

BOOK GROUP CATALOGUE

2024

Intermediate English

Plus helpful information for running your group



bd

BOOK
DISCUSSION
SCHEME

Welcome!

Thank you for your interest in the Book Discussion Scheme (BDS). If you are thinking about starting or joining an Intermediate English Book Group, we hope this catalogue gets you excited about reading, meeting new people, and improving your English.

An Intermediate English or ESOL book group is a great way to practise reading, comprehension, and speaking aloud in English. We encourage more than one fluent speaker to be involved in running a group (especially migrant and ESOL groups), so they can contribute to the conversations, share their perspective and/or answer questions about life in New Zealand.

About BDS

The Book Discussion Scheme is a non-profit organisation. We are the only nationwide organisation in New Zealand that specialises in book groups/clubs. We were established in 1973.

How it works

We lend books and discussion notes to book clubs. The books listed in this catalogue are suitable for people who want to read shorter and easier-to-read books in English. The reading level of each book is listed.

Each month we supply groups with a title of their choice from this catalogue. We also send out a set of questions to help start conversation. Everyone in a group gets a copy of the same book and a set of questions. Members have one month to read each book before meeting to discuss it and receive their next book.

Programme costs

The cost of an Intermediate English membership is \$15 per person. This includes:

- 10 sets of books and questions (one book per month for 10 months, excluding Dec/Jan)
- Delivery anywhere in New Zealand

Return postage is the responsibility of the group. We sell subsidised track and trace courier bags for this purpose. Contact bds@bds.org.nz to order.

Membership is to be paid in full when you register your group. If additional members join your group during the year, they pay \$1.50 for each book you have yet to read.

Volunteer convenors/organisers do not need to pay the membership fee.

How to start

A group can start at any time of the year, but the BDS office closes for Christmas/New Year.

- Gather up to 12 members for your group. There is no minimum. You can advertise for more members on the BDS website's interactive map at www.bds.org.nz/join
- Complete and return the Intermediate English/ESOL registration form included in this pack, or request one by emailing bds@bds.org.nz. Full payment is required upon registration.

How to stay in touch

 www.bds.org.nz

 [@bookdiscussionscheme](https://www.facebook.com/bookdiscussionscheme)

 bds.org.nz/signup
(quarterly newsletter)

Book Discussion Scheme
PO Box 7126, Christchurch 8240
P. 03 365 6210
E. bds@bds.org.nz
425 Colombo Street
Sydenham, Christchurch
9:00am - 5:00pm, Mon - Fri
Closed Christmas/New Year period and statutory
holidays. After-hours return slot available.

Helpful info...

Care of books

Book groups are responsible for the care and security of books and questions while on loan from the BDS. Please keep books clean, dry and free of damage.

The group convenor/organiser is responsible for contacting BDS, handing out the books, and returning books to BDS on time.

Keeping track of books

On the back of each book in the scheme is a sticker with a unique barcode. To keep track of who has what book, we suggest each person's name is written beside the relevant barcode number on the consignment note that will arrive with each book parcel.

Loan period

Groups meet on a regular day each month, for example, the second Wednesday of the month. Books are due back to the BDS office within 7 days of the meeting when you discussed the book. This due date is printed on the consignment note.

Reviews and comments about BDS books

We encourage feedback on books in the scheme. You can write comments at the bottom of the consignment note or online by logging into the convenor section of the BDS website. See bds.org.nz/review for further info and instructions.

Don't miss out!

- Be the first to know when a new title hits our shelves
- Read thoughtful book reviews from BDS staff
- Get notifications about reading and writing events happening in your part of the country
- Receive special offers, freebies and prizes exclusive to BDS members and followers
- And connect with readers around Aotearoa New Zealand as we share stories of how books and book clubs are challenging perspectives, opening minds and enriching lives.

 www.bds.org.nz

 [@bookdiscussionscheme](https://www.facebook.com/bookdiscussionscheme)

 bds.org.nz/signup (quarterly newsletter)



Record your group's BDS name here for easy reference:

Happy reading!

Intermediate English Catalogue 2021

Select 15 titles for your book list

Reference key for book symbols

F = Fiction

NF = Non-Fiction

TS = Based on true story

NZ = NZ Interest

E = Explicit Content

L = Large Font

Intermediate English A - Z

AMAZON RAINFOREST, THE

NF

Smith, Bernard 25pp 2005

The Amazon Rainforest is the largest rain forest in the world. It is 10 million years old and is important for the world's weather and wildlife, but it is disappearing fast. Learn about this wonderful forest — and its problems. What will its future be? (Level 2 English)



Pearson English Readers
The Amazon Rain Forest
Bernard Smith

AMY'S DIARY

F, L

Lee, Maureen 112pp 2012

Set during the Second World War in Liverpool. Amy turns 18 and decides to start writing a diary. Her sister has just given birth to a baby boy and Great Britain has announced it is at war with Germany. As the months go by, Amy fears for her brother, who is fighting in France, and her boyfriend who is in the airforce. (Quick Reads publication, approx Level 3 English)

APOLLO 13

F, TS

Anastasio, Dina 37pp 1999

Based on the film version, this exciting and true story is about the American space mission Apollo 13. It's Monday 13 April 1970 and the Apollo 13 space ship is flying to the moon. Suddenly, something goes wrong — the ship is losing power and oxygen! Will the astronauts walk on the moon? Will they get home again? (Level 2 English)



BARACK OBAMA

NF

Degnan-Veness, Coleen 24pp 2011

Barack Hussein Obama II served as the 44th President of the United States from 2009 to 2017. He is the first African American to have served as President. What do we know about his early life? Why did he want to become a politician? This is his story. (Level 2 English)

BATTLE OF NEWTON ROAD, THE

F

Dunkling, Leslie 16pp 2008

The people who live in Newton Street are very happy living there. A civil engineer wants to knock down the houses and build a new road. The people of Newton Road are very angry. But can they win the battle? (Level 1 English)

BECOMING JANE

F

Williams, S & Hood, K 49pp 2008

Jane Austen is one of the world's most famous female authors. She wrote *Pride and Prejudice*, the love story between Elizabeth Bennett and Mr Darcy. Not much is known about Jane's romantic life, but we know the problems faced by girls like Jane in the late 1700s who fell in love with the wrong man. Based on the film version. (Level 3 English)



BETWEEN TWO WORLDS

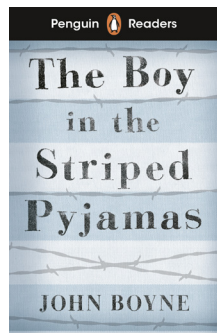
F

Rabley, Stephen 16pp 2008

Joanna Jimbuku is a nurse. She works for the Flying Doctor. One day a baby is very ill. Joanna takes the baby to Sydney. It's her first visit to a big city, and she loves it. Does she stay in the city or go home? (Easystart/pre-level 1 English)

BOY IN STRIPED PYJAMAS, THE F,TS
BOYNE, JOHN 69pp 2020

One day, Bruno's father gets a new job, and the family have to move from Berlin, Germany, to a new place. There is a strange camp at the end of the garden. Bruno is very unhappy and bored until he meets Shmuel. The two boys become very good friends. But why is Shmuel in the camp? And why is he wearing striped pyjamas? (Level 4 English)



CANTERBURY QUAKE F,NZ
Wallace, Desna 173pp 2014

A vividly imaged account of the 2010 and 2011 Canterbury earthquakes, told through the diary entries of 11-year-old Maddy. As Maddy struggles with the effects the earthquakes have on her life, she begins to discover the importance of family and friendship, especially when your world gets turned upside down. (Level 4 English)

CAVE, THE F, L
Moss, Kate 97pp 2009

A gripping adventure set in France in the 1920s. It's ten years since the end of World War I and Freddie hasn't recovered from the loss of his brother. On holiday he has a car crash and ends up in a village where he meets Marie. Her story will lead him to some caves above the village — and to the heart of a shocking secret. (Quick Reads publication, approx Level 4 English)

CELLIST OF SARAJEVO, THE F,TS
Galloway, Steven 112pp 2006

Sarajevo is under siege. There is little food or water and the city is attacked, every day, from the hills. Ordinary people try to live their lives, but they are losing hope for the future. Then, one day, a musician picks up his instrument. Four people whose lives have been upended are ultimately reminded of what it is to be human. A powerful novel inspired by a true story. (Level 3 English)

CHICKENFEED F, TS, E, L
Walters, Minette 112pp 2006

Based on a true story of the 'chicken farm murder' of 1924, Englishman Norman Thorne is accused of killing Elsie Cameron. He is hanged for the murder but even at the time of his execution, there were doubts about his guilt. [Mild references to sex and violence]. (Quick Reads publication, approx Level 5 English)

CLIENT, THE F
Grisham, John 56pp 1996

Mark Sway is eleven and knows a terrible secret. He knows where a body is hidden. Some secrets are so dangerous that it's better not to tell. But it's just as dangerous if you don't. So Mark needs help fast... because there isn't much time. (Level 4 English)

COOL HEAD, A F, L
Rankin, Ian 107pp 2009

Gravy works in a graveyard and lives by the motto 'Try to keep a cool head and a warm heart'. When a friend turns up with a bullet wound to the chest, Gravy gets caught in the middle of a robbery gone wrong. Crime fiction. (Quick Reads publication, approx Level 4 English)

COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO, THE F
Dumas, Alexandre 46pp 2008

An adventure novel by French author Alexandre Dumas completed in 1844. One of the author's most popular works, this classic is about Edmond Dantes, a seafarer who is thrown in prison. There he meets a man who tells him about treasure on the island of Monte Cristo. Will he escape from prison? Will he find treasure? (Level 3 English)

DARE, THE F, L
Boyne, John 103pp 2009

During a summer holiday, Danny Delaney's mum hits a small boy with her car. It's not certain the boy will wake from his coma. Danny's brother, Pete, is away travelling, so Danny and his father are left to pick up the pieces of the broken family. A heart-warming story. (Quick Reads publication, approx Level 4 English)

DARLING BUDS OF MAY, THE F

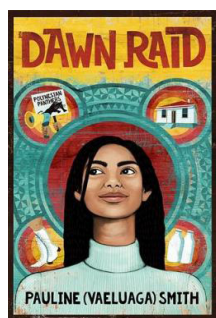
Bates, H.E. 48pp 2008

Meet the Larkin family! They enjoy a wonderful country life, never worrying about money, work — or the law. But then, one day, a man arrives from the tax office. Is he going to change the Larkins' lives? Or is his life going to change for ever? Also made into a TV series. (Level 3 English)

DAWN RAID F,TS,NZ

Smith, Pauline (Vaeluaga) 161pp 2018

Through the spirited and heartfelt diary entries of 13-year-old Sofia, we learn about life in the 1970s and the courageous work of the Polynesian Panthers as they encourage immigrant families across New Zealand to stand up for their rights. (Level 4 English)

**DIARY OF A YOUNG GIRL, THE** NF

Frank, Anne 52pp 1998

Anne Frank is a young Dutch teenager who, along with her family, goes into hiding during World War II. This story is based on her real-life diary about their experiences of living secretly in the annexe of her father's office. Life is dangerous and they hope for the best — but are finally discovered and captured. (Level 4 English)

DIRTY WORK F,E

Coleman, Reed Farrel 129pp 2013

When Private Investigator, Gulliver Dowd, discovers that his new client is his old sweetheart from high school he initially wants to refuse the case. But when she explains that her daughter is missing and that the teenager is Gulliver's daughter too — what choice does he have? (Rapid Reads publication, approx Level 5 English)

ESCAPE, THE F,L

La Plante, Lynda 101pp 2012

Colin is sent to prison for burglary. His four-year sentence will mean he will miss the birth of his first child. His cell mate, Barry, hatches a plan to get Colin out of jail for the birth. It might get them in deeper trouble — or it might just work! (Quick Reads publication approx Level 3 English)

EXTRAORDINARY LIFE OF MICHELLE OBAMA, THE NF

Kanani, Dr Sheila 66pp 2019

Michelle Obama was First Lady of the United States. She is also a lawyer, a wife, and a mother. But that is not all. She has started many campaigns to help young people and make the world a better place. Michelle Obama has had an extraordinary life. (Level 3 English)

**FALLING LEAVES** NF

Yen Mah, Adeline 88pp 2008

The life story and family history of Adeline Yen Mah, who was born in China during a time of great change. At the same time, she suffered terrible unkindness from the members of her own family. A story of pain and fear, but also of hope as Adeline fights for her independence. (Level 4 English)

FIVE PEOPLE YOU MEET IN HEAVEN F

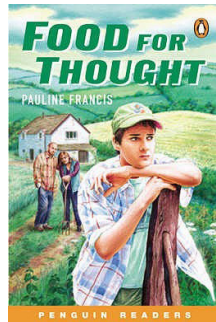
Albom, Mitch 98pp 2014

When Eddie dies trying to save a child from a terrible accident, he wakes up in heaven. Heaven, he discovers, is a place where your life on earth is finally explained to you. It is explained by five people, friends or strangers, who somehow affected your life — and who changed its path forever. This story, which has been translated into more than 40 languages, advocates the value of love and human life. (Level 5 English)

FOOD FOR THOUGHT**F**

Francis, Pauline 38pp 2004

When Joe's uncle breaks his wrist, he asks Joe to help out on his farm in Cornwall, England, during the summer holidays. Joe finds himself in the middle of a disagreement about GM (genetically modified) crop trials. He also meets two very different girls — but what do they really want from him? (Level 3 English)

**FORREST GUMP****F**

Groom, Winston 41pp 2008

The 1994 film version of this story won six Oscars, including the Best Actor award for Tom Hanks. Slow-witted Forrest Gump is told by everyone that he's an idiot. Yet he has all sorts of adventures and inspires people with his childlike optimism. But can he ever marry the girl he loves? His journey through life is sometimes very funny and sometimes sad. (Level 3 English)

FOUR WARNED**F, TS, L**

Archer, Jeffrey 98pp 2014

A collection of four short stories from a master storyteller and bestselling author. Jeremy finds out exactly how to steal the perfect engagement ring for his fiancée; Albert gets a telegram from the Queen of England for his 100th birthday; Richard plans to murder his wife in a hotel room; and Diana is being followed on the motorway by a black van. (Quick Reads publication, approx Level 4)

FOUR WEDDINGS AND A FUNERAL**F**

Curtis, Richard 68pp 2013

A humorous story about a man who attends all of his friends' weddings and wonders if he will ever get married himself — and then he meets Carrie...A pleasurable read. Upper-Intermediate reading level. (Level 5 English)

FUGITIVE, THE**F**

Dillard, JM 40pp 2008

The police believe Dr Richard Kimble murdered his wife. Kimble is put in prison, but escapes. He wants one thing: to find the real killer. Detective Gerard is searching for Kimble and is very close behind. Based on the 1993 film starring Harrison Ford and Tommy Lee Jones. (Level 3 English)

**FULL HOUSE****F, L**

Binchy, Maeve 117pp 2012

Dee works two jobs as a cleaner while continuing to shop, cook, clean and "do everything" for her husband and three grown-up children who still live at home. The downturn in the economy hits her husband and he loses his job. Dee decides it's time for her children to leave home. (Quick Reads publication, approx Level 5 English)

GANDHI**NF**

Rollaston, Jane 68pp 2013

Mahatma Gandhi died in 1948, but his name is famous around the world. He lived a simple life and advocated for change without violence. Many follow his ideas today. (Level 2 English)

GREAT SHORT SHORT STORIES**F****Quick Reads by Great Writers**

Negri, Paul (ed) 208pp 2005

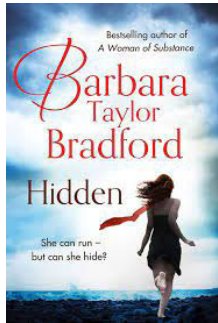
A collection of more than 30 short stories by authors such as Kafka, Poe, Dickens, Chekhov, and Wilde. Classic stories from the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries. (Each story approx 2000 words. Approx Level 5 English)

HIDDEN

F, L

Bradford, Barbara Taylor 60pp 2014

On the surface, Claire Saunders has it all. She has a rewarding career in fashion and a talented concert pianist daughter. Her loving husband is one of the country's most trusted diplomats. But every now and again, she has to plaster her face in heavy make-up and wear sunglasses. She thinks she's hidden her secret from her best friends, but they know her too well. A story full of drama, danger and heartbreak. (Quick Reads publication, approx Level 5 English)

**INSPECTOR CHOPRA & THE MILLION DOLLAR MOTOR CAR** F

Khan, Vaseem 87pp 2018

A luxury car worth millions goes missing. Inspector Chopra has just days to find the culprit who stole it, before the car's gangster owner finds out and takes violent revenge. Set in Mumbai this story is from best-selling author Vaseem Khan. (The Reading Agency publication, approx Level 5 English).

INTERPRETER, THE

F, E

Holmes, Karen 49pp 2008

Based on an exciting film starring Nicole Kidman and Sean Penn, this story is about an interpreter who works for the United Nations (UN). One night Silvia Broome hears a plan to kill the President of the African state of Matobo. US Secret Service agent Tobin Keller must stop the killers. But is Silvia telling the truth? Is she hiding something? Is she more dangerous than the President's enemies? [Reference to violence] (Level 3 English).

INVENTIONS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD

NF

Maule, David 56pp 2008

Learn about some of the most interesting and important inventions from 2,500 years ago to the present day. Arranged in nine chapters, the book covers inventions such as computers, engines, mathematics, guns and printing. (Level 4 English)

JENNIFER LOPEZ

NF

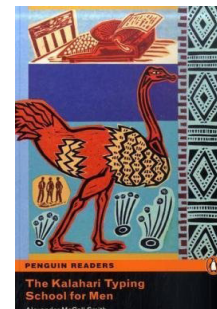
Smith, Rod 16pp 2008

Her movies are on TV. Her music is on the radio. Jennifer Lopez is a Hollywood star and a successful singer. She is a Latin performer and "Latin" is all about colour, fun and life! And who is the number one Latina? Jennifer, of course. (Level 1 English)

KALAHARI TYPING SCHOOL FOR MEN, THE F

McCall Smith, Alexander 70pp 2009

When a new detective agency opens in town, Precious Ramotswe has an unexpected problem: competition! At the same time, her assistant Mma Makutsi has problems of her own. As always, solutions can be found at Botswana's No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency, thanks to the sensible Mma Ramotswe and plenty of red bush tea. (Level 4 English)

**KAREN AND THE ARTIST**

F

Laird, Elizabeth 16pp 2008

Karen's job takes her to many places. She loves art, and in Rome she meets a young artist who paints beautiful pictures — but he is unable to sell them and has no money. Karen likes the young man. Can she sell his pictures for him? (Level 1 English)

KIDNAPPED

F

Stevenson, Robert Louis 37pp 2000

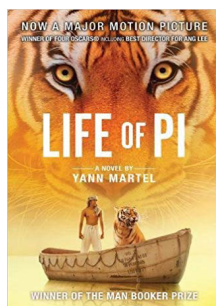
After his parents die young, David Balfour goes to live with his old uncle, Ebenezer, who sends the young lad to America on a sailing boat. Who is the stranger on the ship? Can he help David? Set in the mid-18th century, when the King of England is under threat, this is a classic tale by a well-known 19th century Scottish novelist. (Level 2 English)

LAST KING OF SCOTLAND, THE F, E
Foden, Giles 49pp 2012

In the early 1970s, a young Scottish doctor Nicholas Garrigan goes to Uganda to work in a clinic. When a car accident happens near the clinic, he goes to assist. The injured man is none other than the President of Uganda, Idi Amin — one of the most dangerous and hated men in the world. Garrigan's life will never be the same. A fictionalised account set during a tumultuous time in the country's history. [Contains some graphic content]. (Level 3 English)

LIFE OF PI F
Martel, Yann 57pp 2001

After deciding to sell their zoo in India and move to Canada, Santosh and Gita Patel board a freighter with their sons and a few remaining animals. Tragedy strikes when a terrible storm sinks the ship, leaving the Patels' teenage son, Pi, as the only human survivor. However, Pi is not alone; a fearsome Bengal tiger has also found refuge aboard the lifeboat. As days turn into weeks and weeks drag into months, Pi and the tiger must learn to trust each other if both are to survive. Made into a film. (Scholastic Level 3 English)



LOVE ACTUALLY F
Curtis, Richard 53pp 2004

Also a comedy film, this story — set in London, with Christmas approaching — is about people with love on their minds. Some have found it, some have lost it. Some accept their loneliness; others live in hope. Even the British Prime Minister's thoughts are not always on the job because love, actually, is all around us. (Level 4 English)

LUCKY BREAK F
Escott, John 15pp 2008

Tom breaks his leg in a football game — it's not his lucky day! A week later, he sees his favourite movie star. But Tom falls again — and suddenly the movie star does too. Reporters are taking photos. Is this Tom's lucky break? (Easystart/pre-Level 1 English)

MADAME DOUBTFIRE F
Fine, Anne 38pp 1995

Known as Mrs Doubtfire in the film version (played by comedian Robin Williams), this story is about a family whose parents separate. The husband would like to see more of his children, but they live with their mother. Then Madame Doubtfire comes to work for Miranda and look after the children. However, Madame Doubtfire seems strange; more like a man than a woman...(Level 3 English)

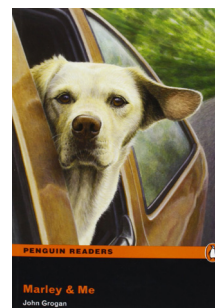
MALALA NF
Beddall, Fiona 40pp 2015

On October 9, 2012, 15-year-old Malala Yousafzai was shot in the head on the school bus by the Taliban, an Islamic fundamentalist group waging war in her country. Malala believed that all girls have a right to an education and the Taliban wanted to stop her campaign — but Malala didn't die. Today she is the youngest person with a Nobel Peace Prize and continues to campaign for girls' education around the world. This is the true story of a girl who wanted to change the world — and did. (Scholastic Level 1 English)



MARLEY & ME NF
Grogan, John 38pp 2012

Made into a movie, this story is about a puppy called Marley who gets bigger and bigger, more clumsy, doesn't listen to his owners and eats everything in sight. But he loves his owners and they love him. Surely he can't be the world's worst dog? (Level 2 English)



MARTIN LUTHER KING NF

Degnan-Veness, Coleen 41pp 2008

Martin Luther King led the African-American Civil Rights Movement during the 1950s and 60s — a time when all men were not equal. He is best known for advancing civil rights using nonviolent civil disobedience based on his Christian beliefs. But has King’s dream of equality for African-Americans come true today? (Level 3 English)

MASK OF ZORRO, THE F

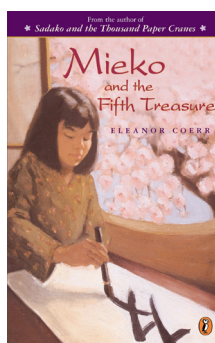
Rollason, Jane 56pp 2010

For 20 years, Zorro, the people’s fighter, has been in California’s worst prison. The villain, Rafael Montero, put him there. Now Montero is back in California and Zorro wants to fight for his people again, but he is an old man now — can he find a new Zorro? Based on the screenplay by John Eskow, Ted Elliot and Terry Rossio. (Scholastic Level 2 English)

MIEKO AND THE FIFTH TREASURE F

Coerr, Eleanor 77pp 1993

When the bomb was dropped on Nagasaki, Mieko’s nearby village was turned to ruins. She and her parents were lucky to have survived, but Meiko’s hand was badly injured. Mieko loves to do calligraphy more than anything, but now she can barely hold a paintbrush. She feels as if she has lost something she can’t paint without — the legendary fifth treasure, beauty in the heart. Can she find it again? (Puffin book, approx Level 4 English)



MOTHER TERESA NF

D’Arcy Adrian-Vallance 16pp 2006

Mother Teresa is a Nobel Prize winner and is probably the best known nun in the world. She helped poor people on the streets of India and became very famous for her work. She died in 1997, but people around the world still remember her today. This is her story. (Level 1 English)

MUHAMMAD ALI NF

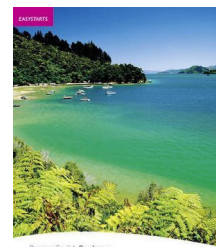
Smith, Bernard 14pp 2008

Born in 1942, Cassius Marcellus Clay Jr went on to be one of the most significant and celebrated sports figures of the 20th century. After becoming an American professional boxer, Muhammad later became an activist. But why did a young boy from Kentucky start to box in the first place and how did it shape the rest of his life? (Level 1 English)

NEW ZEALAND ADVENTURE, A F, NZ

Thorburn, Jan 15pp 2008

Sarah and Jessica arrive in New Zealand for a holiday. They find a mobile phone in the taxi from the airport. It’s Michael’s mobile, but they can’t find him. He has messages from home — are they important? Go with the girls on an adventure around New Zealand to return Michael’s phone. (Easystart/pre-Level 1 English)



NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM F

Edwards, Lynda 31pp 2008

Larry Daley is very happy about his new job at the Museum of Natural History, but on his first night something very exciting happens. Everything in the Museum comes alive! The old night guards didn’t tell him this — and they didn’t tell him the secret of the Tablet of Ahkmenrah. Can Larry find out the secret? And can he keep his job at the museum? Based on the screen story & screenplay by Robert Ben Garant & Thomas Lennon. (Scholastic Level 1 English)

NOTTING HILL F

Curtis, Richard 59pp 2008

A leading American actress accidentally meets an attractive, but unassuming British travel book seller and love immediately blossoms. However, fame and her American actor boyfriend get in the way. This book is adapted from the 1999 film script by Richard Curtis. (Level 3 English)

OLIVER TWIST F

Dickens, Charles 47pp 2011

The classic tale of a poor orphan boy who runs away from an abusive master, only to fall in with thieves and robbers on the cruel streets of 19th-century London. Eventually Oliver discovers the truth about his past, and finds a true home. Adapted from the original novel by Charles Dickens. (Level 3 English)

PEARL GIRL, THE F

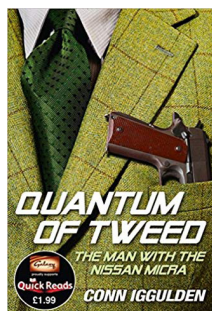
Rabley, Stephen 14pp 2008

A story about a Canadian girl who goes to Europe and sees the 17th-century Dutch painting Girl with the Pearl Earring. While in the museum, Kate Grant intercepts two burglars. What will happen? (Easystart/pre-Level 1 English)

PERFECT HOLIDAY, THE F

Kelly, Cathy 87pp 2010

A light, easy read about three different sets of people (two friends, a couple, and a recently widowed woman) who go to a Greek island to discover the truth about love and find their 'happy ending'. (Quick Reads publication, approx Level 3 English)

**PROJECT OMEGA** F

O'Reilly, Elaine 27pp 2008

Charles Hadfield Baker III, one of the richest people in New York, suddenly disappears. His daughter, Julia, wants to find him. The directors of his company want power and money. Do they know where he is? And what is Project Omega? Can Julia find her father and save his company? (Level 2 English)

QUANTUM OF TWEED F, L

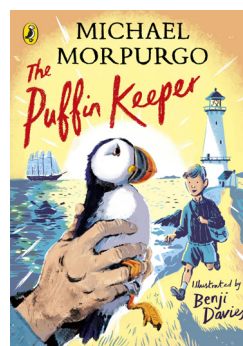
Iggulden, Conn 74pp 2012

A wonderfully humorous farce about Albert Rossi, who owns a menswear store in Eastcote, suburban London. Driving home one evening, Albert hits and kills a man who runs out in front of his car. While checking on the victim, Albert is approached by someone...and the farce begins. (Quick Reads publication, approx Level 3 English)

PUFFIN KEEPER, THE F, L

Morpurgo, Michael 91pp 2020

As a young boy, Alan is rescued from a sinking ship by a mysterious lighthouse keeper who bravely rowed his tiny boat out from Puffin Island to save the ship's passengers. Many years later, Alan returns to Puffin Island to find and thank the man who saved him, but what he finds there begins a whole new adventure. (Puffin book, approx Level 5 English)

**ROBIN HOOD** F

Austin, Liz 37pp 2008

Robin Hood is a heroic outlaw in English folklore who, according to legend, robbed the rich to help the poor. He and his accomplices lived in Sherwood Forest. Read tales of his archery and famous adventures. (Level 2 English)

SAN FRANCISCO STORY F

Escott, John 16pp 2011

Ben has a job in Mr Tyson's shop. Then Mr Tyson finds money in Ben's bag. Is Ben the thief? Set in 1906, this story describes the devastating earthquake that struck Southern California. (Easystart/pre-Level 1 English)

SCANDAL IN BOHEMIA, A F

Doyle, Arthur Conan 80pp 2008

Six stories about the adventures of the famous fictional detective Sherlock Holmes: Who put a diamond in a chicken? Why is there a club for men with red hair? How did the man at the lake die? Can Sherlock solve the mysteries? (Level 3 English)

SEA CHANGE, A F

Henry, Veronica 90pp 2013

Jenna loses her job when she most needs money. She is so desperate she begins to steal from people at the beach. She meets Craig, a police officer who is on holiday. He tries to talk some sense into her. The book is a calm and smooth read. (Quick Reads publication, approx Level 4 English)

SELMA F,TS

Rollason, Jane 55pp 2016

The year is 1965. Dr Martin Luther King, one of the leaders of the Civil Rights Movement, has just won the Nobel Peace Prize for his work fighting for equal rights for black Americans. But in parts of America, such as Selma, Alabama, it is still almost impossible for black people to vote. The President won't help, so Dr King goes to Selma to lead a march — a march for change and a world where people of all colours can be equal. (Scholastic Level 2 English)

SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE F,TS

Shipton, Paul 88pp 2010

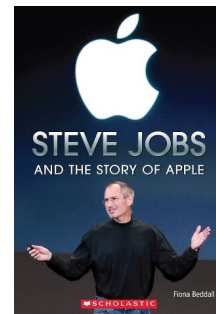
Jamal Malik, a street kid from the slums of Mumbai, India, has been arrested for cheating on the TV quiz show: *Who Wants to be a Millionaire?* As Jamal tells his life story to the inspector of Police, it becomes clear how he knew the answers to the questions — but will he be able to answer the final question...and find happiness with the love of his life, Latika? Based on the film by Danny Boyle. (Scholastic Level 4 English)



STEVE JOBS AND THE STORY OF APPLE NF

Beddall, Fiona 53pp 2012

'Design is not just what it looks and feels like. It's how it works.' In 1976, Steve Jobs and his friend, Steve Wozniak, started a computer company called Apple in a garage in California. Today, Apple is one of the world's largest companies, famous for its innovative products and beautiful designs. Hundreds of millions of people around the world use the technology that Steve Jobs helped create. Read the extraordinary story of the man who changed the way we live our lives. (Scholastic Level 3 English)



STORIES OF SURVIVAL NF

Beddall, Fiona 36pp 2011

These gripping and memorable stories tell of eight people who survived adventures or faced terrible danger and survived. They tell of places such as the harsh cold of Antarctica, the vast Atlantic Ocean, the searing heat of the Sahara Desert and a Rwandan bathroom as a hiding place from attackers. (Level 3 English)

SUFFRAGETTE F,TS

Rollason, Jane 56pp 2016

'Words are no longer enough. Now, we must act.' London, 1912. For many years, women in Britain have campaigned unsuccessfully for the right to vote. Now, Emmeline Pankhurst, the leader of the suffragette movement, has called for militant action. Maud has worked in a laundry since she was seven. When she meets a group of suffragettes, her view of her own life slowly begins to change. Before long, Maud is in danger of losing everything to fight for what is right. (Scholastic Level 3 English)



TEARS OF THE GIRAFFE**F**

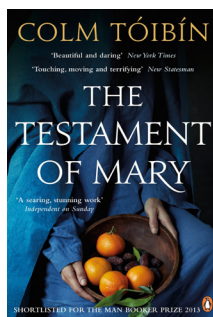
McCall Smith, Alexander 70pp 2012

The second exciting story from The No.1 Ladies' Detective Agency series. Precious Ramotswe is now known as Botswana's first and only lady detective and has many cases. She's looking for a young American who disappeared ten years ago. Will she finally marry Mr JLB Matekoni? (Level 4 English)

TESTAMENT OF MARY, THE**F**

Toibin, Colm 104pp 2012

The full length version of this book was shortlisted for the 2013 Man Booker Prize. The book has a Christian context. Mary, the mother of Jesus, is now a solitary older woman still seeking to understand the events that become the narrative of the New Testament. (Quick Reads publication, approx Level 5 English)

**THREE SHORT STORIES OF SHERLOCK HOLMES****F**

Doyle, Arthur Conan 39pp 2005

Sherlock Holmes is a detective and a very clever man. When people have problems they come to him for answers. Can you find the answers before he does? (Level 2 English)

TODAY EVERYTHING CHANGES**NF**

McNab, Andy 112pp 2013

During the Gulf War, Andy McNab led the famous English SAS patrol, Bravo Two Zero. He now assists security and intelligence agencies in the USA and the UK. He tells us about his early life — being abandoned as a baby, growing up with foster parents and involvement in petty crime — and when life changed for the better. An inspiring story. (Quick Reads publication, approx Level 3 English)

TREASURE ISLAND**F**

Stevenson, Robert Louis 33pp 1995

Treasure Island is one of the most popular pirate stories of all time. This is a retelling of the English classic. It tells the story of a young boy, Jim, who discovers a treasure map and joins the crew of a ship that sails off to find the island and its treasure. Meet pirate Long John Silver, one of literature's best known pirates! (Level 2 English)

UNBOWED**NF**

Maathai, Wangari 88 pp 2012

Nobel Prize winner, Wangari Maathai, was born in the Kenyan Highlands and never lost her connection with the land. She started the Green Belt Movement, which planted trees where forests were being destroyed. Environmental campaigns led to wider political protests and the fight for democracy — and when democracy was finally won, Maathai became an elected politician. This is her story. (Level 4 English)

**WALKABOUT****F**

Marshall, James Vance 37 pp 2008

A story about two American children who become lost in the Australian desert after the small plane they are in crashes. They meet a young Aboriginal boy on 'walkabout' and learn from him how to survive. Can they find their way home? (Level 2 English)

WHITE ORYX, THE**F**

Smith, Bernard 15 pp 2008

Mandy Brown is writing a book about the animals of Arabia. She is taken into the desert with ranger Abdullah and discovers an oryx killed by poachers. Can they save the dead oryx's baby? (Easystart/pre-Level 1 English)

MAKE READING A SOCIAL ACTIVITY

BENEFITS OF JOINING A BOOK DISCUSSION SCHEME INTERMEDIATE ENGLISH BOOK GROUP

Improve conversational English

Improve reading skills

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Read interesting books and learn new things

Discussion notes deepen your understanding and promote conversation

Relax in the company of fellow learners

Feel more at home in New Zealand

Have fun!



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