



Learn English Through Stories

A Series

A23

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Chapter 17 – Canoe



After three years on the island, my clothes are already very old. I start to use the skins of the animals. I make a cap and other clothes from the skins.

I also need an umbrella. I try to make an umbrella from the skins too. It is difficult at the beginning. It takes some time. But I am successful in the end.

After three years, I am quite happy. I have everything what I need for my life.

My life on the island continues for the next 5 years. During this time, I decide to make another canoe. The canoe is smaller. It isn't difficult to move it to the beach.

The canoe is finished in June. I want to travel around the island in the canoe. I put food, water and guns in the canoe. I am ready for the trip.

The beginning of my trip isn't easy for me. I am in danger when my journey starts. I have to go around some rocks in the sea.

When I want to go back to the land, I feel a strong current under the canoe. The current is taking me away from the island. The situation is horrible. I am scared. I can't survive in the open sea. I don't have enough food and water for a long journey.

I fight very hard against the current for two hours. Then, I am able to get close to my island. I can continue my trip around the island. Now, I know that I am stronger than the currents around the island. I feel good. I feel strong.

Soon, I find a small river. I go up the river. But I get nowhere because soon the river is very narrow. Stones block the way. I can't continue. I leave the canoe where it is.

I want to explore this part of the island. I am not far from the part of the island which I know. Soon, I find the way to my house in the valley.

I am very tired from the trip. Soon, I sleep.

Then, I hear a voice. I wake up. The voice is saying my name, "Robinson, where are you? Robinson, where are you?"

First, I am scared. But then I see my parrot Poll. He sits on top of the fence. He knows these words from me. And he is saying these words with the same intonation as me.

I am surprised when I see him here. I think, "Why isn't he at home?" But I am happy when I see him.

I don't go back to the canoe. I return home with the parrot.

I don't make such a trip for a year. I stay in my house most of the time. I make more tools and pots. I can also make very nice baskets now.

Chapter 18 – Foot



It is eleven years after my first day on the island. One day, I see that I don't have much gunpowder. It starts to worry me. I need gunpowder if I want to hunt animals.

My first goat is very old. I want meat but I don't have the heart to kill her. One day, she dies a natural death.

With less and less gunpowder, I have to find another way how to get meat.

I decide to make a trap. I am not successful at the beginning. But then I catch three young goats. They are one male and two females. I take them home with me.

I keep the goats inside a small area. I make a fence around the area. But the area is too small for three goats. So I make a fence for them around a bigger area.

It takes me three months to build this fence. But the area is very nice. There is a lot of grass and water for them.

After some time, the young goats are very calm. Soon they eat from my hand.

In two years, I have twelve goats inside my fence. And in three years, I have more than twenty goats.

I have a lot of milk and meat thanks to this. I experiment a little, and after some time I am able to make cheese and butter.

My table is full now and I have a lot of animals around me. I have my old dog, goats and my parrot. The only thing which I still miss is somebody for a conversation.

One day, I go to the part of the sea where the strong current is. On the way there, I think about how strange I look.

I have a big hat, a short jacket and short trousers. They are all made from animal skin. I don't have socks or shoes but I put some goat skins around my feet. I have two belts. One belt is for the gun and knife, and one belt for the gunpowder.

I also carry a basket on my back and an umbrella above my head. My beard is very long. I see that after eleven years on the island I don't look like an Englishman. I am a different person.

One day, I am walking on the beach. I am going to check my canoe. Then I see something surprising. I see a mark of a human foot on the sand.

I look around but I see nobody. I am scared. I run back to my house. I am so scared that it is difficult to sleep at night.

Then, I think, "Maybe it is all only my imagination. Or maybe it is the mark of my own foot and it is stupid to be scared."

After this thought, I feel better. I leave my house. And I go look at the mark again.

Chapter 19 – Cannibals



When I come to the mark of the foot, I see that the mark is much bigger than my foot. It's impossible that it's my foot.

I'm scared again. I start to panic. I want to destroy my corn fields. I want to destroy my valley house. I need to hide my activity on the island.

I'm so afraid that I can't sleep the whole night. Finally I sleep a little in the morning.

My head is clear when I wake up. Now, it isn't so strange that people live on the islands around. I think, "Maybe this is their first visit here. Maybe this island is not interesting for them. Maybe it's also their last visit here."

I feel better after these thoughts. But I want to do something for my protection if the people come again.

During the following month, I make another fence around my house. I make holes in the fence. Through these holes, I can easily shoot from guns if I'm attacked.

Now, I have a house which is very well protected. Nobody can come easily near me.

I also worry about my goats. I divide the goats in two groups. I built a smaller fence in another part of the island. I put one group of the goats there. It takes

me a lot of time, but my animals are safe.

After sixteen years on the island, something very sad happens. My dog dies. I cry for three days. It's my worst day on the island.

Fortunately, I have my goats. I go to them and I tell them how sad I am. They don't understand my words but I feel that they understand me. They feel my emotions. They are unusually calm and quiet.

It's now two years after the foot in the sand on the beach. One day, when I'm walking on the beach, I think that I see a canoe far in the sea. I'm not sure, so I continue to walk.

Then I see a thing which shocks me. The beach is full of parts of human bodies. Heads, hands, feet, fingers and teeth are everywhere. There is a black place after a fire.

I'm angry but also scared. I can't look at this horrible scene for a long time. I have a horrible feeling in my stomach. I go back home and I think about what to do.

Now, I can't go out to sea with my canoe. I have no chance against a group of cannibals in the open sea. I also can't use guns because the sound of a gun is very loud. But I always have guns with me for protection.

I think that maybe in the future, I can kill some cannibals. And I can save their prisoners. I look for a place near the beach where I can hide and prepare for the attack.

Then I change my opinion. I think that it's not good to fight the cannibals.

I don't know these people. They don't attack me. Maybe, it isn't good to attack them.

Finally, I stop the preparations for the attack. I decide to attack them only if they attack me first.

Chapter 20 – Cave

I'm hiding my activity on the island. I'm very careful. I try not to be loud.

I'm worried when I make a fire. But I need fire because I need to cook. So when I make a fire, I try to make only little smoke. Smoke can go very high. People can see smoke from a big distance.

One day, I discover a small cave in the forest. The cave is near the beach.

I go inside. When my eyes are OK with the dark, I see two eyes. The eyes are looking at me. I jump outside. I'm scared to death.

I wait but nothing happens. I go slowly to the beginning of the cave and I listen. I hear something.

It hear some animal. I think that the animal is injured.

I take my gun and I go in the cave slowly. When my eyes can see again, I see an old goat. The goat is dying in the cave.

I return to the cave the next day. I see that the goat is dead. I look around the place. I see that the place is very safe. It's a good place near the beach where I can hide. So I bring some guns and some gunpowder there.

It's twenty-three years after my first moment on this island. I live comfortably now. I have many animals around me. Poll is repeating my name and some other words very nicely. I have two other parrots. I teach them how to say my name. I have more than thirty goats.

One day, I'm walking to my fields in the morning when I see fire on the beach.

I quickly return to my house. I prepare all my guns. I take my telescope. I go close to the beach. I hide behind a tree. I watch what is happening on the beach.

I see nine naked people. They have two canoes. And they are leaving.

When they leave, I go to the beach. The beach is full of blood and bones again. I'm angry again. I decide to kill them if I see them again. But they

don't return for a long time.

One day in the evening after a big storm, something strange happens. I hear the sound of a gun at sea. I go to the beach. I see a light. The light is coming from the sea. But it's very far.

Then, I hear the gun again. I know that some ship is near my island. The ship is in danger. The ship is asking for help. But it's very dark. I don't see the whole ship.

I take a lot of dry wood. I make a big fire on the beach. The men on the ship probably see the fire because they shoot again.

I think, "I can speak to somebody tonight. This is great."

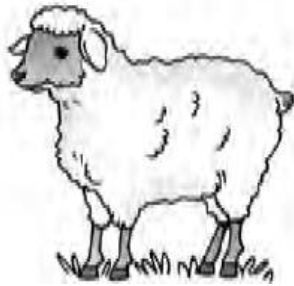
I keep the fire until midnight. But nobody comes to my beach. It's very strange. I don't understand it.

I think, "Where are the men from the ship?"

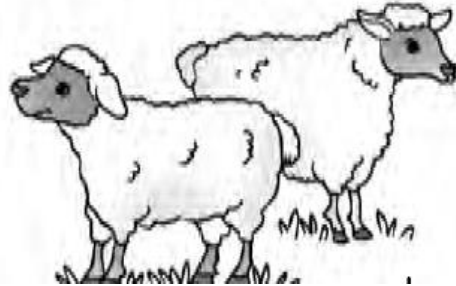
2. Story of Nouns 8

Singular and plural

Some plural nouns are the same as the singular noun.



One sheep



Two sheep

1. **Sheep:** There are two sheep in the meadow.
2. **Fish:** There are three fish in the pond.
3. **Bison:** The bison were grazing in the distance.



A bison

4. **Deer:** Deer are easy prey for wolves.
5. **Moose:** Moose actually belong to the deer family.



A moose

6. **Offspring:** The fox gave birth to five offspring.

3. Dialogues

Favourite Movie 1

A: What's your favourite movie?

B: My favourite movie is Three Idiots.

A: Oh, why is that?

B: It's the funniest movie that I've ever seen.

A: That's true. It is a very funny movie.

B: You've seen it before?

A: Yes, I saw that movie the first day it came out in cinema.

B: Didn't you laugh through the whole movie? I did.

A: Me too. That movie brought tears to my eyes.

B: Mine too.

A: I have it on DVD at my house if you want to come over and watch it.

B: Sure, let's go.

Favourite Movie 2

A: Which movie is your favourite to watch?

B: I have to say, my favourite movie is Three Idiots.

A: Is that right? Why?

B: Honestly, it is one of the funniest movies I've seen in a long time.

A: You're right. That movie is hilarious.

B: I didn't think you saw that movie.

A: I went to see it the day it came out.

B: I was laughing through the whole movie.

A: I couldn't help laughing, either.

B: Same here.

A: I bought the movie. Would you like to come to my house and watch it?

B: Of course.

4. Picture Dictionary Page



football (फुटबॉल) A leather or plastic ball used in the game of football. पैर से खेलने की गेंद.



footprint (फुटप्रिंट) The mark made by your foot when you walk on something soft like sand. पद चिन्ह.



forehead (फोरहेड) The part of your face between your eyes and your hair. माथा; मस्तक; ललाट.



fork (फॉर्क) An instrument for picking up food. खाना खाने का काँटा.



fort (फोर्ट) A strong building. Soldiers used to live in a fort. किला; दुर्ग; कोट.

fossil (फासिल) The shape of a plant or animal which lived a long time ago. These shapes can still be seen in rocks. पशु अथवा पौधों के अंश जो ज़मीन के अन्दर से प्राप्त होते हैं



fountain (फाउन्टन) Water which shoots into the air. झरना; फव्वारा.

four (फार) The number between three and five. तीन और पाँच के बीच की संख्या: चार.

4



fox (फोक्स) A small wild animal with a big bushy tail. लोमड़ी.



frog (फ्राग) A creature which can swim in water and jump on land. मेंढक.