

English

Quick activity

Dictogloss

1. Hand out or show following worksheet to your students:

NOUNS	VERBS	ADJECTIVES

TEXT

2. Explain to your students that you will read out a passage of a contemporary fiction novel. Give them a few more information about the story that is then followed by the text. (chose option 1 or option 2)

Option 1

Three teenage boys were on a hiking trip in the Peak District when they were surprised by a storm. They were able to find shelter in a nearby farm. As their phones had no reception, they were not able to contact their parents to let them know that they were safe. Returning was also not a possibility as the roads were flooded. A police search began and luckily the boys were located.

Option 2

At the farm the three boys were looked after by a man called Marty. He has only met a few people of the village Rockshore and is looking for the owner of the corner shop called Tilly.

Now read out the text below **once** and ask your students to write down all the nouns they can hear.

Read out the passage a **second time** and ask them to note down all the verbs they can hear.

Finally read out the text a **third time** and this time your students should pay attention to the adjectives. It might be advisable to explain the difference between adjectives and adverbs at this point. For a lower level of class, point out that there are 4 adjectives in the passage.

As a **final task** put the students in pairs or groups and let them reconstruct the passage with the help of the nouns, verbs and adjectives they had written down.

Adjectives vs Adverbs

An adjective is a word that modifies a noun or a pronoun (he, him, his....). It provides more information about the noun/ pronoun.

*He wears a **yellow** coat. She looks at the **pretty** tree.*

An adverb is a word that modifies a verb, an adjective, a clause. Often answers questions such as When?, Where?, How?, Why?

*Today it rained **heavily**. She sang **quietly**.*

Option 1 – B1 level

Theresa Harding returned to the lounge and repeated what DS Campbell just told her. "You were right Mr Lewis and Mr Jones. The three boys were so far gone on their hike when the storm surprised them that returning was not an option and they did make their way to Clifton House. There was a man there who looked after the farm and once the boys turned up he looked after them and made sure they were safe from the storm. I don't know any more yet, but I am sure we will hear of them shortly. DS Campbell, who is with them at this moment also told me that the storm eased off and it is just raining now, not even heavily. Good chances some of the roads will be passable soon to collect your children.

source: SEDIMENT by Andrea Napier

Option 2 – B2 level or higher

The bell of the corner shop chimed, and Annie looked up from her laptop where she had just started adding heart-shaped heated pillows to her range on Annie's Stitch website. She watched a man in his 50th enter the shop and walking straight to her rather than looking around at what's on offer or grabbing a basket to put things in.

"Hi, can I help you?" She smiled at the stranger.

"Excuse me, is Mrs. Tilly Walton around by any chance?"

"I am sorry, she is not. She is currently in hospital. Can I take a message?"

Somehow the strange man looked rather distressed by the news and just quietly said "No thank you, it's ok." He turned around and left, nearly bumping into Victoria who was balancing 5 boxes of cakes and bakery in her arms.

"Whoop, that was close." She said, placing the boxes on the counter. "What did Marty want?"

"Who is Marty?" Annie was lost.

"That guy who just left. He was the one who looked after our boys on the farm in the storm. I met him when we all went to the police station to give our statements. He is a really nice chap but quite a loner. Sad really." Victoria tilted her head slightly looking back to the shop door as if he would still be there. "What did he want?"

"Well that is the odd thing, he came in, obviously not wanting to buy anything and just asked straight after Tilly. In fact, he asked after Mrs Tilly Walton. When I told him that she is in hospital he seemed visibly upset and worried."

source: SEDIMENT by Andrea Napier