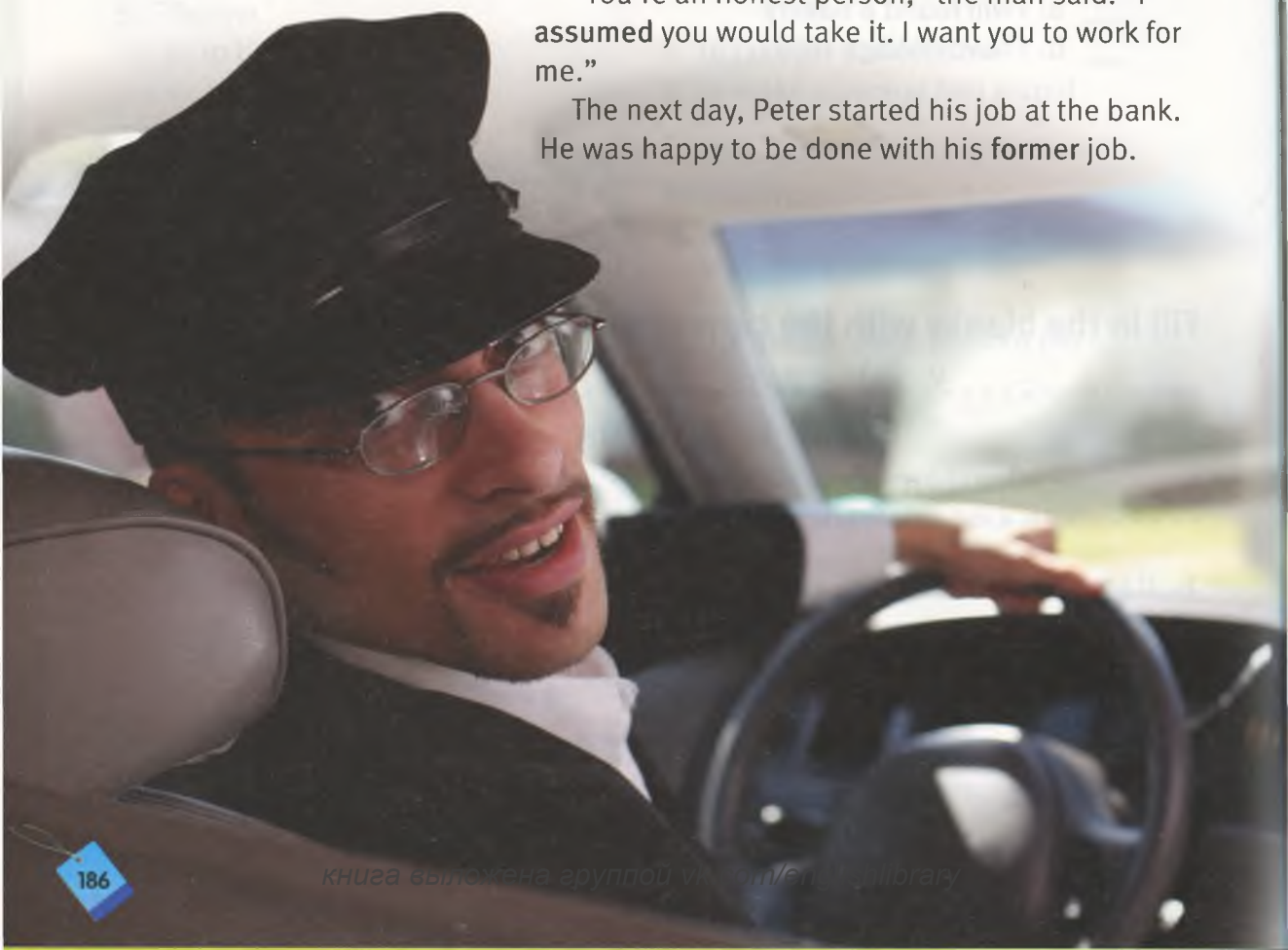
Peter said, "Maybe I'll give you a **temporary loan**. You can **borrow** ten dollars and a **quarter** from me."

The man was **embarrassed**, saying, "I was mean to you, but now I want to help you. I **founded** this bank. I want to give you one thousand dollars."

That much money was like a **treasure** to Peter. The man **urged** him to take the money, but he didn't.

"You're an honest person," the man said. "I **assumed** you would take it. I want you to work for me."

The next day, Peter started his job at the bank. He was happy to be done with his **former** job.



Appendix

THE WORLD



National Flags – Countries – Nationalities

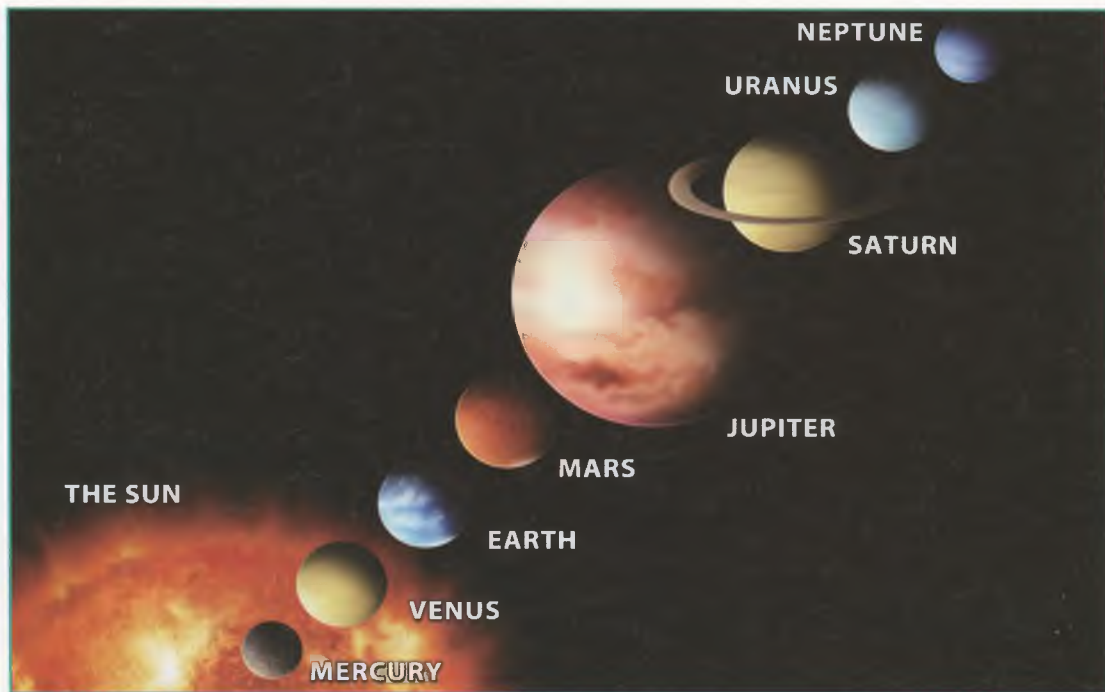
	Australia	Australian		Indonesia	Indonesian		Russia	Russian
	Brazil	Brazilian		Iraq	Iraqi		Spain	Spanish
	Canada	Canadian		Italy	Italian		Sweden	Swedish
	China	Chinese		Japan	Japanese		Switzerland	Swiss
	Egypt	Egyptian		South Korea	Korean		Taiwan	Taiwanese
	Finland	Finn or Finnish		Mexico	Mexican		Thailand	Thai
	France	French		Netherlands	Dutch		Turkey	Turk or Turkish
	Germany	German		Norway	Norwegian		United Kingdom	British
	Greece	Greek		Philippines	Filipino		United States	American
	India	Indian		Poland	Polish		Vietnam	Vietnamese

CLOTHES

СЪЛЪЧНА СИСТЕМ



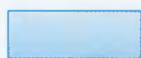
SOLAR SYSTEM



SHAPES



square



rectangle



triangle



circle



semi-circle



oval



cube



cone



sphere



pyramid



cylinder



prism

WEIGHTS & MEASURES

Weight

1 kilogram = 1,000 grams

1 ton = 1,000 kilograms

1 pound = 16 ounces

1 kilogram = 2.2 pounds

Capacity measure

1 quart = 4 cups

1 pint = 2 cups

1 quart = 2 pints

1 gallon = 4 quart

1 gallon = 8 pints

Linear measure

1 centimeter = 10 millimeters

1 meter = 100 centimeters

1 kilometer = 1,000 meters

1 inch = 2.54 centimeters

1 foot = 12 inches

1 yard = 3 feet

1 mile = 5,280 feet

CLOTHES



T-shirt



shirt



blouse



sweater



sweatshirt



coat



raincoat



jacket



vest



pants



shorts



jeans



overalls



skirt



dress



tuxedo



suit



swimsuit

Underwear & Sleepwear / Shoes & Accessories



socks



slippers



shoes



sneakers



boots



rainboots



undershirt



underpants



boxers



pajamas



bathrobe



sunglasses



gloves



mittens



belt



tie



backpack



umbrella



scarf



hat



cap



necklace



earrings



ring

