



ENGLISH READERS EDELVIVES



PRINCE JAKE

The Black Knight

Sue Mongredien
Mark Beech

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Illustrations
Mark Beech

before reading

- 1 The title of the story about Prince Jake is *The Black Knight*. Can you **say** the title? The word *Knight* has a silent letter *k*, and here are some more words with silent letters which appear in the story. **Say** them too.

billiards

guest

island

whoa

whole

castle

honour

salmon

Can you **think** of any more words with silent letters you know?

- 2 **Look** at the picture on the front cover of the book. **Circle** the answer you think is correct.

Prince Jake is wearing a...
tracksuit.
suit of armour.
suit.

Jake is dressed like this because...
he's going to battle.
it's Carnival time.
he's going to a fancy-dress party.

Behind Jake, King Nicholas is...
trying to ride a horse.
riding a horse.
going to battle.

- 3 Look at the title of the book again: *The Black Knight!* A knight was a medieval soldier. **Circle** the people who were also medieval characters.

herald

juggler

butler

horsewoman

jester

milkmaid

- 4 Look at the back cover of the book. **Decide** if these sentences are True (T) or False (F).

Jake is a real knight.

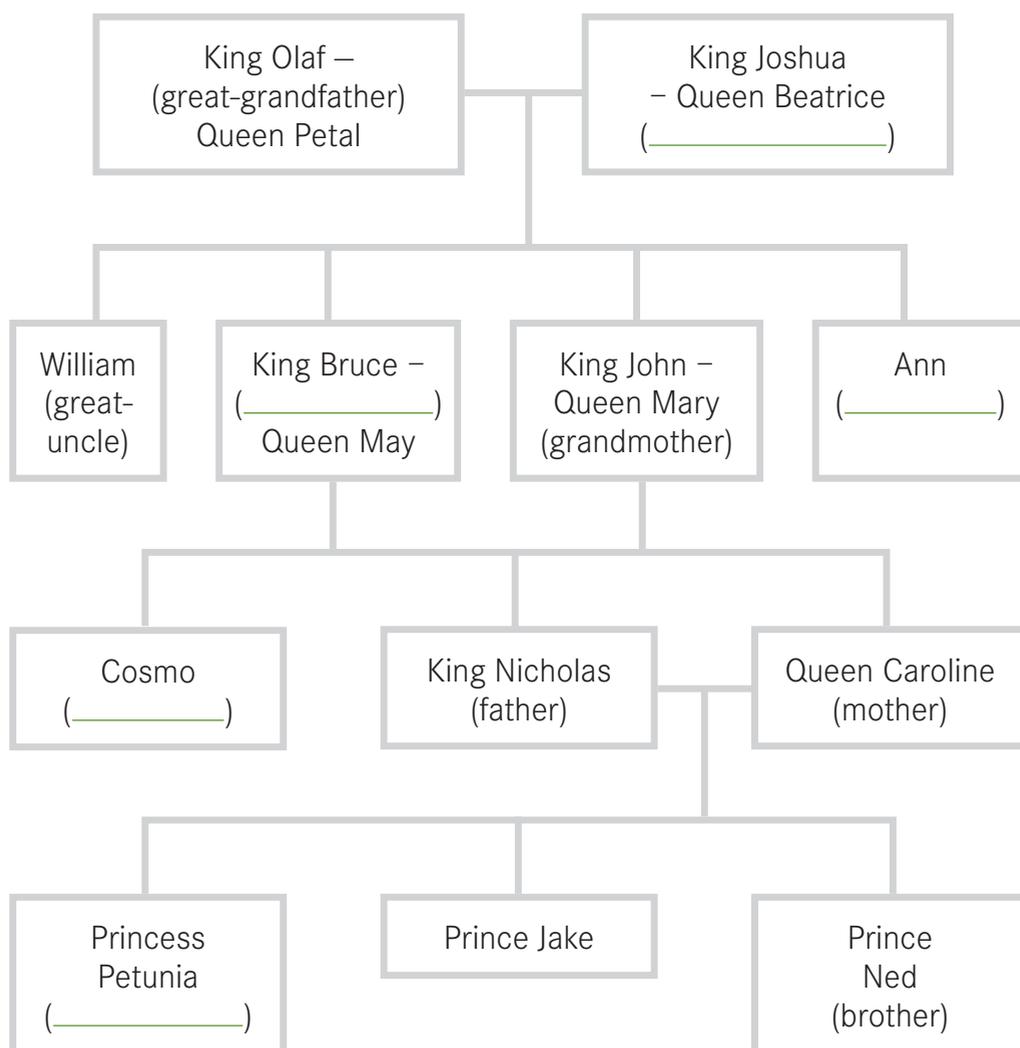
Jake has the clothes of a knight.

There is a problem at the castle.

The castle has been destroyed.

- 5 In the story King Nicholas's cousin comes to stay. Can you **label** the other people on Jake's family tree?

great-grandmother sister uncle grandfather great-aunt

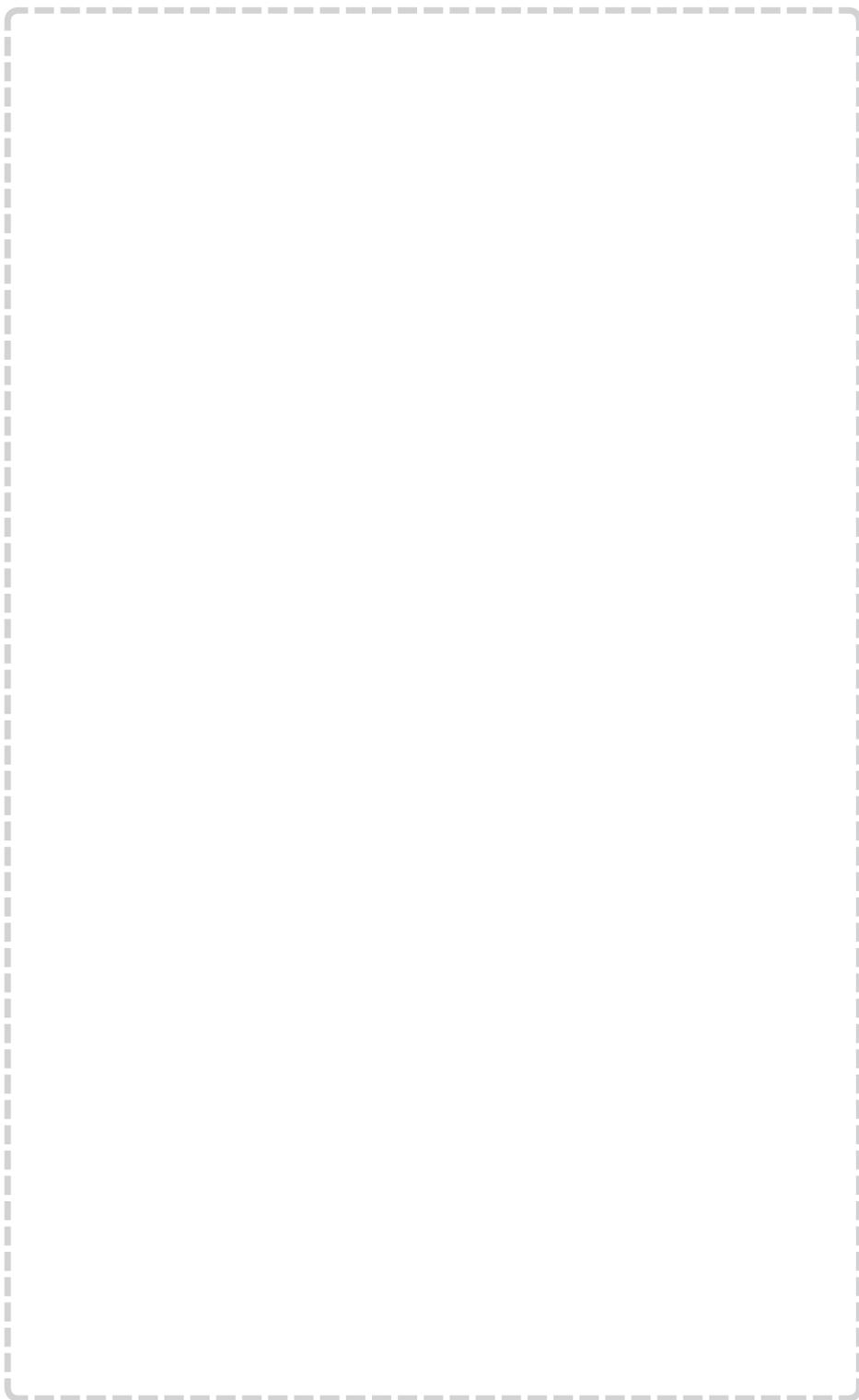


- 6 Jake is dressed as a medieval knight in the picture on the cover. What do you know about knights? **Tick** the best options.

| Knights | Yes | No | I don't know |
|-----------------------|-----|----|--------------|
| Lived in castles | | | |
| Wore armour every day | | | |
| Didn't go to school | | | |
| Were brave | | | |
| Were handsome | | | |
| They never married | | | |
| Did ride horses | | | |
| Wore guns to fight | | | |
| Served only one lord | | | |
| They had to be nobles | | | |



- 7 Jake wanted to dress up as a knight. **Draw** a picture of *yourself* dressed up as a knight!



during reading

Chapters 1 and 2

1 **Categorise** these things from Chapter 1.

jousting jester banquet red
ball gala peasant shows
games corner milkmaid table
musician cue green cover Black Knight

| Billiards | Medieval Party | Costumes |
|-----------|----------------|----------|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

2 **Match** the beginning and end of these sentences.

The ceiling fell down...

was white with dust.

The King was angry...

because he never won anything.

Jake thought...

because of all the terrible things he did.

Cosmo always talked about how fantastic he was...

because the castle was very old.

Jake was excited...

because there was going to be a party in the castle.

The King's hair...

The Black Knight was brilliant.

The Queen didn't like the Black Knight...

because he was so competitive.

3 **Listen** to Chapter 1 on the CD while you read your book. The royal family are not very happy in this chapter.

Can you **repeat** these sentences the way they say them? The words in brackets also tell you how the speakers feel.

You can't speak to the king like that, thank you very much! (the King grumbled)

This horrid castle! (the King groaned)

I'm the king, you know. Isn't that important? (the King said angrily)

You did order the Black Knight costume I wanted, didn't you? (Jake asked suspiciously)

I think it's terrible! (Petunia was horrified)

A peasant? A peasant! (Jake was not happy at all!)

4 Fill in the spaces with the missing adjectives.

drunk rude worried
homeless excellent fat

Cosmo said King Nicholas had a _____ belly.

It is _____ not to eat the food when you are a guest.

Princess Petunia and Queen Caroline were both _____ riders.

Jake was _____ because his Dad was not good at horse-riding.

King Nicholas drank a lot of wine and then he was _____.

The royal family would be _____ if the King lost the competition to Cosmo.

during reading

- 5 If Cosmo wins the bet, he wins the castle. But if the King wins he gets Cosmo's new island. **Imagine** Cosmo is showing the King a photo of the island. Can you **draw** it?

- 6 **Listen** to Chapter 2 on the CD while you read your book. People are asking a lot of questions. Can you **repeat** them? Do you **remember** who asked them?

“Is the cook on holiday?” asked _____

“What’s jousting?” asked _____

“That will be fun, won’t it?” asked _____

“Good on a horse?” asked _____

“What was Dad saying?” asked _____

“What do you say to that?” asked _____

Chapters 3 and 4

1 Where did these things happen? **Complete** the sentences.

Cosmo was walking around... _____
_____.

They were going to roast a pig in... _____
_____.

The King fell off the horse into... _____
_____.

Jake put his costume for the party into... _____
_____.

Jake had a brilliant idea while he was sliding down... _____
_____.

2 Look at this picture of a suit of armour. Can you **match** the parts of the body with the correct bit of armour?

The helmet protects your... feet

The visor protects your... hands

The breastplate protects your... face

The gauntlets protect your... head

The greaves protect your... chest

The sabatons protect your... legs

during reading

- 3 **Listen** to chapter 3 on the CD while you read your book.

Jake is listing the bits of armour which make up the costume of the Black Knight. Can you **repeat** these sentences and sound like you are reading a list? Remember that when you read a list your voice goes up at the end of every sentence except the last one!

A black helmet with a black feather.

Black armour for his chest.

Black armour for his arms.

And black armour for his legs.

- 4 The royal family has invited hundreds of guests to their medieval banquet. We know they have roast pig on the menu, but what else do you think they are eating at the banquet? **Invent** the Medieval Menu.

Starters

- Truffle soup

Main Course

- Roast pig

Pudding

- Apple pie and custard

5 It's Saturday, the day of the Medieval Gala at the royal castle. **Order** the events of the evening.

- The King welcomed the guests to the gala.
- Cosmo welcomed the guests to the castle.
- Jake put on his peasant costume.
- Jake put on his Black Knight costume.
- The brothers sat in the tower and watched the guests arrive.

6 **Listen** to Chapter 4 on the CD while you read your book. **Repeat** these sentences where Prince Jake is talking to Jessie the horse and trying to get the animal to do what he wants.

“Come on, girl.”

“It’s me, Jake. I need your help!”

“Good girl, let’s go.”

“Stop! Jessie, please stop!”

“Whoa!”

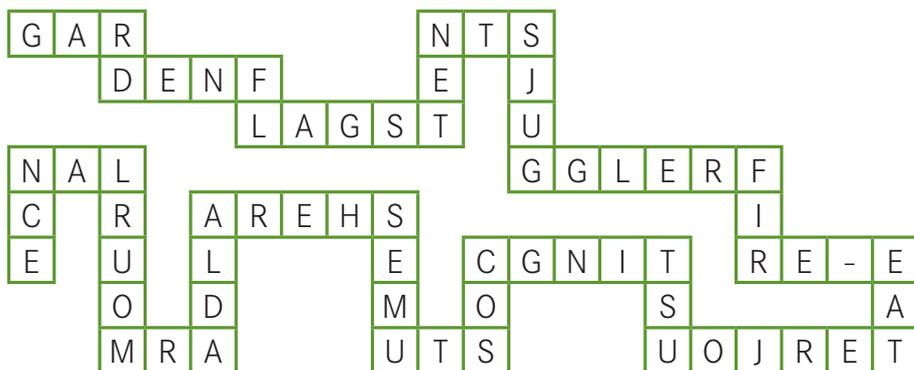
7 **Look** at the picture. **Describe** what is happening.



during reading

Chapters 5 and 6

- 1 The Medieval Gala has lots happening for the guests. **Identify** all the things from the party.



- 2 King Nicholas is dressed in blue and gold and Cosmo in red and black. In heraldic language these colours are called *azure* (blue) and *or* (gold), *gules* (red) and *sabre* (black). **Answer** the questions.

Why do you think they are decorated like this? _____

Can you think of other examples of people or animals wearing colours like this? _____

Do you have a favourite colour? What is it? Why _____

- 3 **Listen** to Chapter 5 on the CD while you read your book. Can you **repeat** these sentences and sound like the medieval herald as he announces the joust?

Ladies and gentlemen! The jousting is about to begin...

...And the first joust is between the King and the King's cousin, Cosmo Worthmore...

Ladies and gentlemen, please stand for King Nicholas the Second of Morania, and his jousting rival, Mr Cosmo Worthmore!

Your Majesty, Mr Worthmore, please take your positions!

Ladies and gentlemen, the winner will break the opponent's lance or unseat the opponent from his horse...

...The joust will begin at the sound of the trumpet. Please be silent as the competitors prepare to joust.

- 4 What happened during the joust? **Choose** one item from each column to make sentences.

| | | |
|----------------|------------|---------------------------------------|
| Jessie | watched | Cosmo get into the ambulance. |
| The trumpeters | instructed | they had won the island. |
| The herald | played | the family to put on their seatbelts. |
| The King | galloped | the action from the tower. |
| Prince Ned | helped | into the arena. |
| The captain | remembered | their trumpets. |

5 Write True (T) or False (F).

Jake planned to turn off the lights.

Jake had control of Jessie when the lights came on again.

The crowd wanted Cosmo to win.

The Queen also had a plan to save the day.

The King had always liked Cosmo.

6 Listen to Chapter 6 on the CD while you read your book. **Repeat** these sounds. Do you **remember** who made them and when?

“Whooooooaaaa!” When... _____

“CLANG!” When... _____

“Ow! Help!” When... _____

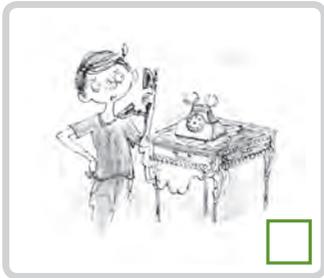
“Hooray!” When... _____

“Ahh” When... _____

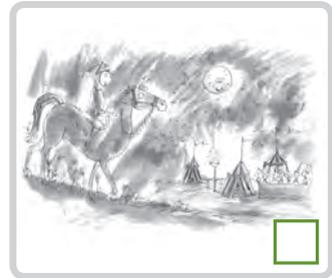
7 Imagine the island that belongs now to the royal family. Can you **describe** it?

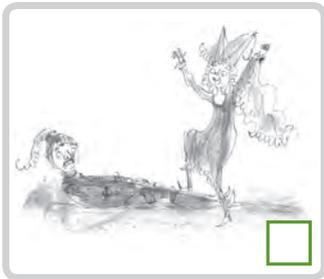
1 The Queen and Princess Petunia are very good horse-riders. King Nicholas is a champion eater! **Make a list** of the things you think a King or Queen must be good at.

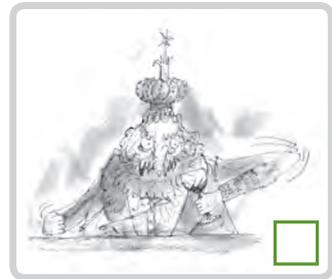
2 **Order** the pictures as they appear in the story. Now **write** sentences to **describe** the pictures.











during reading

3 Can you **match** these words from the story with their meanings?

To triumph

A long stick used in jousting

A fanfare

A bad time

To roast

Music played by trumpets

To trot

A way to cook meat

A lance

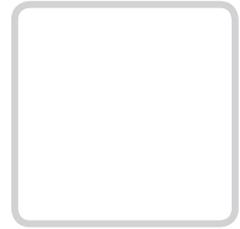
To win

A black night

To walk fast on a horse

4 The royal family are on holiday on their new island. **Write** a postcard from Jake to his uncle Cosmo telling him about all the things they are doing. Don't forget to include a stamp!

Dear Uncle Cosmo,



Get well soon!

Love Jake