



Oxford
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Resources

6

English

Student Book



Primary

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A world of stories, poems and facts



In this book you will find stories, poems and facts from these places. We hope you enjoy them!



ARCTIC OCEAN

EUROPE

ASIA

RUSSIA

CHINA

JAPAN

AFRICA

BOTSWANA

INDIAN OCEAN

AUSTRALIA

OCEANIA

SOUTHERN OCEAN

Unit contents

Unit	Theme	Country focus	Reading and comprehension
1	Young heroes	Alaska, USA	Fiction Kara's one big chance <i>White Dolphin</i> Fiction Going Hunting <i>Black Star, Bright Dawn</i> Fiction The Iditarod Great Sled Race <i>Black Star, Bright Dawn</i>
2	Health and sport	Oceans of the world, USA	Non-fiction Biography <i>Wilma Rudolph: Olympic athlete</i> Non-fiction Newspaper article <i>Gold! Gold! Gold!</i> Non-fiction Autobiography <i>Mike Perham: Sailing the Dream</i> Non-fiction Journalistic interview <i>We Salute You!</i>
3	Stormy weather	Italy, Worldwide	Playscript <i>The Tempest</i>
REVISE AND CHECK UNITS 1–3			
4	Traditional tales and fables	Tibet, Russia	Fiction <i>The Tiger and the Frog</i> Fiction <i>Peter and the Wolf (Part 1)</i> Fiction <i>Peter and the Wolf (Part 2)</i>
5	School days	Worldwide	Non-fiction <i>Welcome to our school family!</i> Non-fiction <i>Persuasive writing</i> Non-fiction <i>The pros and cons of homework</i>
6	Let's celebrate!	China, Australia	Poetry <i>Dragon Dance</i> Poetry <i>Celebration</i> Poetry <i>Sunbeam</i> Poetry <i>I love birthday parties!</i> Poetry <i>Tree Festival</i>
REVISE AND CHECK UNITS 4–6			
7	Spies and mystery	Africa, UK	Fiction <i>Young Bond Young Bond: Double or Die</i> Fiction <i>How it all began Stormbreaker</i> Fiction <i>Alex becomes a spy Stormbreaker</i> Fiction <i>Botswana's greatest detective Precious and the Monkeys: Precious Ramotswa's Very First Case</i>
8	Conserving our precious planet	Ecuador, Brazil, New Zealand	Non-fiction <i>The Galápagos Islands Expedition of a lifetime</i> Non-fiction <i>Website report Last chance for Maui dolphins</i> Non-fiction <i>Information text Conserving rainforests</i>
9	A treasure trove of poems	Egypt's Mediterranean coast, Worldwide	Poetry <i>The Tornado</i> Poetry <i>It's only the storm</i> Poetry <i>Kennings Historian and Who is this?</i> Poetry <i>My Dad's a Secret Agent</i>
REVISE AND CHECK UNITS 7–9			
POETRY READING <i>Adventures of Isabel and The 'Veggy' Lion</i>			

Unit	Language, grammar, spelling, vocabulary, phonics	Writing	Speaking and listening
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sentence length and structure • Main and subordinate clauses • Direct speech • Colons and semicolons • Narrative voice and viewpoint 	Fiction Narrative story structure	Organisation of ideas Expression of ideas
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adverbials of time • Prefixes and suffixes • Single and multi-clause sentences 	Non-fiction Writing an interview	Expression of ideas
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modal verbs • Commas, dashes and brackets • Word origins 	Playscripts Writing a playscript	Expressing opinions Performing a playscript
REVISE AND CHECK UNITS 1–3			
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Word classes • Shades of meaning • Adjectives • Adjectives and adverbs • The /k/ sound 	Fiction Descriptive writing: Describing a forest Writing a modern folk tale	Spoken presentation Expressing opinions
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Persuasive language • Persuasive punctuation • Conjunctions, adverbs and adverbials • Relative clauses and relative pronouns 	Non-fiction Writing to persuade	Expressing opinions Expression of ideas Speaking to persuade
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tricky spellings • Difficult words and homophones • Figurative language 	Poetry Writing a celebration poem	Expression and explanation of ideas Language choices Spoken presentation Poetry performance
REVISE AND CHECK UNITS 4–6			
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Narrative voice and viewpoint • Word origins • Proverbs and idioms • Active and passive voice 	Fiction Writing an action thriller	Expressing opinions Reading a story aloud with expression
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using imperative verbs • Adverbials of time • Multi-clause sentences • Quantifiers 	Non-fiction Writing a non-chronological report	Organisation of ideas Expressing opinions
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compound words • Speech marks • The /k/ sound, /ch/ sound and /j/ sound 	Poetry Writing a kenning poem about being a spy	Expression of ideas Poetry performance
REVISE AND CHECK UNITS 7–9			
POETRY READING <i>Adventures of Isabel and The 'Veggy' Lion</i>			

1

Young heroes



The Iditarod is a very challenging long-distance sled dog race held every March. The people driving the dog sleds, known as mushers, travel 1,600 km through harsh landscapes and difficult weather conditions. In a storm, the wind chill can be as low as -90°C . The race is the most popular sporting event in Alaska and successful mushers are national heroes.

“If you have no confidence in self you are twice defeated in the race of life. With confidence you have won even before you have started.”

Marcus Garvey

Talk time

- 1 Greta Thunberg is famous for giving speeches about climate change while she was still a teenager. Are there any young people in your country who are famous for doing something amazing?
- 2 Have you worked together in a team to achieve a challenging goal?
- 3 List three advantages of working together as a team on a project.



1A Fiction Speaking and listening

- Discuss teamwork
- Learn about heroes
- Find word meanings using context
- Learn about proverbs

A You don't need to be famous to be a hero. You can be a hero by:

- taking care of your friends
- helping your family
- looking after the environment and getting others to join you.

Think of three more ways to be a hero.

B Look at these words and definitions. Use each one in a sentence of your own.

campaign work in an organised and active way towards a goal
a good cause something good to do because it is helping others
protest show that you don't agree with something or someone
worthy something good that deserves support

C Below are some sayings, or proverbs, used by the Inuit people of Alaska. Work in pairs to discuss their meanings. Do you have any similar sayings in your language?

- If you are going to walk on thin ice, you might as well dance.
- Unless you're the lead sled dog, the view is pretty much the same.
- You never really know your friends from your enemies until the ice breaks.
- The **caribou** feeds the wolf, but it is the wolf who keeps the caribou strong.

Glossary

caribou large North American deer

Malala Yousafzai won the Nobel Peace Prize for her campaign highlighting the need for girls in Pakistan to be allowed an education.



Reef at risk

Kara saves an injured dolphin, then starts a campaign to protect the nearby **reef** from damage by overfishing. Kara's mother made a film about the reef before she died. The film is shown to the public and Kara finds the **courage** to stand up in front of all the townspeople to say what she believes.

Kara's one big chance

The hall is silent, listening. "Fishing is the heart of this town." I look around. This is my one big chance.

"The boat my mum and dad rebuilt together, fished from this harbour a hundred years ago. Back then, she would have come home so full the fish would have been spilling over her sides into the sea." I swallow hard. The back of my throat is dry. I look around and fix my eye on Dougie Evans. "But she can't do that anymore. We've taken all the fish from our seas. Dougie Evans's **trawlers** have to go further and deeper to

10 find fish, and even then they sometimes come back empty. Now we're tearing up the reef. I wonder, will we still be fishing here at all in another hundred years?" I glance across the hall. There's no sign of Felix, but I remember what he wanted me to say. "You're about to see what we could lose."

15 I stand there in the silence and look around the hall. I don't know what's meant to happen now. I climb down the steps and sit next to Dad.

The hall lights go out.

I hear Mum, speaking through the darkness.

20 The room is silent. The huge screen on the stage is dark at first. A faint greenish glow in the centre of the screen becomes brighter and brighter and we are rising up, towards the sun shining through the surface of the water. A seal

25 swims up to the camera. It's as if he's watching everyone in the hall. His big dog eyes are chocolate brown. Silver bubbles spiral upwards and he twists away, his grey body sliding through the water. And we're twisting through

30 the water too: down, down, down through rippling sunlight, past rocks jewelled with pink and green **anemones**, down past **coral** mounds and **sea-fans**.

Glossary

reef area under the sea which is made of rock, coral or sand

courage behave bravely

trawlers fishing boats

anemones sea creatures that look like flowers

coral colourful living creatures which grow into reefs after many years

sea-fans fan-shaped sea creatures



1C Fiction Reading and comprehension

35 This must have been the last film mum made here in the bay...

But suddenly, a tearing sound rips through the hall. The image on the screen changes and fills with metal chains and **billowing** mud and sand. When the mud settles all that's left is a gravelly sea bed, littered with broken sea-fans. The silence in the hall is still and deep.

Mum's voice speaks out one last time.

"Unless we protect our oceans, there will be nothing left but wasteland. We are not farmers of the sea. We never **sow**, we only **reap**."

45 The lights come on. No one speaks. A ripple of applause starts at the back of the room and rolls forward like a wave. I look across to see some of the fishermen nodding. Others are just staring at the screen, **transfixed**.

From *White Dolphin* by Gill Lewis

- Find information to answer questions
- Relate writing to wider issues

Glossary

billowing moving up and down in wind or water

sow plant, for example, by scattering seeds in soil

reap gather in a crop or harvest

transfixed focused very closely on something

Comprehension

A Listen and respond

- 1 How do we know Kara is nervous when she is giving her talk?
- 2 Why are there no fish left?
- 3 What are the fishermen destroying while they're fishing?

B Read and respond

- 1 Who or what does 'she' refer to on line 4?
- 2 How do we know the townspeople are impressed by Kara's presentation?
- 3 Which phrases in the text indicate that the sea bed is being damaged by fishing?

C What do you think?

What do you think will happen in the future if changes aren't made to the present fishing methods?

This reef has been damaged by a fisherman's anchor.



- Look at different sentence lengths
- Use short sentences for effect

Sentence length in fiction texts

- A** In the extract from *White Dolphin* by Gill Lewis, the writer uses short sentences for dramatic effect. Look at the short sentences underlined below.

The lights come on. No one speaks. A ripple of applause starts at the back of the room and rolls forward like a wave. I look across to see some of the fishermen nodding. Others are just staring at the screen.

- 1 Join the first two sentences into one sentence, using 'and' to join them.
- 2 What is the effect of 'losing' the short sentences?

- B** Rewrite the text below and remove all 'ands' except for one. You'll find it is a better piece of writing with some effective short sentences.

It all started when I arrived home and I could see that the front door had been left open and I felt a bit frightened and I wondered whether someone had broken in, so I opened the door very carefully and I tiptoed in and at first I couldn't see anything and I breathed a huge sigh of relief and suddenly, I heard a scream and I wanted to run for my life, but I knew I had to investigate and slowly, I made my way to the living room and I opened the door very, very gently and I saw my mother with a broken television at her feet and she had bought a new television, brought it in herself and, as it was too heavy, had dropped it and she had been so busy struggling with all of this that she hadn't managed to close the door and there hadn't been a burglar after all!



Language tips

- When you use 'and', consider whether you need to start a new sentence instead.
- Vary sentence length in your writing, so that there are both long and short sentences.



- C** Write a short account of arriving at your house late at night.

- Examine multi-clause sentences
- Look at participle verbs
- Change the position of clauses

Main and subordinate clauses

A multi-clause sentence consists of a **main clause** and one or more **subordinate** clauses.

A subordinate clause cannot stand alone, and is usually introduced by a **subordinating conjunction** such as: when, where, if, although, since, until, as.

Examples: I like you **when you are in a good mood**. The library, **where I spend my free time**, is ten minutes away.

A Sometimes the **subordinating conjunction** is missed out.

Example: I can hear my brother **who** is moaning about the holiday to his friends.

Can be written as: I can hear my brother moaning about the holiday to his friends.

Rewrite the following sentences, missing out the subordinating conjunction.

- 1 I saw my friend who was running up the stairs.
- 2 The boy who is sitting in the office is waiting for his mother.
- 3 I'll put the money that I got from Nan towards a new game.

B Sometimes a **present participle verb** (ending in '-ing') or **past participle verb** (ending in '-ed') can come at the beginning of a sentence.

Examples: Smiling to himself, he started walking home.

Tired after a long day, she fell asleep immediately.

Write four sentences beginning each one with a different participle verb from the list below.

running laughing exhausted frightened

C Subordinate clauses can be placed at different points in a sentence.

Examples: Although Kara spoke clearly, they didn't understand her.

They didn't understand her, although Kara spoke clearly.

Complete these sentences and put the clauses in different positions.

When I have free time, I...

She did her homework...

As soon as I got home from school...

Alaskan adventure (Part 1)

In Alaska, it is November and the sea has frozen over. A young Alaskan girl, Bright Dawn, and her father are waiting to go hunting. After waiting for over a week for narrow passages of open water, known as leads, to appear in the ice, Bright Dawn's father can wait no longer. He decides to go hunting over land on a sled instead of by water in his **kayak**.

Going Hunting

Bartok, my father, decided not to wait for the leads to open. He told me to get the dog sled and **harness** the dogs. He would hunt without a kayak.

"We'll hunt bearded seals on the ice," he said. Bearded seals
5 are heavy. They can weigh six hundred pounds. I harnessed our seven dogs to the sled and chose Black Star to lead the team. Bartok did not like him. When Black Star was a year old, my father decided that he would never make a good leader.

10 "He's **stubborn**," my father said. "You tell him something and he does something else."

"He's smart," I said, remembering the winter when we were coming home and, just on the other side of Salmon Creek, Black Star pulled up and wouldn't move. My father walked out on the frozen creek and fell through
15 the ice up to his neck. I remembered this time but said nothing about it.

"Black Star knows a lot," I said.

"Of the wrong things," Bartok said. "He's got too much wolf in him. His father came from Baffin Bay and had a lot of wolf blood."

I liked Black Star. I had liked him since he was a month old. There were
20 seven in the **litter** and he was the most playful of them all. He bounced around and took nothing from his brothers and sisters, giving two bites back for every one he got.

He was the purest white, with a black star on his forehead and black slashes under big eyes. But of everything, it was his eyes themselves
25 that captured me. They were ice-blue. At first I thought how cold and **suspicious** and wild they were, looking at me from a world I had never seen and would never know.

Glossary

kayak small canoe or boat

harness add straps so you can control something

stubborn fixed in opinion or behaviour

litter animals born at the same time to the same mother

suspicious not trusting

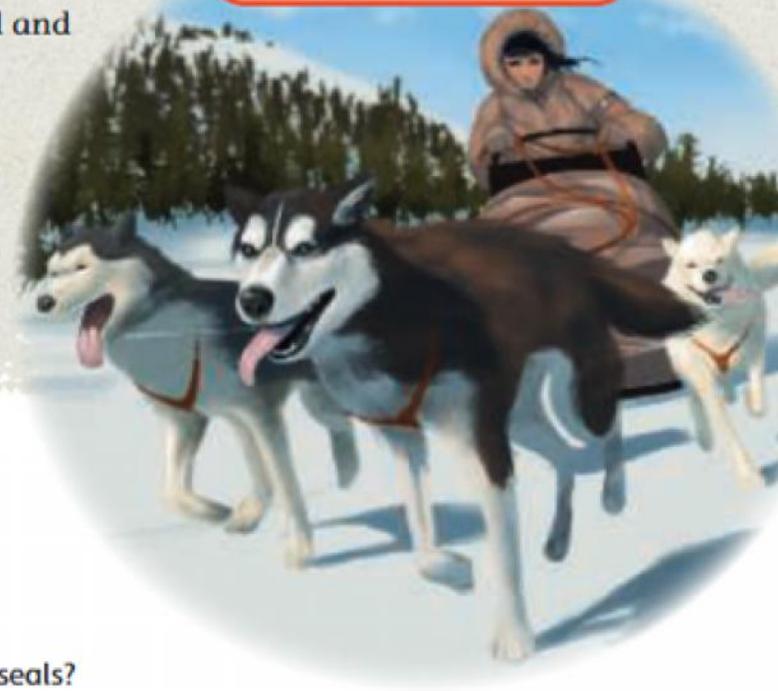
1F Fiction Reading and comprehension

- Find information to answer questions
- Make inferences about a character
- Write a character profile

After a while, I felt that behind this was a shadow of friendship. That changed and I saw nothing but
30 friendliness. Then that changed, too.

Sometimes, when moon shadows were on the trail and we were hunting things down from the forest, the wild look would come back again.

From *Black Star, Bright Dawn* by Scott O'Dell



Comprehension

A Read and respond

- 1 Whose point of view is the story told from?
- 2 Why did Bartok decide to hunt by sled?
- 3 Why would a sled be needed to hunt bearded seals?
- 4 Why did Bartok believe that Black Star would never make a good team leader?
- 5 What does Bright Dawn say is Black Star's most remarkable feature?
- 6 Explain how Bright Dawn's opinion of Black Star changed over time.

B What do you think?

Discuss these questions with your partner then write answers using evidence from the extract to help you.

- 1 Why did Bright Dawn choose not to remind her father what had happened near Salmon Creek?
- 2 Do you think Black Star can make a good team leader? Why/Why not?
- 3 Why does Black Star sometimes have a 'wild look'?

C Discuss

With a partner, discuss everything you know about Black Star. What do you know about his appearance and character? What can you guess about his appearance or character using evidence from the extract to help you?

- Punctuate direct speech
- Use verbs instead of 'said'

Direct speech

When you use **direct speech** in your own stories, check that the punctuation is correct. Also, remember that for each new speaker, the text needs to start on a new line.

Examples: "He's stubborn," my father said. "You tell him something and he does something else."

"He's smart," I said, remembering the winter when we were coming home... "Black Star knows a lot," I said.

"Of the wrong things," Bartok said.

Sometimes, try to use more precise verbs than 'said'.

Examples: muttered, shouted, argued, whispered

You could even add adverbs.

Examples: loudly, quietly



A Rewrite the dialogue below, starting new lines for new speakers.

Replace 'said' with other verbs. Perhaps add some adverbs too.

"I want to go sledding," said Aputi. "I can't stand staying indoors all day." "I thought you had homework to do," said Mum. "Oh, Mum," said Aputi. "I've almost finished it. Can't I just take an hour off?" "Yes," said Mum, "but only when you've finished your work." "But it'll be dark if I don't go soon!" said Aputi. "Then you'd better hurry up and finish your homework," said Mum.

B Rewrite the following dialogue, inserting correct punctuation and starting new lines for new speakers.

Excuse me, said the man. Can you tell me what time it is? I seem to have left my watch at home. He chuckled. I am becoming very forgetful in my old age! I think it's about 8 o'clock said Anuk laughing. I actually haven't got my watch on, but I do remember seeing the time on the town hall clock. The town hall! said the man. That's just the place I'm looking for. Can you point me in the right direction? Certainly Anuk said.

C Write a short conversation between two people. When you are finished, give your writing to a partner so they can check that you have used the correct punctuation.

- Learn about colons and semicolons
- Use them correctly

Colons and semicolons

A **colon** : is used to begin a list.

Example: In her pencil case, Jana has: a ruler, an eraser, scissors, pencils and a pencil sharpener.

A Write the sentences out, putting the colons in the correct places.

- 1 I have lived in many cities Rome, Sydney, Dubai and London.
- 2 Your plan has three advantages it is cheap, it is sensible and it is fun.
- 3 Roald Dahl writes children's books, short stories, novels and poems.

A **semicolon** ; can be used to separate longer phrases in a list.

Commas are already used within the short phrases, so using a semicolon makes the list of items clearer.

Example: Yesterday, I bought these items: some large, ripe bananas; six large, fresh bread rolls; a small, blue bowl; and three boxes of tea.

B Write a sentence listing the items from Bright Dawn's sled. Use a colon before the list starts and semicolons in between the items.

a pair of walking boots half a chocolate bar a first aid kit
a sleeping bag fur-lined slippers a bottle of water

A **semicolon** can also be used instead of **and** or **but** to join two related sentences.

Example: The boy burst through the door **and** he glared at me.
The boy burst through the door; he glared at me.

C Match the sentences below using a semicolon to join them.

Example: Fruit is good for you; burgers are not.

I listened to the rain he prefers tennis.

The plates are in the cupboard I love rain.

She loves playing football the spoons are in the drawer.