Worksheet Starter Level



Why? Philip Prowse

Before reading

- 1. Look at the front cover of the book. What can you see in the picture?
- **2.** Read the blurb on the back cover. What does it tell you about the story?
- **3.** Look at the characters in the story on page 4. Four of them have the same job what is it?
- **4.** What do you find out about the places in the story on page 4?
- **5.** If you have the recording, listen to Chapter 1.

Check your reading

Chapter 1

- 1. Look at the picture on page 5. Who can you see? What are they doing? How do they look?
- 2. What do the two newspapers tell people about?
- **3.** Read the chapter. What do you find out about Alex and Sara?
- **4.** What does Alex say the soldiers are going to do in Glossia?
- **5.** Why are people fighting in Glossia?
- **6.** How will Alex and Sara keep in contact while he's away?
- **7.** Sara wants Alex to change something about himself. What is it?

Chapter 2

- **1.** Where are Alex and Ken for most of this chapter?
- **2.** Which of these statements is what Sergeant Ken says?
 - a) The Glossians are fighting the army because they want more guns.
 - b) Some Glossians are fighting other Glossians to get the guns.
 - c) Some Glossians are fighting other Glossians with guns that they got from other people.
- **3.** Why do the other people sell the guns to the Glossians?

- **4.** Look at the picture on page 8. What happens as the plane arrives in Tonek?
- **5.** Which of these sentences is true?
 - a) It is always dangerous in Glossia.
 - b) It's sometimes hot in Glossia.
 - c) All Glossians want the soldiers there.
 - d) The soldiers are there to help all the people.

Chapter 3

- 1. Look at the picture on page 10.
 - a) What vehicles are there?
 - b) Who can you see?
 - c) What do the graffiti tell you?
 - d) What impression does it give you?
- 2. Who is Alex living with?
- **3.** What things is Alex going to do now?
- **4.** Alex thinks the army can help the people. True or false?

Chapter 4

- 1. In general, what do soldiers do on a patrol?
- 2. Match the beginnings and endings:
 - 1) The patrol is looking
 - 2) The soldiers don't know
 - 3) Some boys throw something
 - 4) Alex sees someone
 - 5) Ken and Alex
 - a) go into the house.
 - b) who are their friends.
 - c) for guns.
 - d) at a bedroom window.
 - e) which hits Alex in the mouth.
- **3.** Look at Alex's email to Sara. What happened at the house? Put the events in order.
 - a) The boy's angry mother shouts at them.
 - b) The boy starts crying.
 - c) Ken and Alex go to the bedroom.
 - d) Hawk shoots.
 - e) They only find a little boy there.
- **4.** How does Alex feel after the patrol?

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Chapter 5

- 1. Look at the picture on page 17 and answer the questions.
 - a) What are the children doing?
 - b) What is the mother doing?
 - c) What is happening at the door?
- 2. Put the adjectives in the box into the correct sentence.

| | af | fraid | tall | rich | short | black | |
|------------------------------------|----|-------------------------------------|------|----------|---------|-------|--------|
| | a) | The t | wo m | en are v | wearing | | masks. |
| | b) | The man is carrying a bag. | | | | | |
| | c) | The children are of the two men. | | | | | |
| | d) | Ada says that her family isn't | | | | | |
| | e) | The man says that they have no name | | | | | |
| What do the two men cay they want? | | | | | | | |

- **3.** What do the two men say they want?
- **4.** Why do you think the tall man says *We have* no names and no faces?

Chapter 6

- **1.** Match the people and the actions.

 - 1) The young woman a) takes out a long gun.
 - 2) The tall man
- b) gives the short man
- 3) The short man
- her doll.
- 4) Marina
- c) takes the doll into the street.
- 5) The young woman
- d) picks up the baby.
- e) puts something into the doll.
- 2. What is the tall man going to do with the gun?
- **3.** Why does he want to do this?
- 4. What do you think the short man puts inside the doll as well as the phone?
- 5. Which of these things do Marina and Happy have to do?
 - a) Play with the doll.
 - b) Play in front of the house.
 - c) Talk to the soldiers.
 - d) Take the doll into the street.
 - e) Run into the house when they see the soldiers.

- 6. What must Ada do with her children?
- 7. What are the two men and the woman waiting in Ada's house for?

Chapter 7

- 1. True or false?
 - a) Alex doesn't understand why the children run away.
 - b) Alex picks up the children's doll.
 - c) The tall man is angry because the gun doesn't work.
 - d) The tall man shoots Alex.
 - e) The three soldiers shoot at the window.
 - f) The woman helps the tall man down the stairs.
 - g) The short man hides the gun under the baby.
 - h) The woman and the two men run away.

Chapter 8

- 1. Match the questions and short answers.
 - 1) Who is dead?
- a) The soldiers did.
- 2) Who killed him?
- b) Happy does.
- 3) Who hates soldiers? c)
- The tall man is. d) Happy does.
- 4) Who takes off his mask?
- e) The short man does.
- 5) Who goes with the short man?
- 2. Look at the picture on page 29. Who is doing the following things?
 - a) running away
 - b) shooting his gun
 - c) taking Ada and Marina into the house
- 3. Half an hour later
 - a) Where is the young woman?
 - b) What do the soldiers ask her?
 - c) Why don't they check her?

Chapter 9

- 1. What is Sergeant Ken doing?
- **2.** Who is helping him?
- 3. Why doesn't Ada answer?
- 4. When does Happy come back?
- 5. Read Sara's email to Alex. What is the answer to her question?

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After reading

Choose some of these activities.

- 1. Think of another title for the book and explain why your new title is good for this story.
- **2.** Write an email to the author, Philip Prowse, saying what you like and don't like about this story.
- **3.** Write an email from Sergeant Ken to Sara explaining about Alex.

- **4.** Make a quiz about this story for the other students, e.g. some True/False questions or some correct/incorrect sentences.
- **5.** Write a newspaper report about what happened in Tonek.
- **6.** Choose one of the pictures and describe it very carefully.