

Introduction

Everyone loves reading a good story. There is nothing better than losing yourself in an adventure, discovering an amazing fictional world, or sharing the experiences of your favourite character.

This book will help you to develop your understanding of stories and to appreciate the range of fiction available. The book includes many extracts from well-known stories, which will help you to understand key features of fiction writing and how they work. It also gives you ideas for developing and improving your own stories so that others will love reading them.

Finding your way around this book

Before you start using this book, write your name in the name box on the first page.

Then decide how to begin. If you want a complete course on fiction, you should work right through the book from beginning to end. Another way to use the book is to dip into it when you want to find out about a particular topic, such as fables. The Contents page will help you to find the pages you need.

Whichever way you choose, don't try to do too much at once – it's better to work through the book in short bursts.

When you have found the topic you want to study, look out for these icons, which mark different parts of the text.



This icon shows you the activities that you should complete. You write your answers in the spaces provided. You may find it useful to have a dictionary near you so that you can check any spellings you are not sure about.

This book does not include answers to the activities because there are so many different possible answers and it wouldn't be practical to list all of them. Check your answers with an adult and when you are sure that you understand the topic, put a tick in the box beside it on the Contents page. On page 40 you will find suggestions for some projects (**Now you try**), which will give you even more opportunities to improve your understanding of fiction.

Explanation

This text explains the topic and gives examples. Make sure you read it before you start the activities.



This text gives you useful background information about the subject.