PRE-INTERMEDIATE B1



Student's Book

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- Module 1

Module 2 -

Module 3

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Module 5

Grammar	Listening	Speaking	Writing
present simple/ continuous; stative verbs; adverbs of frequency; question words Phrasal verbs: <i>GET</i>	 multiple choice multiple matching (missing sentences) 	describing fictional characters; making choices; socialising; describing people intonation – expressing surprise & concern	 a letter giving advice Portfolio: description of a hero/ villain; classified ad; e-mail to a friend
comparatives and superlatives; -ing/ infinitive forms; specific/general preferences Phrasal verbs: <i>PUT</i>	 listening for detailed meaning multiple matching (missing sentences) 	introducing oneself; expressing likes/dislikes; asking for/giving directions; talking about jobs; expressing preferences; (role-play) a job interview; describing pictures intonation – stressed syllables	 a letter of application Portfolio: article about where you live; description of neighbourhooa questions for a quiz
present perfect simple/ continuous; clauses of purpose Phrasal verbs: <i>RUN</i>	 completing missing information multiple choice 	improving one's town/city; a short talk from notes; describing pictures; reacting to news; acting out a dialogue; (role-play) at Customs	 notes Portfolio: poster about the environment; article about a zoo; letter to a friend
oresent/past participles; past simple/continuous; inkers; the definite/ ndefinite article; used to/would Phrasal verbs: COME	 multiple matching listening for specific information completing missing information 	narrating experiences; expressing feelings; checking in; complaining/ apologising; giving travel information; expressing disapproval; describing pictures intonation – expressing annoyance	- a story Portfolio: holiday advertisement; weather forecast; factfile about your country
modal verbs; making assumptions/requests; too/enough; order of adjectives Phrasal verbs: <i>LOOK</i>	 listening for specific information listening for gist multiple choice mutiple matching 	asking about prices; calming down; describing objects; offering/accepting gifts; asking for/buying things; (role-play) salesperson/customer intonation – losing patience	- a report assessing good & bad points Portfolio: description of the best place to shop; page for a clothes catalogue; poster of school/work rules
future forms; future continuous; question tags Phrasal verbs: <i>BREAK</i>	 listening for gist listening for specific information intonation 	a short talk from notes; describing celebrations & customs; making arrangements; inviting; congratulating & thanking <i>intonation in question tags</i>	 postcard Portfolio: article about a tradition wedding; greetings cards; e-mail t a friend
countables/uncountables; quantifiers; indefinite pronouns; past perfect simple/ continuous Phrasal verbs: <i>GIVE</i>	 multiple choice listening for specific information multiple matching to take notes 	discussing food preferences/tastes; (role-play) eating out/ordering a meal; comparing table manners; describing pictures; intonation – stressed syllables	- a story Portfolio: description of an unusuc restaurant; recipe for a local dish; shopping list
the passive; <i>with/by</i> ; conditionals: type 0, 1; <i>if/unless</i> ; linkers (result, addition, contrast, etc) Phrasal verbs: <i>BRING</i>	 listening for detailed meaning multiple choice multiple matching listening for specific sounds 	discussing sports; negotiating; describing pictures; expressing opinions; asking about/describing health; sympathising – giving advice; acting out dialogues intonation – hesitating	 a pros and cons essay Portfolio: postcard to a friend; sho communicative message; sports quiz
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clauses of concession; all/ most/some/none; reported speech; indirect questions; causative form Phrasal verbs: TAKE	 multiple matching to fill in gaps listening for detailed meaning 	discussing technology; short talk from notes; conducting a survey; talking about pros & cons; describing pictures; (role-play) requesting action/giving an account of an event intonation in questions	 a letter of complaint Portfolio: article about teenagers i your country; text message to a friend; questions for a science quiz

People of the World

Module 1

Units 1-2

3



Look at Module 1

• Find the page numbers for pictures 1-5.

Find the unit and page number(s) for

- classified ads
- an e-mail
- jokes
- a town map
- signs
- a quiz
- a CV

Listen, read and talk about ...

- character & appearance
- habits/routines/lifestyles
- places & geographical features
- signs
- jobs/workplaces/job qualities

Learn how to ...

- describe people
- talk about personal qualities
- socialise
- make choices

- express likes/dislikes/ preferences
- ask for/give directions
- act out a job interview

Practise ...

- the present simple/ continuous
- adverbs of frequency
- question words
- comparative/superlative forms
- -ing/infinitive forms
- pronunciation
- intonation (expressing surprise & concern in stressed syllables)
- phrasal verbs: get, put

Write ...

- a short paragraph about your favourite hero(ine) or villain
- a classified ad
- an e-mail to a friend
- an informal letter of advice
- a short article about yourself and where you live
- a short description of your neighbourhood
- a short quiz about the capital city of your country
- a letter of application

Culture Clips: Celebration - Dream Town USA

Literature Corner: Scandal in Bohemia

Curricular Cuts (History): Elizabeth I



1a Heroes and Villains

Lead-in

- **1** a. Which of the characters in the pictures are heroes/heroines and which are villains?
 - b. Who has got ...
 - curly brown hair
 - pointed ears
 - a long white beard
 - a black moustache
 - a magic mirror
 - a sharp metal hook instead of a hand
 - a magic staff
 - a broad-brimmed hat
 - shiny black hair and rosy cheeks

Frodo Baggins has got curly brown hair.

Listening

2 a. In pairs, decide which of these adjectives best describe each character in the pictures.

mischievous & daring Peter Pan			vain & cold-hearted	
	cunning &		polite & considerate	
	dangerous		evil & greedy	
	kind & caring		brave & honest	

A: Who do you think is mischievous and daring?

Characters arger lin

B: I'd say Peter Pan.

(b.) Listen and check. Which extra character is described?

Reading

3 Look at the pictures and the title of the article. What does the title mean?

Frodo Baggins

20

25

In any book, cartoon or film we all love to see the heroes defeat the villains, save the world, win the girl and live happily ever after. But just between you and me, don't we feel a little bit sorry for the villains as well?

Saruman, from *The Lord of the Rings*, is an all-time favourite villain, the type of villain I like. He is a tall wizard with a long
white beard and cold dark eyes. He wears a long white robe and carries a magic staff. Once he was a good wizard but the power of a magic ring has made him evil and greedy and now he wants
to rule the world. Only Frodo, the small ring bearer, can stop him.

Frodo Baggins, a Hobbit, is small, brave and honest, with bright eyes, curly brown hair and very large hairy feet! His mission is to take the magic ring to Mordor where it will be destroyed. He travels with some friends and together they have to face many dangers. Gandalf a wise wizard, protects them and shows them the way.

Another of my favourite heroes is Peter Pan, a mischievous, daring boy with pointed ears who can fly and never grows older. Peter and his friends, the Lost Boys, have a dangerous enemy 30 called Captain Hook.

With his black moustache, cruel laugh and a sharp metal hook instead of a hand, the cunning Captain Hook is a perfect villain. He always wears a broadbrimmed hat and fine clothes. He lives with a band of pirates on his ship, the *Jolly Roger*, making plans to kidnap the Lost Boys and capture the boy he hates.

Not all villains are men. The Wicked 40 Queen in *Snow White* is one of the most cold-hearted villains ever. Beautiful but vain, the queen asks her mirror every day, "Mirror, mirror on the wall, who is the fairest of them all?" The answer 45 always pleases her, until one day the mirror replies that kind and caring Snow White is even prettier than her. The jealous queen is so angry that she dresses up as an old woman and gives 50 Snow White a poisoned apple.

Whether heroes or villains, these are the characters I admire the most. I love to watch the heroes fight the villains and eventually see good win over evil. I also 55 can't help feeling for the villains and their weaknesses; I just love to hate them! These stories are timeless and the characters are definitely larger than life.

Saruman



Reading effectively

Read the text once quickly. This will help you understand what type it is, the author's purpose and its general content. Read the questions and the answers. Read the text again carefully and find the part of the text each question refers to. The information may be phrased in different words.

4 Read the text and for each question (1-4) choose the best answer A, B, C or D. Then, explain the highlighted words.

1 What is the writer's main purpose in writing the text?

- A to describe how heroes catch villains
- B to describe some well-known heroes and villains
- C to tell some well-known cartoon stories
- D to tell some well-known fairy tales
- 2 What does the writer say about Saruman?
 - A He was not always evil.
 - **B** He is the writer's favourite character.
 - C Frodo wants to destroy him.
 - D He has lost a valuable ring.
- 3 Which of the statements is true of Captain Hook?
 - A He works on his own.
 - B He has a partner called Jolly Roger.
 - C He has a black beard.
 - D He takes care of his appearance.
- 4 What is the writer's opinion of villains?
 - A They are more important than the heroes.
 - **B** He likes them more than the heroes.
 - C He is happy to see them lose.
 - D They are just as important as the heroes.
- **5** Listen and read. Say a few words about the stories and suggest another title for the text.

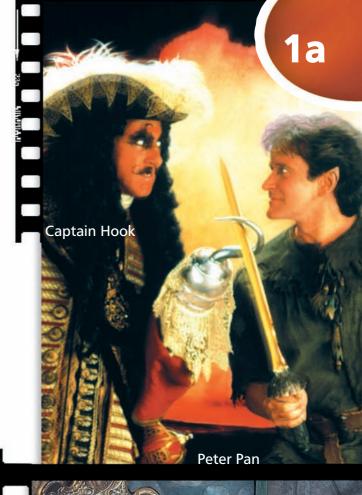
Speaking

- **6** Tell the class about your favourite film or TV hero(ine)/ villain. Talk about:
 - the character's name where he/she appears
 - character appearance what happens in the story

Writing

Portfolio: Use your answers from Ex. 6 to write a short paragraph for a teen magazine about your favourite hero/heroine or villain. Use the second and third paragraphs of the text as a model. Start like this:

..., from ..., is my favourite He/She's



The Wicked Queen

Snow White

7

1

Vocabulary Practice

Character

Reading

a. What type of texts are A and B? What do you think they are about?

b. Read the texts. Which advert:

- 1 wants actors to advertise something?
- 2 asks people to apply by post?
- 3 only wants three people?
- 4 wants only male actors?
- c. Underline the character adjectives in the adverts. Use them to answer the questions.

What do we call a person who ...

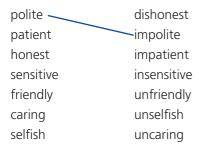
- 1 has good manners?
- 2 likes to hurt or upset people? 3 shows understanding of other people's needs?
- 4 is very proud of their looks?
- 5 expects good things to happen?
- 6 cares only about himself/herself?
- 7 doesn't get upset or angry?
- 8 gives more than is usual?

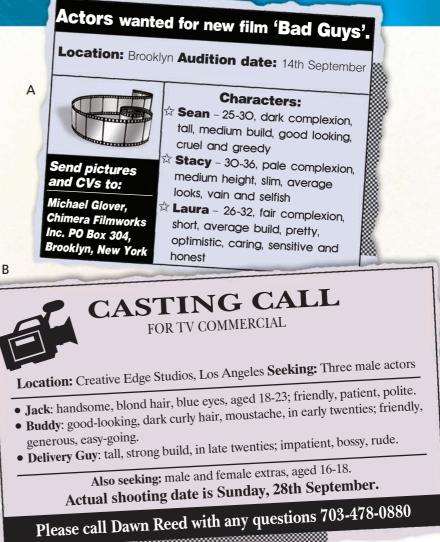


Remembering New Words: Opposites

Learn words in pairs of opposites. This will help you remember them more easily.

Match the adjectives to their 2 opposites. What prefixes do we use to form negative adjectives?





Speaking

- In pairs, use character adjectives to talk about people you 3 know.
 - A: Have you met our new neighbour?
 - B: No, I haven't. What's he like?
 - A: He's very friendly and polite!

Appearance

- Which words in the adverts (A & B) describe appearance/ 4 height/build?
- Circle the odd words out. Justify your answers. 5
 - crooked, straight, almond-shaped, long **1052** 1
 - bright, blonde, green, dark 2
 - 3 well-built, spiky, curly, wavy, short
 - 4 round, shoulder-length, oval, pretty face
 - 1 The odd word out is 'almond-shaped' because this describes somebody's eyes.



Listening

Who is who? Look at the picture, listen and 6 write the names: Alex, Chris, Joanna, Laura and Sam for people 1-5. What does each person look like?

AME

Think of a person from the picture above. In teams, try to guess who this person is. Each team can ask five yes/no questions.

Team A S1: Is it a man? Leader: Yes. Team B S1: Has he got curly hair?

Adjectives with prepositions

- Underline the correct preposition. Use the 7 adjectives to tell your partner about people you know.
 - 1 John is good at/on languages.
 - 2 She is very good on/to her patients.

- 3 He is very friendly with/of my parents.
- 4 She's afraid for/of dogs.
- 5 Pat is jealous of/at her sister.
- 6 He is kind to/with his parents.
- 7 Ann is patient of/with children.
- 8 Pete is rude to/at his friends.

Writing

Portfolio: The TV studio you work at as a secretary is looking for two actors for a new TV series. Write an advert (30-50 words), stating:

- what the advert is for
- location & audition date
- age & appearance of each character
- what types of character you want the actors to play
- contact name & phone number

Use advert A in Ex. 1 as a model.

Grammar in use

Present simple & present continuous

Grammar Reference

1 Read Ann's e-mail and find examples of:

- a a fixed future arrangement
- **b** an action happening around the time of speaking
- c a timetable
- d a permanent state
- e a temporary situation
- f a habit/routine
- g an action happening now

2 a. Put the verbs in brackets into the *present simple* or *present continuous*.

- 1 A: (you/do) anything interesting this weekend?
 - B: No, I (study) for my Biology exam.
- 2 A: Why (you/be) in such a rush?
- 3 A: What (James/do)?
 - B: (he/work) at the Natural History Museum in the city centre.
- 4 A: (you/like) your flat?
- B: Not really. Actually, I(look) for a new one at the moment.
- 5 A: Nina (look) nervous.
 - B: She is. She (see) the dentist this afternoon.
- 6 A: (he/want) to go to the theatre this evening?
 - B: He can't. He (have) an important business appointment.
- 7 A: Why (not/ Anna/come) to work these days? Is she ill?
 - B: No, she's on leave. She (get) married next week.
- 8 A: How much (the brain/weigh)?
 - B: About 2% of your total body weight, and (it/use) 20% of your body's energy.

 Hi!

 From:
 AnnB
 To:
 Emily

 Subject:
 Hi!
 Hi!
 Hi!

Thanks for your e-mail. It's always great to hear from you. As for me, I'm really busy. College life is very exciting, but there's so much to do.

I get up at 8 o'clock on weekdays because lectures start at 9:30. I spend most of my afternoons in the library as I'm taking six different courses this term and there's lots of reading to do! At the weekend I do some part-time waitressing. So, as you can see, I'm working very hard these days. But it's not all work and no play. Tonight I'm having dinner with some classmates. I can't wait! I'd better finish here because Sarah, my flatmate, is calling me to come and help her. Come and visit me soon!

Adverbs of frequency

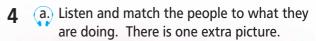
Grammar Reference

3 Ask and answer as in the example to find out about your partner's habits.

How Often...

- get up before 6 am?
- play computer games?
- watch TV?
- be on time for work/school?
- listen to classical music?
- read the newspaper?
- go to the theatre?
- go out with your friends?
 - A: How often do you get up before 6 am?
 - B: I never get up before 6 am. I usually get up at about 7:30.

Listening





- b. In pairs ask and answer as in the example.
- A: Is George talking on the phone?
- B: No, he isn't. He's ...

usually often sometimes rarely seldom never

b. Can you find any stative verbs in Ex. 2a?

up at about ,

always

8

DE

How do you react when you 1) at yourself in the mirror? Do you smile 2) do you feel like crying? Does the idea of wearing summer clothes 3) you panic, or does it excite you?

Body image has become a **4**) important issue in our society. **5**) young women and teenage

girls, in particular, are greatly influenced **6**) the images they see in

7

8

adverts, films and magazines. They go on dangerous crash diets 7)

they want to look like the super-thin supermodels and movie stars they see and read about. But we don't **8**) to copy our favourite celebrities. Thin is not always beautiful. People come in **9**) shapes and sizes – that's **10**) makes each person interesting. So, next time you look in the mirror, remember that you are special.

STUDYSKILLS	

Completing a text (gap-filling)

Read the title and the text quickly to get the gist. Read the text again, one sentence at a time, focusing on the words before and after each gap. Look at the four options and choose the word that fits best. Read the completed text again to make sure that it makes sense.

Reading

- **5** a. What do you think the title of the text means?
 - b. Read the text. Which of the following is a better alternative to the title?
 - 1 Health is better than wealth.
 - 2 Feel good about yourself.
 - (c.) Read and choose the correct word for each space (1-10). Compare your answers with your partner's. Listen and check.

Question words

- 6 In pairs, ask each other questions about your lifestyles. Use:
 - what where when who how often
 - A: What time do you get up?
 - B: At 7:30.

1	A watch	B look	C see	D view
2	A and	B but	C or	D so
3	A feel	B get	C do	D make
4	A so	B main	C such	D very
5	A Many	B Much	C More	D Some of
6	A by	B with	C from	D about
7	A so	B that	C because	D and
8	A must	B need	C should	D ought
9	A every	B each	C all	D some
10	A what	B which	C why	D that

Sentence transformations

Complete the second sentence so that it means the same as the first. Use no more than three words.

- Can you describe Peter to me?
 Can you tell me like?
- 2 Peter takes after his father. Peter looks
- 3 What is Peter's job? Whatdo?
- 4 Peter is always late for work.
 - Peter on time for work.

Phrasal verbs

Explain the phrasal verbs in your language. Then, complete the sentences.



- 1 John has to get early in the morning.
- **2** He can't get the shock of being in the car accident.
- 3 How do you get with your neighbours?
- 4 She's happy because she's her old job



Portfolio: Look at Ex. 1 again. Imagine you are Emily. Send an e-mail in reply to Ann. Write about:

- your daily routine any plans for the weekend
- what you are doing these days

Personal qualities

- 1 What should a good leader be like? Circle three qualities below which you think are important. Compare your choices with your partner's.
 - honest fair popular
 - patient sensitive friendly
 - determined quick-thinking
 - calm humorous
 - A: I think a good leader should be honest, calm and determined, don't you?
 - B: Yes, those are important qualities. But I think he should also be fair.

Listening

STUDYSKILLS

Listening for specific information

Read the questions and possible answers. Underline the key words. Listen carefully. Try to listen for synonyms or rephrasing. The questions follow the order of the information on the recording.

- 2 a. You will hear an interview with a psychologist. Read through the questions and underline the key words. Can you think of synonyms?
 - (b.) Listen and put a tick (✓) in the correct box. Do you agree with Dr Graaf?
 - 1 Dr Graaf believes that all good leaders have
 - A special personal qualities.
 - B _____ team spirit.
 - C 🗌 a great sense of humour.
 - 2 Dr Graaf says that leaders have to
 - A _____ try to be more popular.
 - B i make difficult decisions.
 - C please everybody.

- 3 What does Dr Graaf say about bosses?
 - A ____ They sometimes make bad choices.
 - **B** They are sometimes in a panic.
 - C They are not always liked.
- 4 Dr Graaf says that to be an effective leader, you must be
 - A determined.
 - **B** like a superhero.
 - C is respected and trusted.

Making choices

3 You want to open your own restaurant and you are looking for a partner. Which of the two people would you choose, and why? Discuss in pairs and make your decision.



- A: Well, I think I'd choose ... because
- B: I'm not so sure. He/She is/gets ... and he/she can also be rather
- A: What about ... ? He/She's ... , etc.





Expressing surprise and concern

Intonation

- 4 Listen and repeat. Translate these sentences into your language.
 - **1** What's the matter?
- 3 What's wrong?

2 You're joking!

4 You can't be serious!

Reading

- **5** You are going to listen to a conversation. Read the first two exchanges in the dialogue below and guess the answers to the questions.
 - 1 Where are Judy and Stan?
 - 2 What do you think their relationship is?
 - 3 Who is upset?

6 Read and complete the dialogue with sentences from Ex. 4. Listen and check. Which of the people a, b or c is Stan's neighbour? Take roles and act out a similar dialogue.

Judy:	Hi, Stan	. You	look	upset.	Α	

Stan: Oh, come in, Judy. I'm a bit fed up.

- Judy: Why? B
- Stan: Well, it's my neighbour. He keeps complaining about my music. He says I play it too loud and he comes round nearly every day to tell me to turn it down.

Judy: C Stan: I'm afraid not.

- Judy: How loud do you play your music?
- Stan: Not that loud. I'll show you.
- Judy: Stan, turn it down!
- Stan: Why? What's up?
- Judy: Well, is your neighbour tall with short curly brown hair, a beard and a moustache?

Stan: Yes, he looks exactly like that. Why?

- Judy: Because someone who looks a lot like that is walking towards your front door right now!
- Stan: D Here we go again.

7

In pairs, guess what happens next. Listen and check.

Socialising

8 a. Read the table and complete the exchanges.

Speaker A	Speaker B
Hello! What a	Hi! Nice to see
nice surprise!	you!
Hi, there. How	Not bad. How
are you?	about you?
Hi there. How	Pretty good,
are you doing?	thanks.
See you	Goodbye!
tomorrow!	
Bless you!	Thanks!
Thank you very	Don't mention
much indeed!	it.
Hello. You must	Yes. It's a
be	pleasure to meet
	you
I haven't seen	Hi! You haven't
you for ages!	changed a bit!

- A:!
- B: Thanks! I've got a terrible cold.
- A: Hi!!
- B: Hi! You haven't changed a bit.
- A: Thank you very much for looking after my dog.
- B:
- In pairs, use the table above to act out exchanges in which you:
- greet a friend you haven't seen for a long time
- say goodbye to your colleagues when leaving the office
- greet a friend you bump into on the street
- meet someone you have heard about for the first time
- thank a friend for a special gift

Writing an informal letter giving advice

Getting started

1 Read the extracts from three teenagers' e-mails. Who is: lonely? desperate? shy?

"I've put on such a lot of weight recently and I just don't know what to do. I've tried all sorts of diets, but nothing seems to help." Sally "I've just moved to a new school and everything's different. I haven't got any firends here and I feel like I don't fit in." Danny

"When I'm with a group of people, I just sit there in silence. I'm always too afraid to say anything in case I make a fool of myself." Tom

Sally is desperate because she

2 Use the phrases below to give advice to Sally, Danny and Tom.

	Giving advice	Justification
•	It would be a good idea to	• This/That way
•	The best thing to do is	• This would mean that
•	What you should do is	• Then, (you)
•	Why don't you?	• If you do this,
•	You could also	• By doing this,

A: What you should do is stop eating sweets and chocolate. That way ...B: That's right, Sally. You could also ...

Let's look closer

3 Read the e-mail. Underline the phrases Pete uses to give his advice.

Address 🦉

Dear Sally,

Links

I've just got your e-mail, and I was sorry to hear you're worried about your weight. I bet the problem isn't as bad as it seems, though! In any case, there are lots of things you can do to lose weight.

What you should do is eat a healthy diet, with lots of fish, fruit and fresh vegetables instead of junk food and sweets. If you do this, you'll soon lose weight, and you'll look and feel much healthier, too. You could also exercise more and walk whenever possible rather than going by car or bus. That way you'll burn calories and get your body back in shape at the same time.

I know it's hard to do at first, but believe me, it will work! Good luck, and don't forget to let me know how you're getting on. All the best,

Pete

Which of the following are opening/closing remarks for an informal letter of advice?

- 1 Here's what you can do.
- 2 I hope everything goes well.
- **3** I'm so sorry you feel this way.
- 4 I was sorry to hear about your problem.
- 5 I hope I've been of some help.
- 6 Let me know what happens.

Your turn **STUDYSKILLS**

5

Brainstorming for ideas

Before writing, underline the key words, then brainstorm for ideas. Write your ideas down, then choose the most important ones. This helps you organise your writing.

- Read the rubric and brainstorm for ideas to give as much advice as possible. Make notes in your notebook.
 - This is part of a letter you got
 - **from an English pen friend**.
 - I feel very lonely in my new neighbourhood. I have no friends and I'm really depressed. Any advice?

Write your letter to your friend.

 Answer the questions in the plan, then write your letter (80-100 words).

Dear + (your friend's first name), Opening Remarks (Para 1) – express sympathy, offer help Main Body (Para 2) – give your advice, explain the results Closing Remarks (Para 3) – end the letter

Take care,/Yours,/etc (your first name)



A person's height almost doubles in the first 2-3 years of life, but it takes another 15 years to double again!

4

Literature

Reading & Listening

- Who was Arthur Conan Doyle? 1 Which famous detective did he create? Read the first text and check.
- Read the first paragraph of the 2 main text. Who do you think the person outside the door is? Listen and read to find out.
- Read the rest of the text and 3 mark statements 1-6 T (True) or F (False). Then, explain the words in bold.
 - 1 The visitor is wearing expensive clothes.
 - 2 The visitor's mouth and chin are hidden by a mask.
 - 3 The visitor says he is Count von Kramm.
 - 4 The visitor is unsure whether to trust Watson.
 - 5 Holmes does not know why the visitor has come.
 - 6 Holmes realises the visitor is the King when he takes off the mask.

Speaking

- Read lines 5-15 again and, in 4 pairs, group all the words used to describe the king under the headings:
 - physical appearance clothes
 - facial features character

Use the prompts to describe the King of Bohemia to your partner.

Arthur Conan Doyle (1859-1930)

This well known Scottish author was the creator of the famous fictional detective, Sherlock Holmes, and his loyal friend, Dr Watson. Although Doyle wrote many other pieces, including historical novels, political essays and plays,

we will always remember him for his Sherlock Holmes' mysteries.

In Scandal in Bohemia, the King of Bohemia hires Sherlock Holmes to help find some letters and a photograph that might be used by a woman, Irene Adler, to blackmail the King and ruin his reputation.

Scandal in Bohemia

A slow and heavy step, which had been heard upon the stairs and in the corridor, paused immediately outside the door. Then there was a loud knock on the door.

"Come in!" said Holmes.

A very tall man entered, with the chest and limbs of a Hercules. 5 His dress was rich with a richness which would, in England, be considered bad taste. He was wearing a double-breasted coat with fur-trimmed collar and cuffs, over which he wore a deep blue cloak lined with flame-coloured silk. His boots, which went halfway up his legs, were also trimmed with fur, completing his 10 appearance of barbaric richness. He had a thick moustache and a straight chin suggesting strong determination, but a black mask hid the **upper** part of his face. He was carrying a hat in one hand, while his other hand was raised, as if he had just finished straightening his mask. 15

"Please take a seat," said Holmes. "This is my friend and colleague, Dr Watson. Whom have I the honour to address?"

"You may address me as Count von Kramm, a Bohemian aristocrat. I hope your friend is a man I can trust. If not, I prefer to speak to you alone," said our strange visitor.

"You can say anything in front of this man that you can say to me," Holmes replied. The Count nodded and continued. "You will excuse the mask; my employer wishes my true identity to remain a secret."

"If your majesty would like to tell us your problem," Holmes remarked, "I will be happy to advise you."

The Count sprang from his chair, paced nervously up and down the room, then took off the mask and threw it on the floor.

"You are right!" he cried. "I am the King. Why should I try to hide it?"

"Why, indeed?" said Holmes. "I knew, even before you spoke, that you were the Grand Duke of Cassel-Felstein and the King of Bohemia." 30

20

25