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- ▶ Das Hörbuch zur Lektüre und die Tracks zu den Übungen stehen als kostenloser MP3-Download bereit unter:

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SNOWDONIA



A dragon sleeps here

‘I see Snowdon!’ says Parker. ‘That mountain – it’s Snowdon!’

Parker is with his family. They’re driving in Snowdonia, a national park in Wales. It’s a warm, sunny day in April. They are going to be in Snowdonia for three days.

‘Oh yes! I see it too!’ says his sister, Olivia. Parker is fourteen and Olivia is sixteen. ‘Snowdon is 1085 metres tall.’ Olivia is reading from a book, *Walking in Snowdonia National Park*.

‘We’ll be at Dinas Emrys in five minutes,’ says their father, Frank. Frank is looking at a map of the national park.

‘Good,’ says their mother, Chris. She’s driving. ‘We can have lunch there.’

Parker’s parents are archaeologists. Dinas Emrys is an ancient fort. Chris and Frank are going to work there.

‘There’s the car park,’ says Frank.

Soon, the family are walking on the path to the fort. They all have their lunches in their backpacks. The path goes up ancient stone steps and through a big forest.

‘There’s a story in my book about this place, about Dinas Emrys,’ says Parker. He takes a small book out of his backpack. ‘The story is about Merlin, King Arthur’s wizard. I love stories about Merlin and King Arthur. And I love stories about magic and dragons.’

‘We know that!’ says his mother.

Parker tells Olivia, 'Emrys is Merlin's other name.'

Frank says, 'And Dinas means fort.'

Olivia says, 'So, Dinas Emrys is ... the fort of Merlin!'

'It's good to be here,' says Parker. He looks up at Snowdon. 'Merlin's asleep up there. I know he is.'

'That's what the old stories say,' says his father.

They walk across a small bridge. There are two paths ahead of them.

'Where do we go now?' Chris asks.

Olivia looks at a map in her book. 'That way.'

They walk for thirty minutes. The path goes up a hill. They climb over a stone wall.

'We're here!' says Chris.

'Where's the fort?' asks Parker.

'This is it,' Frank answers. 'Look at these stones. Mum and I are going to photograph these ancient walls and stones.'

The family walk over and look at the ancient stones. They sit and eat their lunch.

'Wow, look at the view!' says Parker. 'It's a great place for a fort.'

They are at the top of a large hill. They can see mountains, fields, forests and a big lake.

Chris says, 'We're here! At Vortigern's fort.' She looks at Frank and smiles.

'Who is Vortigern?' Olivia asks.

'Ah! I know who he is,' says Parker. 'Vortigern is in my book. He's the king. At the start of the story, King Vortigern builds a fort. But the walls of his fort fall down every night. Vortigern must stop the walls from falling down. He asks his wizard for help. A lot of people are looking at the

Goodbye for now

Parker goes back to Olivia.

‘It’s going to be okay, Olivia,’ he says to his sister. ‘We can see the path to the Visitors Centre now.’

‘Great!’ she says. ‘Snow melts fast here.’

‘Ah! You have to thank Merlin. He’s listening. Merlin likes to help people. He sends his dragon – the red dragon of Wales. It can melt snow with its hot flames!’

‘Oh, Parker – you and your dragons. There are no such things as dragons.’

‘Oh yes, there are. But come on, we must get to the building. It’s freezing out here.’

He picks up both backpacks. He puts on his backpack and carries Olivia’s.

He helps Olivia to stand up and says, ‘We won’t go fast. The ground is still icy.’

Soon, they get to the Visitors Centre.

‘We must get inside,’ Olivia says. ‘It’s so cold.’

‘And maybe there’s a phone inside,’ Parker says.

He tries to open the doors and the windows but he can’t. He looks at Olivia. She looks very tired and ill.

‘Wait here,’ Parker says. He goes back to the path and picks up a large rock.

‘What are you going to do?’ asks Olivia.

‘I’m going to break a window.’

‘Parker. You can’t!’

‘We have to get inside, Olivia.’ He breaks a window with the rock. ‘Wait here.’



Parker goes through the window. Then he comes and opens the door for Olivia.

‘There’s a phone!’ Parker says. He calls his father.

‘Hello?’ It’s Chris, not Frank.

‘Mum? Mum! Don’t worry, Olivia and I are okay.’

Chris says, ‘That’s nice. Thanks for phoning, Parker. Things are good here too. Your father is taking a photograph of –’

‘Mum! I’m calling to say that we’re safe! The snow storm is not too bad now –’

‘Snow storm? It’s fine here at Dinas Emrys,’ says Chris. ‘Oh – yes, I can see the dark clouds up there on the mountain now. Huh.’

‘Mum – Olivia’s hurt. It’s her foot. She can’t walk. We can’t get down from here,’ Parker says. ‘Can you please give the phone to Dad?’

‘Parker, is that you? It’s Dad. Tell me what’s wrong.’

Soon, Olivia and Parker are sitting on a couch in the Visitors Centre. They are eating their sandwiches. They know that help is coming. It’s snowing outside but they’re warm and safe.

‘Tell me again about Merlin and the dragons at Dinas Emrys,’ Olivia asks her brother.

Then they see a bright red light in the sky.

‘Is that lightning?’ says Olivia.

Parker goes to the window. ‘No! It’s Merlin’s dragon!’

His sister smiles and says, ‘Oh, Parker!’

Parker calls out, ‘I’m going to come back one day! Thank you! Goodbye!’

Activities

Chapter 1

Before you read

A. Look at the map on pages 4 and 5. Circle the correct answers.

- Where is the youth hostel?
a. on a mountain b. near a lake c. beside a railway line
- From the youth hostel, where does the path go?
a. to Snowdon b. to Y Lliwedd c. to the lake called Llydaw

B. Find these words in your dictionary. Use them in the sentences.

ancient dragon map fort

- On the hill there is an old _____ with high walls.
- This town is _____. It's 2000 years old!
- Where are we? Let's look at the _____.
- I'm reading a story about a _____. It can fly, and fire comes from its mouth!

C. Listen to Track 3 and answer these questions.

- Where is Snowdonia National Park?
a. in Scotland b. in Wales
- How long will Parker's family be in Snowdonia?
a. for three days b. for fourteen days
- How tall is Snowdon?
a. 1085 metres b. 1850 metres

After you read

COMPREHENSION

A. Circle the correct answers.

- Frank and Chris both have the same job. What are they?
a. teachers b. archaeologists c. writers
- What are Frank and Chris going to do in Snowdonia?
a. climb a mountain b. visit friends c. work at a fort
- What is Dinas Emrys?
a. a village b. an ancient fort c. a mountain
- Where does the path to Dinas Emrys go?
a. through a forest b. beside a lake c. across a field

Glossary

adj. adjective; *adv.* adverb; *n.* noun; *pron.* pronoun; *v.* verb

ahead of /ə'hed əv/ <i>adv.</i>	vor
already /ɔ:l'redi/ <i>adv.</i>	schon
ancient /'eɪnf(ə)nt/ <i>adj.</i>	sehr alt, historisch
anything /'eni,θɪŋ/ <i>pron.</i>	etwas; alles
archaeologist /,ɑ:ki'plədʒɪst/ <i>n.</i>	Archäologe, -in
back /bæk/ <i>adv.</i>	zurück
backpack /'bæk,pæk/ <i>n.</i>	Rucksack
beard /biəd/ <i>n.</i>	Bart
break /breɪk/ <i>v.</i>	brechen
car park /'kɑ: ,pɑ:k/ <i>n.</i>	Parkplatz
careful /'keəfl/ <i>adj.</i>	vorsichtig
cave /keɪv/ <i>n.</i>	Höhle
change /tʃeɪndʒ/ <i>v.</i>	sich ändern
circle /'sɜ:kl/ <i>n.</i>	Kreis
curry /'kʌri/ <i>n.</i>	Currygericht
dig /dɪg/ <i>v.</i>	graben
dragon /'dræɡən/ <i>n.</i>	Drache
fight /faɪt/ <i>v.</i>	kämpfen
flame /fleɪm/ <i>n.</i>	Flamme
forecast /'fɔ:kɑ:st/ <i>n.</i>	Vorhersage
fort /fɔ:t/ <i>n.</i>	Festung
freeze /fri:z/ <i>v.</i>	gefrieren; erfrieren
gate /geɪt/ <i>n.</i>	Gatter, Tor
help /help/ <i>n.</i>	Hilfe
hill /hɪl/ <i>n.</i>	Hügel
icy /'aɪsi/ <i>adj.</i>	vereist
jumper /'dʒʌmpə/ <i>n.</i>	Pullover
kill /kɪl/ <i>v.</i>	töten
knight /naɪt/ <i>n.</i>	Ritter
long /lɒŋ/ <i>adj.</i>	lang