

Before Reading

BEFORE READING ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY 1 BEFORE READING

1 N 2 N 3 N 4 Y 5 Y 6 N 7 Y

ACTIVITY 2 BEFORE READING

Encourage speculation and discussion of the different possibilities, but do not tell students the answers. They will find out as they read that the answers are:

- 1 One of the friends will *fall in love*.
- 2 Carruthers and Davies will uncover a plot to *invade Britain*.
- 3 Carruthers and Davies will *capture a spy* and *warn the British government*.

While Reading

CHAPTERS 1 TO 3 WHILE READING

- 1 Because he was alone in London, feeling bored and depressed, and he had nowhere to go for his holidays.
- 2 Davies was bothered by the fact that Carruthers had arrived with an enormous pile of luggage. Carruthers was worried because Davies didn't look like the smart yachtsman he expected, and because he discovered that Davies had no men working on the *Dulcibella*.
- 3 He thought the *Dulcibella* was small, smelly and uncomfortable, and it was easy to hurt yourself on the low ceiling and sharp edges of the centreboard.
- 4 He realized that Davies was brave, honest, calm, and sincere, as well as a good cook and an excellent sailor.
- 5 He found that a page had been torn out of the logbook, and the entries for the 13th to the 15th of September had all been written at the same time.
- 6 He thought that the good weather was over, and they had found a beautiful place to sail, with ducks to shoot. He also thought that the voyage back to the North Sea would be long and dangerous.
- 7 Bartels thought that Davies took too many risks, and he was worried about him taking his little boat into the North Sea in October.
- 8 Davies couldn't follow the *Medusa*, because it had gone out of sight, but he couldn't turn round and go back either. He couldn't see where the safe channels were, and at the same time a very strong wind was pushing him towards the sandbank.

- 9 When Dollmann spoke to him for the last time, he spoke in English, with no German accent at all.
- 10 In wartime, small German gunboats would be able to sail out from this coast and attack British ships. Then they could return to safety through the channels, where British ships could not follow them.

BEFORE READING CHAPTER 4

Encourage students to speculate and make guesses, but do not tell them the answer. They will find out as they read that the answer is number 2.

CHAPTERS 4 TO 6 WHILE READING

- 1 An official at Brunsbüttel, to Carruthers. He is talking about Clara Dollmann, who had asked about the *Dulcibella* two days earlier.
- 2 Davies to Carruthers, about the area of sandbanks they are exploring between the Scharhörn and Cuxhaven.
- 3 Davies to Carruthers, explaining why local people would not put out the mast light on their yacht.
- 4 Carruthers to Davies, about the meeting they are soon to have with Commander von Brüning.
- 5 Davies to von Brüning, about Dollmann leaving him near the Hohenhörn.
- 6 Von Brüning to Carruthers, about Davies' calm response to frightening situations, in particular the incident near the Hohenhörn.
- 7 Von Brüning to Carruthers and Davies, about the search for the wreck of the *Corinne*, near Juist.
- 8 Von Brüning to Carruthers, about Davies' feelings for Clara, and the possible danger of becoming involved with the Dollmann family.
- 9 Davies to Carruthers, about his feelings for Clara.
- 10 Davies to Carruthers, about his certainty that Clara knows nothing about her father's activities.
- 11 Carruthers to Clara, about Davies and how Clara can rely on him to do as she asks and not visit the Dollmann house.
- 12 Davies to Carruthers, about Dollmann's probable reason for wanting to get rid of Davies.

BEFORE READING CHAPTER 7

Encourage students to speculate and make guesses, but do not tell them the answers. They will find out as they read that the answers are numbers 1 and 5.

CHAPTERS 7 TO 9 WHILE READING

Outside the office on *Memmert*, I listened to the four men discussing a report. After *Dollmann* and *Grimm* left, *von Brüning* and *Böhme* then talked secretly about a plan for the 25th. Later, *Davies* and I rowed back to the *Dulcibella*, where we found *von Brüning*, *Dollmann*, and *Böhme* on board, looking at our things. We had dinner with them that night at *Dollmann's* house; *Clara* and *Frau Dollmann* were also there.

Next day I left *Norderney* with *Böhme* and travelled to *Amsterdam*, where I sent a telegram to *London*. Then I went by train to *Esens*, and saw barges being built. On the night of the 25th I went to *Bensersiel* and hid on a tug. *Grimm* was steering, and *von Brüning* and *Böhme* were there too, with a third man, whom I recognized as *the Kaiser*. When I realized the trip was a rehearsal for an invasion, I took a risk. I pretended to be *Grimm*, took the helm, and steered the tug into a sandbank. In the confusion I took the tug's dinghy, rowed to *Norderney* and rejoined *Davies* on the *Dulcibella*.

BEFORE READING CHAPTER 10

Encourage students to speculate and make guesses, but do not tell them the answer. They will find out as they read that the answers are:

- 1 *Dollmann agrees to leave*, but *never reaches England*.
- 2 *Clara leaves with Carruther and Davies and goes back to England*.
- 3 *Davies takes Clara to England*.

After Reading

ACTIVITY 1 AFTER READING

- 1 This is *Grimm*, who has called out to the *Dulcibella* and is now coming on board to see what he can find out about *Davies* and *Carruthers*. He is about to discover that the yacht is not empty as he had thought, and that in the cabin *Carruthers* will try to catch him and succeed in getting hold of one of his boots.
- 2 This is *Clara Dollmann*, visiting the *Dulcibella* where *Davies* and *Carruthers* are preparing tea for her. She is about to discover that *Davies* owns a copy of a book written by her father, and will be afraid that he might recognize *Dollmann* from the photograph in the book.
- 3 This is *Carruthers*, having just arrived on the *Dulcibella*, feeling depressed and miserable about the situation he finds himself in. He is about to have a change of mood as he cheers up and decides to enjoy the holiday.

- 4 This is *Carruthers*, on board the tug on the rehearsal night voyage near *Norderney*. He has taken the helm, and is about to steer the tug into a sandbank.
- 5 This is *Dollmann*, in his house on *Norderney*, about to leave with *Davies* and *Carruthers*, who plan to take him and *Clara* back to England. *Dollmann* will never arrive there as he will jump off the *Dulcibella* in the night.
- 6 This is *von Brüning*, in the village pub at *Bensersiel*, talking to *Davies* and *Carruthers*. He is about to speak privately to *Carruthers*, to warn him that *Davies* would do better to stay away from the *Dollmanns*, father and daughter.

ACTIVITY 2 AFTER READING

Students can complete this conversation how they like. Possible answers might be:

- VON BRÜNING: Well, Herr *Dollmann*, I had a most interesting conversation in *Bensersiel* the other day with a friend of yours.
- DOLLMANN: *Oh really? Who was that?*
- VON BRÜNING: Herr *Davies* – the young Englishman from the *Dulcibella*. You look surprised, *Dollmann*.
- DOLLMANN: *Not really – it's just that I thought he was going to stay in the Baltic. I wasn't expecting to see him back here so soon.*
- VON BRÜNING: I don't think you were expecting to see him ever again! In fact, wasn't that your plan?
- DOLLMANN: *Oh nonsense! He insisted on coming with me, although the weather was dreadful. But his little boat couldn't keep up with the *Medusa*. I thought he was following me, but the weather was so bad I couldn't see him.*
- VON BRÜNING: So you left him to be smashed to pieces on the *Hohenhörn*? You fool! Don't you see how bad it looks?
- DOLLMANN: *Not really. He's still alive, isn't he? I'm sure he didn't suspect anything. Why should he?*
- VON BRÜNING: But he's still exploring round the islands – and now he's got a friend with him, a friend from the *Foreign Office*! That's a real worry. What are they up to?
- DOLLMANN: *I don't know. But don't worry, leave it to me – I'll take care of them. And I'll be more careful this time, I promise.*
- VON BRÜNING: Herr *Dollmann*, the last thing in the world I intend to do is leave you to deal with these Englishmen by yourself. From now on, you don't go near them without me.

ACTIVITY 3 AFTER READING**Open discussion, but possible answers might be:**

- 1 'So you're leaving – I wonder why? Maybe I can find out what you are up to during the journey. I'm certainly going to watch you very closely and make sure that you *are* leaving.'
- 2 'Böhme's avoided answering, and I'd better not say anything either. Let Dollmann do the talking – he doesn't know about the 25th, so he can't say anything about it.'
- 3 'I did my best to get rid of them. Advised them to take a guide and so on, but if you ask me, they're not interested in ducks at all.'
- 4 'I don't like this at all. He seems to know far too much, but how the hell could he have found it out?'
- 5 'It was your bad luck that we came back and found you all on the yacht. What was it you were looking for?'
- 6 'I don't know what Carruthers is playing at, but I think he's dangerous. What are we going to do to keep him quiet? Come on, you two, give me some help!'
- 7 'Let's see if you fall into this trap. I know you speak English – but do you know that I know? And will you be able to stop yourself from looking at my letter?'

ACTIVITY 4 AFTER READING**Open answers. Encourage discussion.****ACTIVITY 5** AFTER READING

Acceptable answers to this cloze passage are any words that have an appropriate meaning and fit the grammar of the sentence. Students might like to check each other's work and discuss alternative answers. Some alternatives are given below.

Oh dear! Perhaps inviting Carruthers wasn't *such* (really) a good idea after all. He *seems* (appears) to have a huge amount of *luggage* with him. How on earth are *we* going to get that big case *onto* (into) the *Dulcibella*? And what kind of *holiday* (trip) is he expecting? I wish I *had* given this more thought before I *wrote* to him. After all, we don't *really* know each other very well. What *if* we can't stand each other? A *small* (little) yacht is no place to be *with* somebody you dislike.

Then there's the *business* (trouble) with Dollmann. What should I tell *him* (Carruthers) about that? Perhaps I should come *out* with it straight away – but no, *better* to wait until he's got used *to* things. I suppose I could try *to* persuade him to come to the *Frisian* Islands first, and then see what *happens* when we get there. But I *don't* want to have to lie to *him* – if there's one thing I'm not *good* at, it's lying, and I'll just *make* everything worse. Well, it's too late *for* second thoughts now, I suppose – he's *here*.

ACTIVITY 6 AFTER READING

- 1 A letter from Germany
- 2 First signs of a mystery
- 3 The tale of a dangerous voyage
- 4 Exploring the sands
- 5 Talking to the commander
- 6 A visit from Clara
- 7 Listening at a window
- 8 Dining with danger
- 9 Carruthers goes exploring
- 10 Passengers for England