



Learn English Through Stories

A Series

A24

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Chapter 21 – Visitors



The next day in the morning, I see the ship. The ship stops very far from the beach. The ship looks empty. I don't understand it. I expect the people from the ship. I really want to speak with somebody. I miss communication with real people very much.

I take my canoe. I go to the ship. I want to see if somebody is alive. The ship looks Spanish. The ship is completely destroyed. When I'm close to the ship, I see a dog. He is very happy when he sees me. I give him bread and I give him water. He is hungry and very thirsty.

I find nobody on the ship. "Where are the men from the ship?" I think. It's very strange. I don't have an answer to this question. It's a mystery.

There are many boxes with different things on the ship. Some boxes are small, some boxes are big. I find bottles with alcohol in some big boxes. But these boxes are too heavy. I can't take them on the canoe.

I find guns and gunpowder. I take them to the canoe. I also find some other useful things. I return to the island in the evening with some small boxes on my canoe. I have some new shirts and also gold, silver and a lot of gunpowder.

The gunpowder is important for me. On the island, gunpowder is more useful than money or gold.

There is something else what I need very much. I need shoes. I find two pairs of shoes on board the ship. I take them with me. I put all my new things in the cave.

I make five trips to the ship. I take everything useful for me. Then I hide the canoe. Everything goes back to normal.

Time goes quickly. I often think about the men from the ship and the cannibals on the beach.

One night in March I have an interesting dream. In the dream, I see 2 canoes with cannibals who come to the beach. One of their prisoners runs away. He comes to my house. I save him. Then he becomes my friend. He helps me go through the dangerous waters around the island.

I wake up, but the dream stays in my mind. I believe that if somebody helps me, it's possible to get away from the island. Maybe I can save one of the prisoners of the cannibals.

I decide to watch the beach more. I go every day around the beach for the next two years. I hope to see the canoes.

My wish becomes reality one afternoon. I see 5 canoes with more than thirty men on the beach. I can't attack so many men. I have to wait. I watch them with my telescope.

The visitors make a fire. They dance around the fire. I also see two other men. They are tied. They are prisoners.

After some time, the cannibals take one tied men to the fire. They kill the man. The cannibals paint their bodies with his blood. It's like a theatre. But this isn't a theatre. It's real. It's horrible. But I can do nothing. There are too many cannibals.

The second man is waiting on the side. When the cannibals don't look, the second man jumps up. And he starts to run away. He is running in my direction. I run to the beach and I hide behind a tree.

I see that only two cannibals run after him. This is the right moment to save the prisoner. The man runs fast but the cannibals are faster. They are closer and closer to him. I prepare two guns and I'm waiting behind the tree.

Chapter 22 – Friday

The prisoner is running directly to my tree. But he doesn't see me. I don't move. Then he runs around me. I'm still behind the tree.

When the first cannibal runs close to me, I jump from behind the tree. He is shocked. I shoot him. The second cannibal sees this. He tries to shoot an arrow at me. I have to shoot him too.

The prisoner stops when he hears the gun. He turns. He is scared.

I smile at him. I show him that it's OK to come closer. He comes to me. He goes down to his knees. He puts his head on the ground. Then he takes my foot. He puts my foot on his head. I show him that he can stand up.

He stands up. He looks at the dead cannibals. He goes to their bodies. He looks at the holes in their bodies. He probably can't understand why the cannibals are dead. It's unbelievable for him.

He takes the arrows from the dead men. We take the bodies of the cannibals. We hide the bodies in the forest near. Then we go to the deeper forest.

I take the man to my cave. The cave is my secret. Nobody can find us there. I give him bread, meat and some water. He is very tired. He sleeps immediately.

I have an opportunity to look at him. I see that he is young, slim but very strong. I think that he is about 25 years old. He has long black hair, dark skin and a pleasant face.

I let him sleep and I go outside. I sit near the cave. And I watch the space around the cave. Some cannibals can come and look for us. But they don't come.

Three hours later, the man comes out of the cave. He shows me how happy he is that he is alive and safe.

I speak to him. I give him a name. His name is Friday because it's Friday today. I tell him my name and I teach him "yes" and "no".

We stay in the cave at night. The next day, we go on top of the hill. I see through my telescope that the canoes are gone. We are alone on the island.

We go carefully to the beach. First, we go to the place with the bodies of the dead cannibals. When we find them, Friday wants to eat them. I'm angry. I show to Friday that it's not good to eat them. Here I understand that Friday is also a cannibal.

We bury the cannibals. Then we walk to the beach. What we see is horrible. There are human bones on the sand. The sand is red with blood.

We collect all the body parts. We prepare a big fire. I want to burn the body parts in the fire. We go to my house. I make a little tent for Friday. The tent is between the two fences which are around my house.

I'm a little scared. I don't know if Friday can hurt me.

After some time, I see that I don't have to be scared. Friday is a very good man. He is like a son. And I'm like a father for him. In many situations later, he shows me that he wants to give his life for me.

I'm very happy that I have Friday on the island. I begin to teach him. I teach him what he needs to know about life like a European.

First, I teach him some new words. I start with hi, hello, bye, thank you. It isn't easy at the beginning. But I'm patient. I'm happy that I can speak to somebody.

Chapter 23 – Conversation



I'm happy that Friday is on the island. I want to show him what I eat. I shoot a young goat. Friday is scared of the gun. He doesn't understand how such a small thing can kill a goat. He doesn't want to touch the gun.

We make a soup. When I cook the soup, Friday goes to the forest and he brings some herb. He puts the herb in the soup. The herb is similar to pepper.

The soup smells fantastic. The soup tastes fantastic too.

The next day, we cook goat meat with sauce. Again, Friday brings some herbs and also plants. The herbs make the sauce taste great. We make a nice salad from the plants.

I teach Friday how to prepare corn and bake bread. Soon, he can bake very good bread. Then, we make my field bigger because we want to have more corn.

In all activities, Friday helps me a lot. He can also catch fish very well. Our cooperation is simply great. We are a good team.

I want to teach Friday English. I want to teach him fast.

I want to be a good teacher. I take my role very seriously. I think about the best method how to teach Friday English.

When I speak fast, Friday doesn't understand. So I try to speak slowly. I also speak only in the present. And I use simple words. I also say only short sentences. Now, Friday understands more. We speak about many topics.

When Friday doesn't understand something, I point at it. Or I explain the

word to him. If it doesn't help, I make a picture in the sand.

Soon, Friday starts to understand many sentences in the present. He also starts to use some words. His pronunciation is very bad at the beginning. But it isn't important for me. I understand him. And I'm very happy that somebody speaks to me.

Friday is a good student. He is clever. He improves quickly. Soon, he can say some words like an Englishman. Of course, not all words, but the words which he says correctly make me very happy.

I see that Friday very often repeats aloud what I say. I think that it also helps him to learn so fast.

I think, "Learning a language is quite easy. You only need to copy what you hear and if you don't understand something, you need a picture. Then, you need a lot of practice. This is the best system."

Friday's progress is fast. He is able to talk more and more every day. In a couple of months, we can have a nice conversation.

Friday likes my tools. They are very interesting for him. He especially likes the telescope. He borrows the telescope very often. He goes to one hill. And he watches everything around.

One day, we speak about Friday's people and why they have enemies. He says, "There is a war between two groups of local people. We are neighbours but we don't like each other. We have many conflicts. There is never peace. We kill each other whenever we can."

Friday tells me that they eat human meat like their enemies. They also do rituals when they catch their enemies.

Friday tells me about the sea and the currents in the sea. Thanks to Friday, I know more about the history, culture and traditions of his people.

Chapter 24 – Knife

I tell Friday my story. I describe England and Europe to him.

I tell him about our cities, schools, ships and travelling around the world. I tell him that education is important in Europe and that we study from books. It's all new to him. Friday's people don't need schools on the islands. They have all what they need for their life.

When I feel that I can trust him enough, I show him how gunpowder works. I teach him how to use a gun. I give him a knife and a belt. He is happy with my presents.

He says that it's not the first time when he sees such a knife. He says that some white men live with them on their island. He counts seventeen Europeans.

I think that these men can be the sailors from the Spanish ship.

Friday tells me that they are OK. I'm happy when I hear that some Europeans live not very far from my island. I start to plan how to meet them.

The next day, we go on a small trip around the island. First, we go to the cross where I want to mark another day. "What is it?" asks Friday when we come to the cross. I explain that we have seven days in a week. These days are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday,

Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

When Friday hears the word Friday, he laughs. I explain to him why his name is Friday. Now, he fully understands the meaning of his name.

During the walk, Friday tells me, "If we build a canoe, we can go to my island."

I take Friday to the other side of the island. I show him my canoe there. But he says, "This canoe is too small for two people. We have to make a bigger canoe."

So, we start to make a bigger canoe. We have to cut a big tree and I show him how to cut the inside of the tree.

It takes us a month to make the canoe. And it takes us two days to move the canoe to the beach. The canoe is ready and we are ready too.

The day before we want to go, Friday goes to the beach. He comes back very quickly. He looks very scared. He says that there are three canoes on the beach.

He is scared because he thinks that the cannibals are here because they want to find him.

I tell him, "Don't worry. We are strong. And maybe they don't come for you today. Let's wait and watch."

We take 15 guns. We go on top of a hill. We see 14 cannibals, 2 prisoners and 3 canoes on the beach. They stop close to the place where the forest is near the beach. It's good because it's easier to attack them and save the prisoners.

We go to them quietly through the forest. I think about my right to kill them. I have no reason to shoot so many people who do nothing wrong to me.

After some thinking I decide only to watch and attack them only if it's necessary.

2. Story of Nouns 9

Collective Nouns

Collective nouns are words for groups of people, animals or things.

These are nouns for groups of people.

		
A family	A team	A class

Here are some more groups of people: an audience; a gang; a band; a group; a choir; a crew.

Many collective nouns can be used with a singular or plural verb.

My family was happy to see me. Or - My family were happy to see me.

But the following collective nouns always take a plural verb: cattle; people; the police.

Millions of people have lost their homes due to heavy rain.

Cattle are cows and bulls.

Police are investigating the break-in.

3. Dialogues

Favourite Music 1

A: What type of music do you like to listen to?

B: I like listening to different kinds of music.

A: Like what, for instance?

B: I enjoy Classical music and Hindi movie songs.

A: Why is that?

B: I like the different instruments that they use.

A: That's a good reason to like something.

B: Yeah, I think so too.

Favourite Music 2

A: What kind of music do you enjoy listening to?

B: I enjoy listening to all kinds of music.

A: What kind?

B: I like to listen to Punjabi Bhangra songs.

A: Why do you like that type of music?

B: I like the kinds of instruments that they use: harmonium, tumbi etc.

A: I think that's an excellent reason to like something.

B: Thanks, I feel the same way.

4. Picture Dictionary Page

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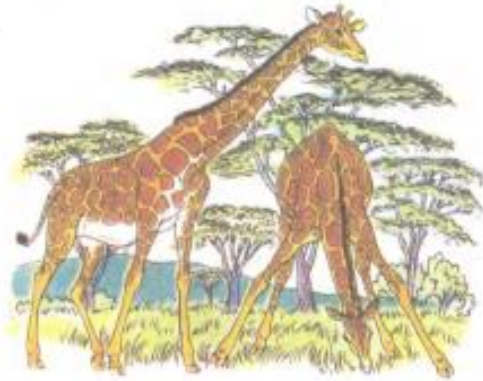


gate A gate is like a door but you see it outside. A gate can be made of wood or iron. द्वार; दरवाजा.

ghost A ghost is supposed to be a dead spirit. No one knows if ghosts are real. भूत; जिन्न.



garage A place to keep cars. मोटर-गाड़ी रखने का स्थान.



giraffe An animal with a very long neck. जिराफ.



garage A place where you get petrol. मोटर आदि की मरम्मत तथा डीजल एवं पेट्रोल बेचने का स्थान.



garden The land round a house. You grow flowers and vegetables in a garden. बाग; उद्यान; बगीचा.



girl A female child. लड़की; कन्या.



glass Glass is hard and breaks easily. You can see through glass. शीशा; काँच; शीशे का गिलास.