

Bricks

Intensive

Reading

Best Practice for Test Preparation



E-BOOK



MP3

Level

1

Chapter 1 > Unit 1 > Beatrix Potter, A Friend of Nature Beatrix Potter, an Englishwoman

who lived from 1866 to 1943, is best known as the author and illustrator of *The Tale of Peter Rabbit*. *The Tale of Peter Rabbit* is a series of tales that has been beloved by children and

adults since it was first published in 1902. But more than just becoming a successful writer

and a successful artist, Potter also achieved many other accomplishments in her life time. For example,

she was well known not only for her work in biological science but also for her efforts as

a nature conservationist to preserve the natural beauty of the land. **Chapter 1 > Unit 2 >**

Ebonics: A New Controversial American Language In December of 1996, the School

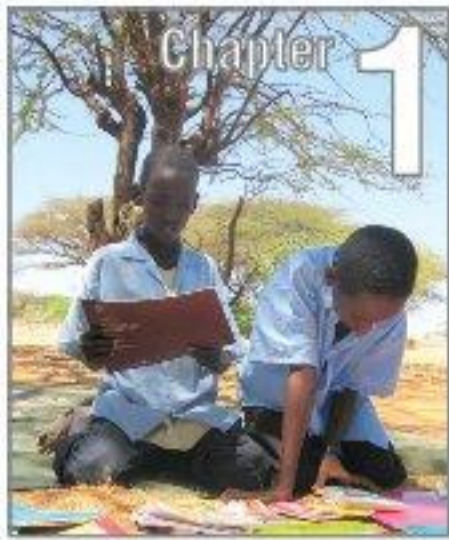
Board of Oakland, California made an announcement regarding the English language

and its place in their schools, which started a national debate across the United States

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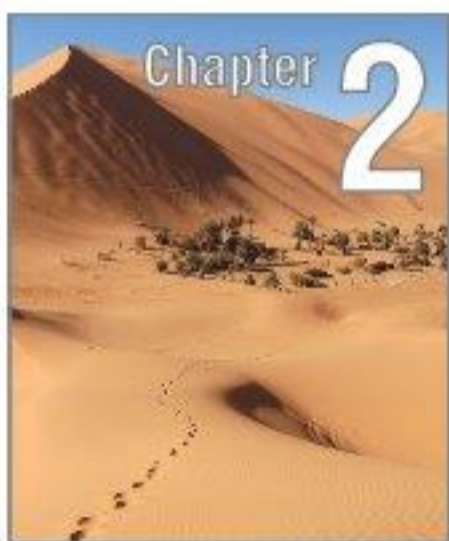
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| Language | Literature |

Unit 1 Beatrix Potter, A Friend of Nature — 8

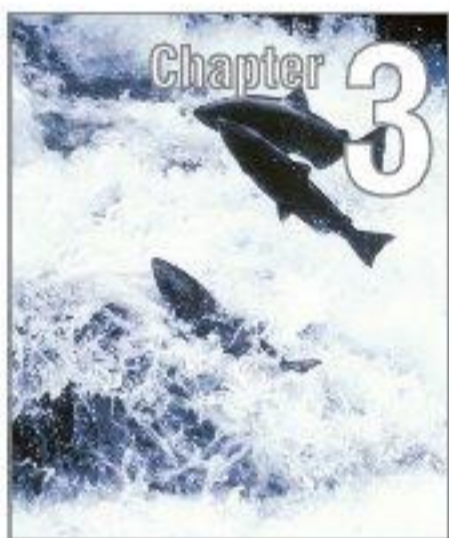
Unit 2 Ebonics, A New Controversial American Language — 16



| Nature | Geography |

Unit 3 Magma and Lava: Fires from Within the Earth — 26

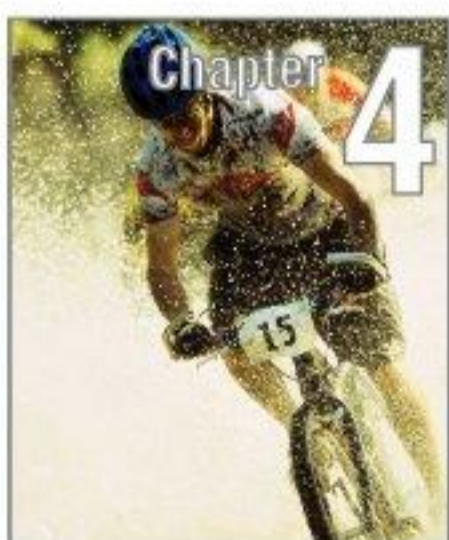
Unit 4 Desert Plants: To Live Without Water — 34



| Life Science | Biology |

Unit 5 Salmon, A Fascinating Fish — 44

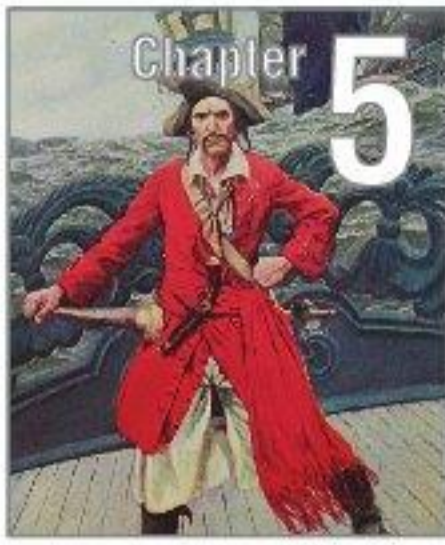
Unit 6 From Wild Wolf to Loveable Dog — 52



| Sports | Food | Health |

Unit 7 Chocolate, More Than Just Taste — 62

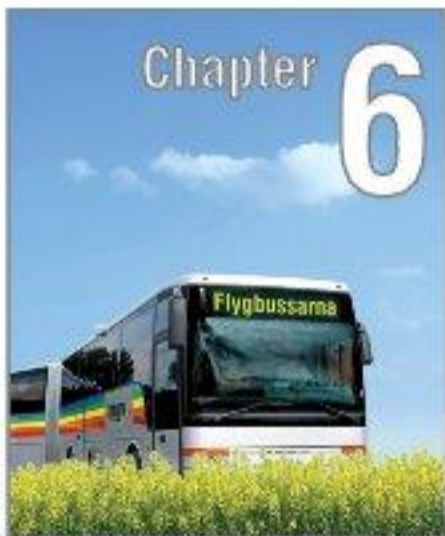
Unit 8 Triathlon: One Sport, Born of Three — 70



| Archaeology | Anthropology |

Unit 9 Pirates: The Menace of the Seas — 80

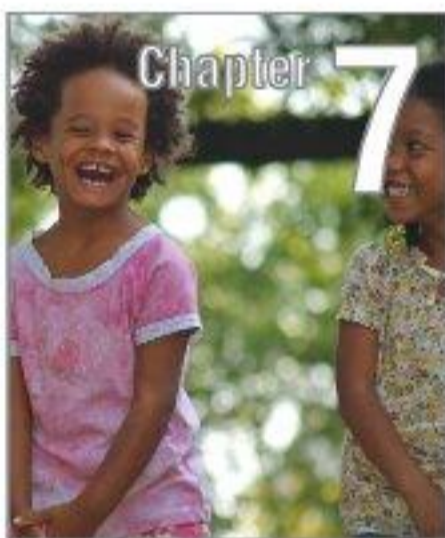
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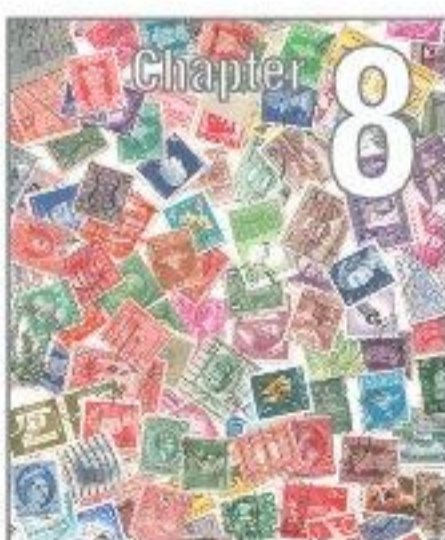
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Chapter

1

Language

Literature

Unit 1

**Beatrix Potter,
A Friend of Nature**

Unit 2

**Ebonics,
A New Controversial
American Language**

Before You Study

Think about the questions below and share your opinions with your partners.



1

Have you read any books by Beatrix Potter?
Do you enjoy stories about animal characters that are friendly and loving?
Who is your favorite cartoon or fable character?

2

What would life be without language?
What do we use language for?
Think about other roles language has besides communication.

Beatrix Potter, A Friend of Nature

Word Bank

- **author** *n.* a person who writes a novel, poem, essay, article; creator
- **tale** *n.* story, real or imaginary
- **accomplishment** *n.* finished goal, achievement **–syn.** completion **–ant.** failure
- **biological** *adj.* from, relating to, caused by, or affecting life or living organisms
- **conservationist** *n.* someone who works to protect the environment from destruction or pollution
- **preserve** *v.* to maintain or keep alive or safe from injury **–syn.** conserve **–ant.** destroy
- **focus on** *v.* to concentrate upon a specific thing or area
- **mischievous** *adj.* playful in a naughty or teasing way; causing harm and trouble
- **mean** *adj.* nasty, offensive, selfish; bad-tempered **–syn.** vicious
- **overeating** *n.* the act of eating too much, causing sickness or discomfort
- **fungi** *n.* (more than one fungus) a type of plant that grows from other organisms and feeds off organic matters **–e.g.** mushroom, toadstool
- **various** *adj.* of different kinds, numerous, many **–syn.** diverse **–ant.** identical
- **expert** *n.* a person who has special skill or knowledge in one area **–syn.** master
- **apply** *v.* to formally request for an occupation, school, loan, and etc.
- **botanical** *adj.* of or relating to plants or plant life; of or relating to the science of botany
- **turn down** *idiom.* to be rejected from a request, such as a job application
- **popular** *adj.* widely liked or appreciated by people **–syn.** favorite, liked
- **protect** *v.* to guard or defend from danger; to keep safe **–syn.** shelter **–ant.** attack
- **landscape** *n.* a view of a section of rural or natural scenery **–syn.** view, scenery
- **countryside** *n.* a rural region, away from or separate from the city
- **scatter** *v.* to spread bits and pieces of something over an area **–syn.** spread

A Complete the sentences using the words in the box with the appropriate form.

focus on	mischievous	accomplishment	preserve	author
botanical	countryside	fungi	overeating	conservationist

- The essay _____ how to preserve our Earth.
- There are lots of gorgeous _____ gardens in Australia.
- He is a _____ boy because he likes playing naughty jokes on his sister.
- Do not eat _____ with many colors because most of them are poisonous.
- I highly recommend J.K. Rowling because she is my favorite _____.
- I will make a speech about the need for _____ historical places tomorrow.
- _____ is surely the main cause of becoming overweight.
- _____ have been protecting whales from the danger of extinction.
- My grandfather wanted to spend the rest of his life in the _____ with his dog.
- His most important _____ as governor was to strengthen the colony's position on the frontier.

B Match the words to their synonyms.

- | | | |
|------------|---|-----------|
| 1. mean | • | • master |
| 2. expert | • | • vicious |
| 3. scatter | • | • spread |

Beatrix Potter, A Friend of Nature

READING STRATEGY

Identifying the Main Ideas

Underline main ideas of each paragraph and combine them together to understand what the passage is about.

List the Occupations

List the occupations held by Beatrix Potter and what she did in each field to understand who Beatrix Potter was.

NOTE

Beatrix Potter, an Englishwoman who lived from 1866 to 1943, is best known as the author and illustrator of *The Tale of Peter Rabbit*. *The Tale of Peter Rabbit* is a series of tales that has been beloved by children and adults since it was first published in 1902. But more than just becoming a successful writer and artist, Potter also achieved many other accomplishments in her life time. For example, she was well known not only for her work in biological science but also for her efforts as a nature conservationist to **preserve** the natural beauty of the land. 5

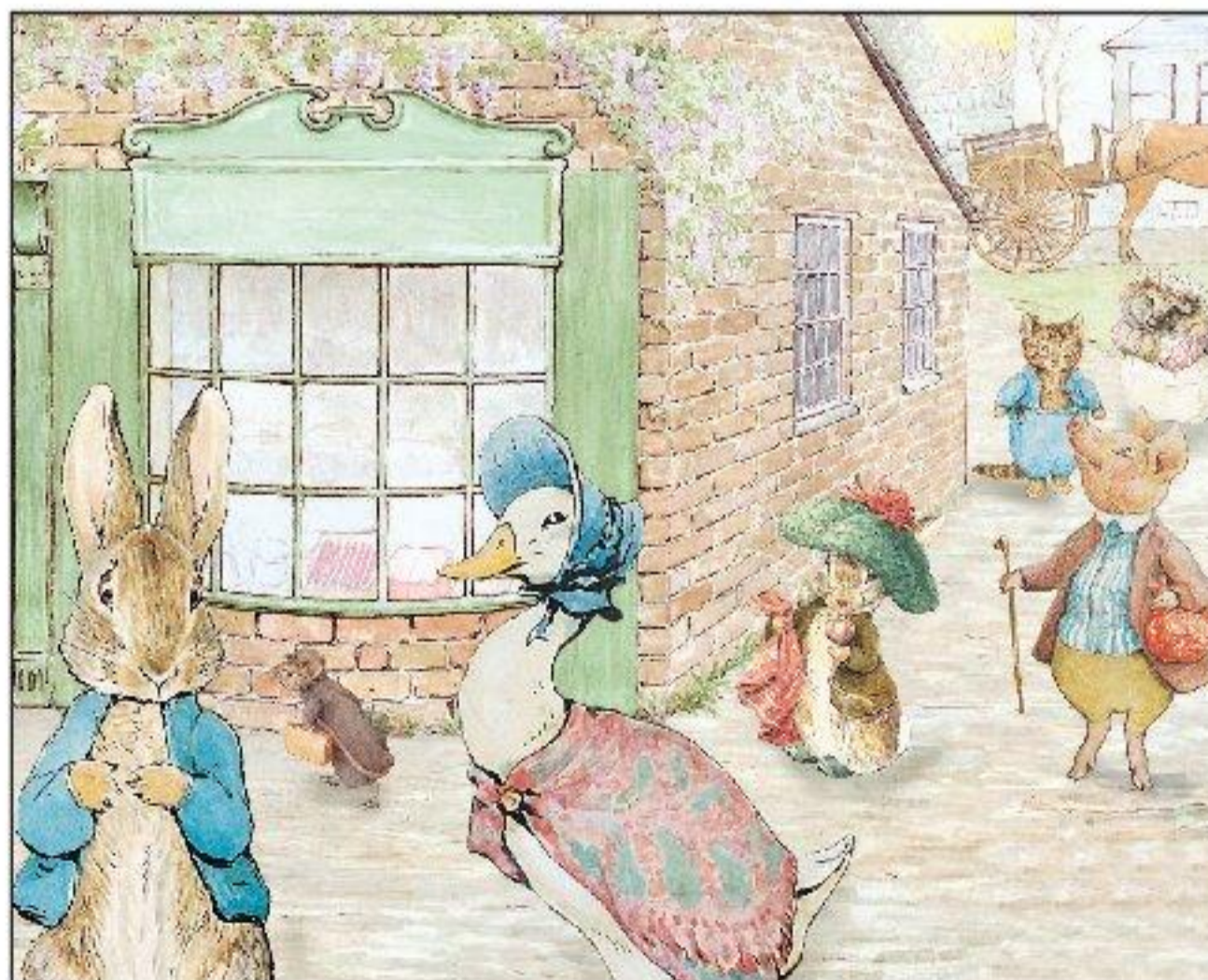
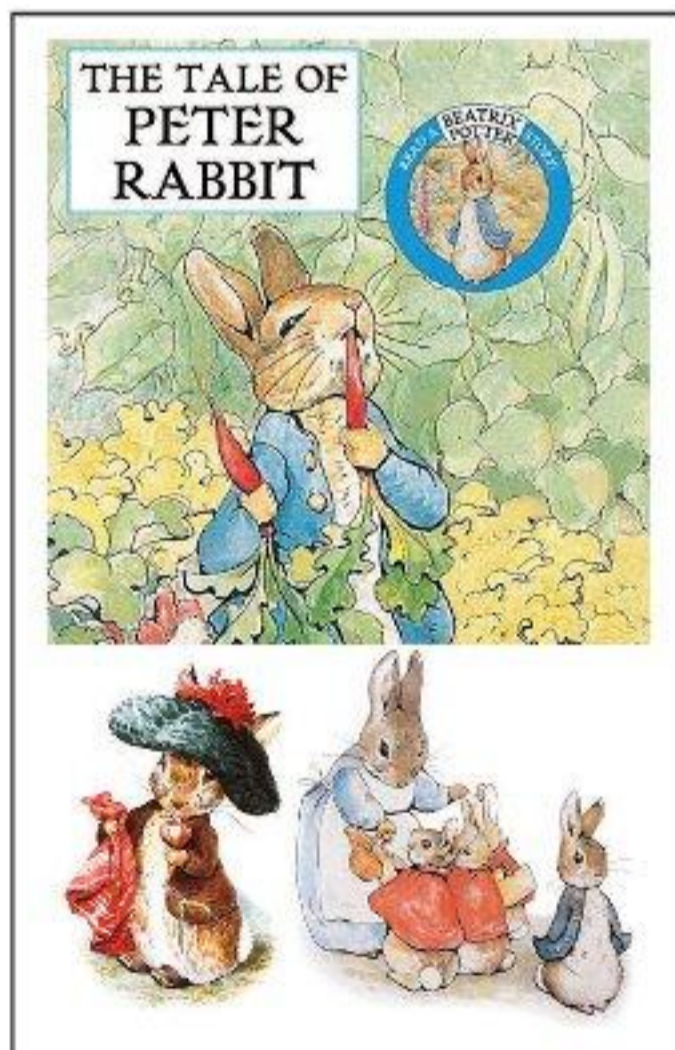
The Tale of Peter Rabbit is Potter's most famous writing. It is the first story in Potter's series of tales about talking animals and **their** adventures. This tale focuses on Peter Rabbit and his three sisters, 10



Flopsy, Mopsy, and Cottontail, who live with their mother in the roots of a fir tree. In the story, the mischievous Peter Rabbit gets in trouble for stealing vegetables from **mean** Mr. MacGregor's farm. For his mischief, Peter gets chased and then becomes sick from overeating. 15

Before Potter gained fame as a writer and illustrator, she had been very interested in science. She was most interested in studying living things and made a close study of fungi. In her study, she spent most of her time painting pictures of various fungi. At the end of the 19th century, paintings were the only way to preserve records of what various species of fungi looked like. Because of her excellent work, Potter became a famous mycologist*, or expert on fungi. She applied to work at England's most famous botanical garden but sadly was **turned down** because she was a woman.

Potter's *The Tale of Peter Rabbit* series was very popular. Due to its success, Potter became wealthy enough to buy land in England's Lake District*. She bought the land to protect the area's natural landscape from being destroyed by further development. In her later years, Potter lived in the Lake District and enjoyed spending time in the beautiful countryside. When she died in 1943, her ashes were spread there and scattered all over the place she loved so much.



Glossary

- * ***The Tale of Peter Rabbit*** It is the first in the series of children's books published in 1902 by Beatrix Potter. It has sold more than 40 million copies worldwide.
- * **mycologist** a scientist who studies fungi
- * **Lake District** a rural area in North West England

A True or False

Write T if statements are true or F if statements are false according to the passage.

1. _____ *The Tale of Peter Rabbit* by Beatrix Potter is popular mainly to children.
2. _____ In the first story of Potter's series, Peter gets in trouble having done nothing wrong.
3. _____ Besides writing stories, Beatrix Potter was also interested in studying science.
4. _____ Beatrix Potter was good at drawing living things as well as writing books.
5. _____ Beatrix Potter was not financially successful in writing books.

B Synonym & Reference

Choose the best answers.

1. The word "**preserve**" in the first paragraph is closest in meaning to
 - a. prepare
 - b. conserve
 - c. reserve
 - d. preoccupy
2. The word "**their**" in the second paragraph refers to
 - a. *The Tale of Peter Rabbit*
 - b. a series of tales
 - c. talking animals
 - d. Potter's writings
3. The word "**mean**" in the second paragraph is closest in meaning to
 - a. ungenerous
 - b. indicate
 - c. average
 - d. stand for
4. The phrase "**turned down**" in the third paragraph is closest in meaning to
 - a. reduced
 - b. made a curve
 - c. disappointed
 - d. rejected

C Insight & Understanding**Choose the best answers.**

1. Which of the following is NOT an occupation held by Beatrix Potter?
 - a. author
 - b. illustrator
 - c. nature conservationist
 - d. publisher

2. Which element of *The Tale of Peter Rabbit* is NOT mentioned in the passage?
 - a. characters
 - b. narrator
 - c. settings
 - d. plot

3. According to the passage, why was Peter Rabbit chased in the story, *The Tale of Peter Rabbit*?
 - a. because he had caused mischief with his three sisters
 - b. because he made a big hole in the roots of a fir tree where his family live
 - c. because he ate more than he was allowed to
 - d. because he was found to have taken food without permission

4. Which of the following is INCORRECT about Beatrix Potter?
 - a. Other than writing, she also made much effort in scientific research.
 - b. She drew many drawings of a number of fungi in the late 1800's.
 - c. Though she spent much of her time on fungi, she did not do well in the area.
 - d. Though she was qualified to be a mycologist, she was treated unfairly.

5. According to the passage, what was the motivation behind Potter's paintings of various fungi?
 - a. She wanted to keep records of fungi.
 - b. She wanted to use them in her next book.
 - c. It was her job as a mycologist at England's most famous botanic garden.
 - d. She wanted to become a professional illustrator.

6. According to the passage, what can be inferred from Potter's paintings of fungi?
 - a. It was common to study fungi and draw paintings of fungi during her time.
 - b. There were no other records of fungi except paintings.
 - c. Only male mycologists' records of fungi were acknowledged as scientific material.
 - d. Other scientists' records of fungi were more precise.

7. What is the best possible main idea that could be used between the third and fourth paragraph?
 - a. Potter's life with her family
 - b. Potter's unceasing effort to study fungi and writing books
 - c. Potter's success as a mycologist
 - d. Potter's failure as an author

8. Why did Potter buy land in the Lake District?
 - a. to make more money with the investment
 - b. to prevent destruction of the natural environment
 - c. to build a botanical garden to study fungi
 - d. to construct a habitat for rabbits

D Writing & Paraphrasing

Answer the following questions with complete sentences.

1. Which sentence introduces the main character and setting of Potter's famous novel?

2. What are some of the possible job titles for Potter?

3. Which sentence describes the field Potter was interested in before she became a famous writer?

E Summary

Find the main ideas of each paragraph and write them with complete sentences.

1. Paragraph 1 _____

2. Paragraph 2 _____

3. Paragraph 3 _____

4. Paragraph 4 _____

Grammar Plus

not only ~ but also

“not only A but also B” is used when **stating both “A” and “B”** and **putting more emphasis on “B.”** The grammatical forms of “A” and “B” should be same.

Combine the sentences into one using the expression “not only~but also” as shown in the example.

- ex.* She was well known **for her works in science**. Moreover, she was known **for her efforts to preserve nature**.
→ She was well known **not only** for her work in science **but also** for her efforts to preserve nature.
1. Due to the great fire, he lost his house. But it was not all. He lost his family, too.
→ _____
 2. He participated in the demonstration. Moreover, he published books on the issue.
→ _____
 3. The movie was very popular in most of the countries in the world. Actually, it was very popular in America.
→ _____