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Henry, the happy snowman

1 Christmas was over, and Sue and Ben Taylor were still waiting for snow. They wanted to try out the new sledges¹⁾
2 their grandma had bought them for Christmas.
3 Then one night it snowed at last,²⁾ and in the morning streets, houses and trees were covered with wonderful white
4 snow.
5 When Sue woke up and looked out of the window, she was very excited. 'Ben', she shouted. 'Wake up. There is
6 snow everywhere. Quick, get up, and let's go outside.'
7 After breakfast they put on their anoraks, warm scarves, caps and Wellingtons³⁾, took their sledges and ran outside.
8 Ben's friend Tom and his little sister Mandy were outside, too. They started rolling big snowballs for a snowman.
9 'Hey', Ben shouted. 'We want to try⁴⁾ our new sledges. Are you coming?'
10 'Sure,' Tom answered. 'But first we want to finish this snowman. You can help us.'
11 Ben helped Tom with two big snowballs. They put the snowballs on top of one another. Sue and Mandy rolled a
12 smaller snowball that they put on top of the big snowball. That was the head.
13 'We must make him a nice face', Sue said. 'Yes,' Mandy said, 'and we must put a real hat on his head, too.'
14 Tom ran into the house and fetched a carrot for the nose and some nuts for the mouth. Two stones from the garden
15 were the eyes. Sue found her father's old hat in the garage, and Mandy fetched one of her scarves and put it
16 around the snowman's neck. Now the snowman looked really nice, and the
17 children were happy.
18 Suddenly the snowman began to talk. 'Hello, thank you for making me. I'm a
19 very nice snowman. By the way, my name is Henry. I'd like to be your friend.'
20 Then the snowman began to jump up and down in the garden.
21 First the children were shocked, and Mandy nearly started to cry because she
22 was a bit frightened⁵⁾. But then they all jumped with Henry up and down in the
23 garden.
24 The children fetched their sledges and went down the hill at the end of their
25 street. Henry also slid⁶⁾ down the hill, and they all had a great time.
26 In the evening, Henry stayed in the garden. On the following days Sue, Ben,
27 Mandy, and Tom played with him or took him to the hill at the end of their street
28 where the children went down on their sledges.
29 There were a lot of children now because they all wanted to see Henry. He took
30 some of the smaller children on his back and slid down the hill with them. Then Henry jumped up and down and
31 shouted, 'Oh, I'm so happy. Let's slide again.' Then he jumped up the hill and slid downhill again with more
32 children on his back.
33 Then one afternoon it started to snow again. Suddenly the snowfall was so heavy⁷⁾ that the children had problems
34 seeing where the sledges were taking them.
35 'Let's go home', Sue said to Ben and Henry. But they enjoyed the snow so much that they didn't want to go home.
36 'I want to slide downhill one more time', Henry said. And Ben said, 'Yes, and I want to go downhill one more time,
37 too.'
38 Henry slid downhill and soon Sue and Ben could not see him anymore. Then Ben sat on his sledge and started his
39 trip downhill. He couldn't see where he was going. Suddenly he crashed into some deep snow and fell off his
40 sledge. Somebody cried out, 'Ouch, my belly⁸⁾'. When Ben stood up and looked for his sledge he saw Henry. Henry
41 was on his back, and there was a big hole⁹⁾ in his belly. 'You crashed into me, Ben', he said, 'and now there is a big
42 hole in my belly.' 'Oh no', Ben cried. 'I'm so sorry, Henry.' He called for Sue, Tom, and Mandy. When they arrived
43 they carefully lifted Henry on one of the sledges. They pulled him uphill, and it took them a long time because
44 Henry was so heavy.
45 Back in the Taylor's garden the children filled the hole in Henry's belly with snow. When Henry looked like a real
46 snowman again he said, 'Thank you, children. Now I need a rest.' The children left Henry in the garden, but the
47 following day he was gone.
48 The children looked for him everywhere, behind the trees and in the
49 street, but Henry was not there. They were very sad and Ben cried. He
50 said, 'It is my fault¹⁰⁾. I hurt him and now he left us.' Ben was so unhappy
51 that he didn't want to eat his breakfast, and he didn't want to play with
52 the others.
53 When Mrs Taylor opened the postbox later that morning she found a
54 note. It was from Henry.
55 First the children were a little sad. But then they understood that Henry
56 wanted to make some more children happy that winter. And Ben was
57 happy that Henry was still his friend.



Hello children,

My belly is okay again. It wasn't Ben's fault that he crashed into me. The snowfall was so heavy. Thank you for a wonderful time. But now I must leave. I must visit some more children before the end of winter.

Next year I will see you again.

Love, Henry

- 1) sledge – Schlitten
2) at last – endlich
3) Wellingtons – Gummistiefel
4) to try – ausprobieren, testen
5) to be frightened – ängstlich sein

- 6) to slide / slid – rutschen
7) heavy – hier: stark, heftig
8) belly – Bauch
9) hole – Loch
10) fault – Schuld, Fehler

Let's check

In den folgenden Übungen kannst du zeigen, wie gut du den Text verstanden hast. Während der Bearbeitung der einzelnen Aufgaben solltest du deine Lösungen immer mit dem Text vergleichen.

1. Matching sentences

Match the parts of the sentences correctly, then match the numbers with the letters in the small list below.

1	When it began to snow, Ben and Sue	a	he could slide downhill with all the children.
2	But first they helped their friends	b	crashed into Henry.
3	When the snowman was ready,	c	Henry was gone.
4	His name was Henry and	d	Henry was very tired.
5	They all had a great time when	e	he wanted to visit other children, too.
6	Henry was always very happy when	f	it was his fault.
7	One afternoon there	g	in Henry's belly.
8	Henry and Ben	h	Tom and Mandy to build a snowman.
9	But then Ben	i	wanted to slide down the hill one more time.
10	There was a big hole	j	they slid down the hill at the end of their street.
11	After they had filled the hole with snow,	k	a note from Henry in the postbox.
12	The next morning	l	he began to talk and to jump.
13	Ben thought that	m	wanted to try their new sledges.
14	Then Mrs Taylor found	n	he wanted to be the children's friend.
15	Henry had left because	o	was heavy snowfall.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15

Now write the sentences into your exercise book. You will get a summary of the text.

2. Questions on the text

Lies jede Frage zunächst genau und überlege, wonach gefragt wird. Finde im Text die Textstelle, die dir die Antwort auf die Frage gibt, und unterstreiche sie. Schreibe vollständige Antworten im Simple Past.

- What did Sue and Ben get from their grandma for Christmas?
They got new sledges from their grandma.
- What did the children fetch for the snowman's face?

- What did the snowman suddenly do?

- Why did Mandy nearly start to cry?

- Why didn't Ben and Henry want to go home when the heavy snowfall started?

- Why did Ben crash into Henry?

- What was wrong with Henry?

- Why were the children sad the following morning?

- What did Mrs Taylor find in the postbox?

- Who did Henry want to visit before the end of winter?

Let's check

3. What is wrong in the following sentences?

Vergleiche die folgenden Sätze mit dem Text. Manchmal ist mehr als ein Wort falsch.

- When Sue looked out of the window and saw the snow, she was very sad. excited
- After lunch the children put on their anoraks, scarves, hats and Wellingtons. _____
- Tom fetched a cucumber for the nose and stones for the mouth. _____
- The snowman jumped up and down in the street. _____
- The children fetched their skateboards and went down the hill. _____
- Henry put the bigger children on his belly and slid downhill with them. _____
- One afternoon it started to rain again. _____
- 'You crashed into me, Tom, and now there is a big hole in my head.' _____
- Mrs Taylor filled the hole in Henry's back with stones. _____
- Henry left the children because he wanted to visit his parents. _____

4. Put the pictures and the sentences in the right order.

Schneide die Bilder und die Sätze aus und klebe sie in der richtigen Reihenfolge in dein Heft.



a) Then Ben crashed into Henry in the heavy snowfall.

b) Henry and the children enjoyed sliding down a hill.

c) The children filled the hole in Henry's belly with snow again.

d) In a note Henry wrote that he wanted to visit other children, too.

e) The following morning Henry was gone.

f) After Christmas Ben, Sue and their friends made a snowman.

g) Suddenly, Henry the snowman began to talk and jump.

h) Henry took the smaller children on his back.

The Aboriginal people of Australia

1 The word *Aborigine* comes from the Latin
2 words *ab origine*. It means *the first or the*
3 *earliest known*. It describes the native people
4 who have always lived there. The word
5 *Aborigines** was first used in 1770 by the
6 first Europeans who settled¹⁾ in Australia.
7 It is not quite clear where the first Aboriginals
8 came from, but scientists²⁾ believe that they
9 had come from Indonesia during the ice age
10 about 40,000 to 60,000 years ago. At that



11 time it was still possible to reach Australia on foot or by boat. Australia was joined to New Guinea, and the
12 other Indonesian islands were larger than today, and the sea passages to Australia were smaller.
13 The Aboriginals mostly settled on the east coast of Australia because of the better climate. Some tribes³⁾ also
14 settled in central Australia. They lived in harmony with nature and had no contact to the rest of the world. So
15 they could not learn about new techniques, and they didn't trade goods⁴⁾.

16 There were 500 to 700 people in a tribe, but they usually lived in smaller
17 groups of 20 to 50 people. Most of them were nomads, hunters,
18 fishermen and gatherers⁵⁾. They invented the returning boomerang that
19 they used for hunting and the didgeridoo, the famous musical instrument
20 made of wood.

21 When the European settlers arrived in Australia in 1770, between
22 300,000 to 1,000,000 Aboriginal people lived there. Today there are only
23 about 550,000 Aboriginal people. The overall population of Australia is
24 23 million people.

25 The first Europeans didn't understand the Aboriginal culture and felt
26 superior⁶⁾. They thought it would be necessary to teach those "*savages*"⁷⁾
27 the superior British culture. They did inhuman and sadistic things to them.
28 First they took away their land. They called it *terra nullius*, which means
29 it didn't belong to anyone.

30 Then they discriminated and even enslaved⁸⁾ the Aboriginals. And when
31 they were too old to work or became sick, their British masters didn't keep
32 them but sent them away.

33 Aboriginals who were free were not allowed to vote⁹⁾ in general
34 elections¹⁰⁾ until the early 20th century, and most of them could not read or write.

35 A terrible thing that the Europeans did to the Aboriginal people of Australia became known as the so-called
36 *lost generation*.

37 Aboriginal children were taken away from their parents and put in foster homes¹¹⁾ or special children's homes
38 where they were taught British culture and lifestyle. With this method the British wanted to breed out¹²⁾
39 Aboriginal genes. This system finally finished in the 1970s. As a consequence many Aboriginal people
40 living in Australia today don't know anything about their true families. Yet the Aboriginal culture which is over
41 40,000 years old is still alive although the British tried everything to destroy it.

42 The Aboriginals were given their civil rights¹³⁾ in 1967. From then on they were allowed to live wherever they
43 wanted to. They still belong to the poorest part of the Australian population¹⁴⁾. The 20% unemployment
44 rate¹⁵⁾ is nearly three times higher than the unemployment rate of the average¹⁶⁾ population. Their education
45 still isn't as good as that of other Australians, and they have fewer chances to well-paid careers. The crime
46 rate is extremely high. Twenty per cent of all prisoners in Australian prisons are Aboriginal people.

47 In today's multicultural Australia where people with different cultural backgrounds from all over the world live,
48 it's still difficult for the Aboriginals to find their place. But their special way of life and their cultural
49 heritage¹⁷⁾ make people feel interested in the fifth continent and visit Australia.



* Inzwischen gilt das Wort „Aborigine“ im Englischen als abwertend und wird durch „Aboriginal“ ersetzt. Im Deutschen wird weiterhin der Begriff „Aborigine“ verwendet.

1) to settle – ansiedeln
2) scientist – Wissenschaftler
3) tribe – Volksstamm

4) to trade goods – mit Waren handeln
5) gatherer – Sammler
6) superior – überlegen
7) savage – Wilder
8) to enslave – versklaven
9) to vote – wählen
10) election – Wahl
11) foster home – Pflegefamilie

12) to breed out – herauszüchten
13) civil rights – Bürgerrechte
14) population – Bevölkerung
15) unemployment rate – Arbeitslosenrate
16) average – Durchschnitts-
17) heritage – Erbe

Let's check

4. Explain in German.

Your little cousin is interested in the Aborigines but he doesn't understand English. Explain to him in German.

- a) Was bedeutet eigentlich Aborigine? _____

- b) Woher kamen die Aborigines? _____

- c) Wie haben die Aborigines früher gelebt? _____

- d) Warum haben die europäischen Siedler die Aborigines zu ihren Sklaven gemacht? _____

- e) Warum wurden viele Aborigine-Kinder ihren Familien weggenommen? _____

- f) Warum sind viele Aborigines heute arm oder arbeitslos? _____

5. Find titles for the parts of the text.

Ordne die folgenden Überschriften den verschiedenen inhaltlichen Abschnitten des Textes zu und gib die jeweiligen Textzeilen an!

The lost generation – Early Aboriginal life in Australia – Aboriginal life in the 20th and 21st century –
Where does the name Aborigine come from? – The European settlers feel superior

- Line 1 to ____ : _____
- Line ____ to ____ : _____
- Line ____ to ____ : _____
- Line ____ to ____ : _____
- Line ____ to ____ : _____

German Reunification¹⁾

1 When the Second World War finally ended in 1945, the Allies²⁾ (USA, the
2 Soviet Union, Britain, and France) divided³⁾ Germany and its capital Berlin
3 into four occupation zones⁴⁾.

4 In 1949, the British, American, and French zones became the Federal
5 Republic of Germany⁵⁾ (West Germany), while the Soviet zone became the
6 German Democratic Republic⁶⁾ (East Germany). East Berlin became the
7 capital of the GDR, and West Berlin remained part of West Germany. If
8 people wanted to visit or leave the city, they had to travel on transit roads
9 through Eastern German territory. The new capital of West Germany
10 became Bonn, a small and quiet town on the river Rhine.

11 Both German states developed⁷⁾ in different ways. The economy⁸⁾ grew⁹⁾ in
12 the west. Within ten years the people had not only built new factories and
13 created many new jobs but also lived in wealth¹⁰⁾. They built houses, bought
14 cars, and enjoyed travelling to foreign countries such as Italy, Spain and
15 Portugal.

16 The German Democratic Republic was a socialist state and was politically dependent upon¹¹⁾ the Soviet Union. The
17 government organized the industrial production rates, the people did not have much private property, and there was
18 not a lot they could buy in shops or at the markets. Although the GDR had the highest standard of living in the
19 Eastern Bloc countries, about 2.7 million people escaped¹²⁾ to the Federal Republic of Germany during the 1950s
20 because they couldn't cope with the economic problems there.

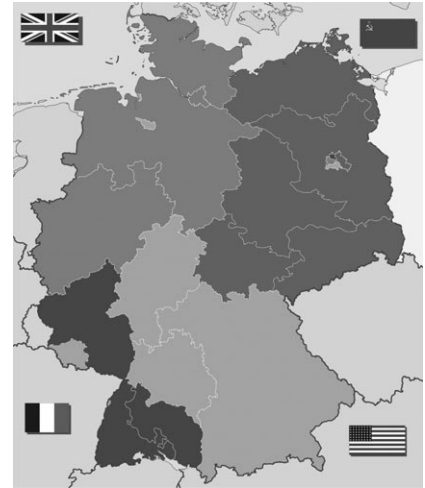
21 In order to stop so many people from escaping from their country the Berlin Wall was built in 1961. Frontier
22 barriers¹³⁾ were constructed along the inter-German border which was controlled by soldiers on watch towers. It was
23 one of the best guarded borders in the world. People who tried illegal migration to West Berlin or West Germany
24 were often shot on the spot¹⁴⁾. The people of East Germany were imprisoned¹⁵⁾ by their own government. If East
25 Germans wanted to travel to other countries, they could only visit other socialist or communist states such as
26 Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Bulgaria, or the Soviet Union.

27 In 1989 East Germans started to demonstrate against their government, beginning in the city of Leipzig. The
28 demonstrations usually took place on a Monday, so they were known as the Monday demonstrations. Every
29 Monday the number of demonstrators grew bigger. They carried banners and posters saying **We are the people**
30 and demanding better living and travel conditions. In October 1989 the leader of the GDR, Erich Honecker,
31 resigned,¹⁶⁾ and Egon Krenz took over. Krenz promised democratic reforms and new regulations for trips to the
32 West, but he also wanted to save the socialist regime.

33 On November 9, the government decided to allow East Germans to go to West Germany without an official
34 permission. This was to begin in the afternoon of November 10. But the government spokesman was not well
35 informed. At a press conference on the evening of November 9, he said that
36 trips to West Germany were possible from that very moment on. At once
37 thousands of East Germans went to the crossing points in East Berlin and
38 made the officials open the barriers. Then they crossed into West Berlin for
39 the first time.

40 People from both parts of the city even started to destroy part of the Wall
41 that same night. It was a non-violent¹⁷⁾ revolution, and neither the East
42 German government nor the reformist leader of the Soviet Union, Mikhail
43 Gorbachev, tried to stop the people from reuniting.

44 On October 3, 1990 both German states reunited officially. There are now
45 sixteen federal states with Berlin as capital.



1) reunification – Wiedervereinigung

2) Allies – Verbündete

3) to divide – (auf)teilen

4) occupation zone – Besatzungszone

5) Federal Republic of Germany – Bundesrepublik Deutschland

6) German Democratic Republic – Deutsche Demokratische Republik

7) to develop – entwickeln

8) economy – Wirtschaft

9) to grow/grew – wachsen

10) wealth – Wohlstand

11) to be dependent upon – abhängig sein von

12) to escape – flüchten

13) frontier barrier – Grenzabsperre

14) on the spot – sofort, auf der Stelle

15) to be imprisoned – gefangen sein

16) to resign – zurücktreten

17) non-violent – gewaltlos

Let's check

2. Finish the sentences.

Read the text again and find meaningful endings.

- a) After the Second World War, the Allies _____
- b) The three western zones _____
and the Soviet zone _____
- c) The people in the Federal Republic _____
- d) The German Democratic Republic _____
- e) The Berlin Wall was built because _____
- f) If East Germans tried to escape to West Germany, _____
- g) On the Monday demonstrations in 1989 _____
- h) Because of a mistake made by a government spokesman on November 9, 1989 _____
- i) Because it was a non-violent revolution _____

3. Find an expression in the text for

- a) the most important city of a country: _____
- b) a state whose politicians are elected by the people is a _____ state
- c) the things that a person owns: _____
- d) getting away from a place where you are not allowed to leave: _____
- e) border: _____
- f) putting somebody into jail: _____
- g) a person who takes part in a public meeting to protest against something: _____
- h) having enough money to buy things to make life comfortable: _____
- i) at once: _____
- j) passing from one side to the other: _____

4. Can you get it right?

In the following sentences there are some mistakes. Underline them and correct them.

- a) When people of the Federal Republic of Germany wanted to travel to Berlin, they could only travel by plane. _____
- b) West Berlin became the capital of the Federal Republic in 1945. _____
- c) The East Germans could not buy a lot of things on the Internet or from catalogues. _____
- d) Millions of West Germans escaped from the GDR because of industrial problems. _____
- e) The inter-German border was one of the best guarded borders in Germany and controlled by soldiers on the Berlin Wall. _____
- f) East Germans were only allowed to travel to social countries. _____
- g) Because of a mistake made by an East German government spokesman, thousands of East Germans crossed into West Berlin in 1990. _____
- h) The East German government tried to stop the people from crossing into the west because it was a violent revolution. _____

Nr. 4

- Aborigine bedeutet der erste oder früheste Mensch, der in Australien bekannt war.
- Die Aborigines kamen ursprünglich vermutlich während der Eiszeit aus Indonesien. Das liegt etwa 40 000 bis 60 000 Jahre zurück.
- Sie lebten in Harmonie mit der Natur und hatten keinen Kontakt zu anderen Völkern. Sie lebten in Stämmen mit bis zu 700 Menschen, die sich wiederum in kleinere Gruppen mit bis zu 50 Menschen unterteilten. Sie waren Nomaden, Jäger, Fischer und Sammler.
- Sie dachten, dass sie den Aborigines überlegen seien und bezeichneten sie als Wilde. Deshalb nahmen sie sich das Recht, sie zu versklaven.
- Man wollte den Kindern die britische Kultur beibringen und das genetische Erbe der Aborigines „herauszüchten“.
- Die Aborigines sind immer noch schlechter gebildet als andere Australier und haben deshalb weniger Chancen auf gut bezahlte Berufe.

Nr. 5

- Line 1–6: Where does the name Aborigine come from?
- Line 7–20: Early Aboriginal life in Australia
- Line 21–34: The European settlers feel superior
- Line 35–41: The lost generation
- Line 42–49: Aboriginal life in the 20th and 21st century

German Reunification

Nr. 1

1b, c; 2c; 3a, c; 4b; 5a; 6a, b, c; 7b, c; 8a, b; 9c

Nr. 2

Musterlösung:

- ... divided Germany and Berlin into four occupation zones.
- ... became the Federal Republic of Germany ... became the Democratic Republic of Germany.
- ... lived in wealth, built houses, bought cars and travelled to foreign countries.
- ... was a socialist state and politically dependent upon the Soviet Union.
- ... millions of East Germans had escaped to the Federal Republic during the 1950s.
- ... they were shot on the spot.
- ... Eastern Germans demanded better living and travel conditions.

- ... thousands of East Germans went to the crossing points in East Berlin and crossed into West Berlin for the first time.
- ... neither the East German government nor the Soviet Union tried to stop the people from reuniting.

Nr. 3

- capital; b) democratic; c) property; d) to escape; e) frontier; f) to imprison; g) demonstrator; h) wealth; i) on the spot; j) to cross

Nr. 4

- could only travel by plane = they could travel on transit roads
- West Berlin = Bonn, 1945 = 1949
- on the Internet = in shops; from catalogues = on the markets
- West Germans = East Germans; industrial = economical
- in Germany = in the world; the Berlin Wall = watch towers
- social = socialist
- 1990 = 1989
- tried = didn't try; violent = non-violent

Nr. 5

Musterlösung:

- Nach der Gründung der beiden deutschen Staaten 1949 wurde Ost-Berlin Hauptstadt der DDR und Bonn Hauptstadt der BRD. West-Berlin gehörte zur BRD.
- Die Menschen in der BRD lebten im Wohlstand, weil die Wirtschaft wuchs. Sie bauten Häuser, kauften Autos und verreisten. Die DDR war ein sozialistischer Staat, der von der Sowjetunion abhängig war. Die Menschen hatten nicht viel Privateigentum und es gab nicht viel zu kaufen.
- Die Mauer und die Grenzanlagen sollten verhindern, dass immer mehr DDR-Bürger in die BRD flüchten konnten.
- Es gab Wachtürme und Grenzsoldaten. Flüchtlinge wurden oft sofort erschossen.
- Die Montagsdemonstranten wollten bessere Lebens- und Reisebedingungen. Sie trugen Banner mit der Aufschrift „Wir sind das Volk“.
- Der Regierungssprecher sagte am Abend des 9. November, dass die Grenzen ab sofort geöffnet seien, anstatt erst ab dem Nachmittag des 10. November. Daher verlangten die Menschen die sofortige Öffnung der Grenzen, um nach West-Berlin zu kommen.