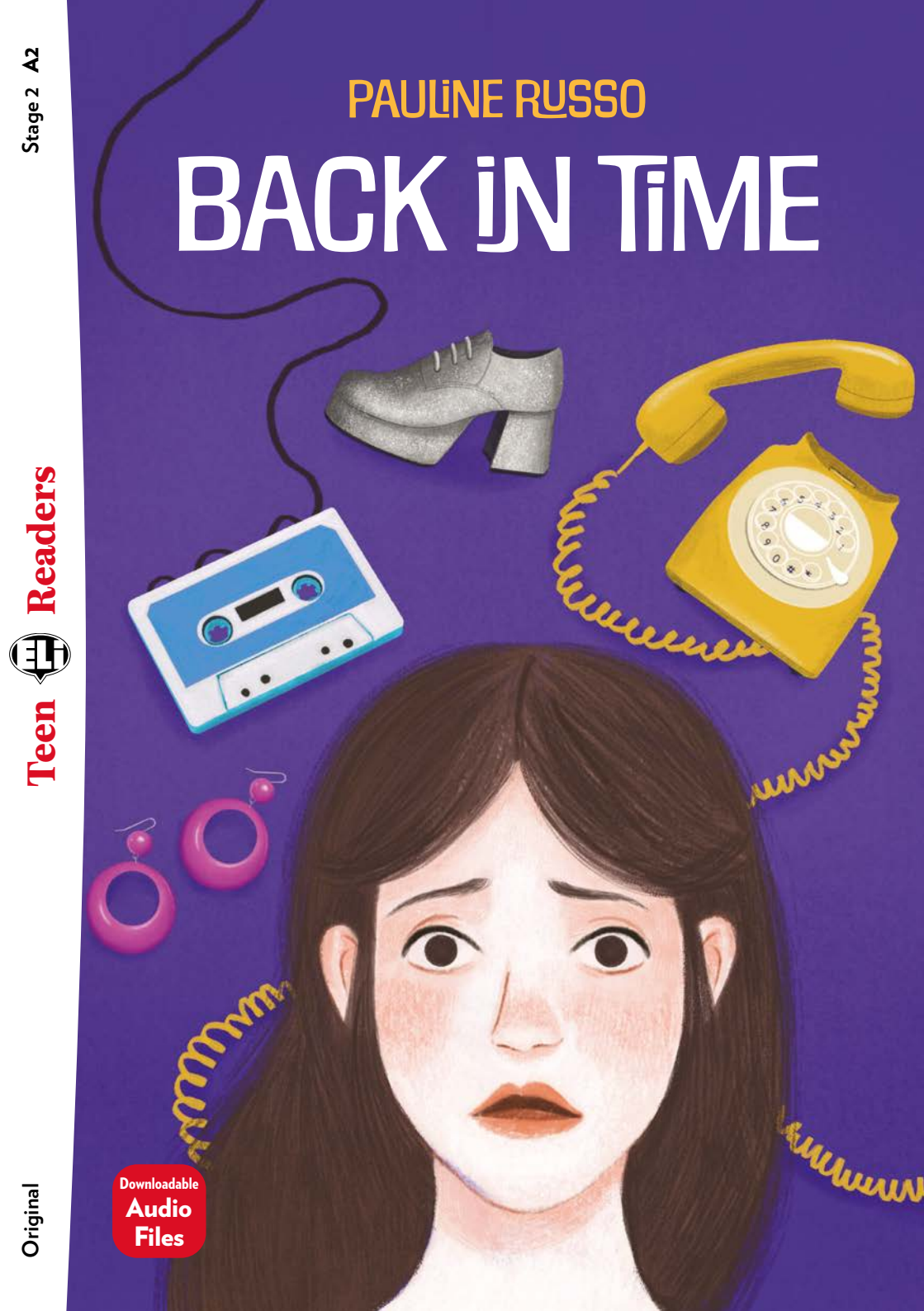
Stage 2 A2

Teen Readers

Original

PAULINE RUSSO

BACK IN TIME



Downloadable Audio Files

Pauline Russo

Back in Time

Illustrated by
Caterina Baldi

For Review Only

Teen ELi Readers

Contents

6 Main Characters

8 Before you read

12 **Chapter 1** *A Surprise for Susan*
24 Activities

26 **Chapter 2** *First Day at School*
38 Activities

40 **Chapter 3** *The 'Nightmare' Continues*
52 Activities

54 **Chapter 4** *Saturday*
64 Activities

66 **Chapter 5** *Sunday*
78 Activities

80 **Chapter 6** *Do You Want to Know a Secret?*
96 Activities

98 **Focus on...** **Fashion in the 1970s**

100 **Focus on...** **1970s Music**

102 **Focus on...** **Growing up in the 1970s**

106 **Focus on...** **Saving the Environment... in the 1970s!**

108 Test Yourself

111 Syllabus

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Main Characters



SUSAN



FIONA



ANNE
SUSAN'S GRANDMOTHER



SHARON

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JAMES



GRAHAM





SUSAN'S 'MUM AND DAD' IN THE 1970s

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Before you read

Reading

A2 Key

1 Choose the correct word, A, B or C, to complete the text.

Susan is 14 years (**1**) _____, and she lives in a small town near Glasgow, in Scotland. She and her (**2**) _____ sister, Fiona, who is eight, live with (**3**) _____ grandmother, Anne. One morning, Susan wakes up and discovers she has gone back in time (**4**) _____ the year 1974! She has taken the place of her grandmother, (**5**) _____ was also 14 that year. Susan soon finds out that life is (**6**) _____ different in 1974. For everyone, she is now her grandmother as a young girl. She can't tell (**7**) _____ who she really is, and that can be difficult sometimes. How (**8**) _____ this happen, and how will she get back to her own time?

1	**A** age	**B** old	**C** big
2	**A** older	**B** bigger	**C** younger
3	**A** their	**B** her	**C** his
4	**A** at	**B** in	**C** to
5	**A** which	**B** who	**C** that
6	**A** much	**B** very	**C** as
7	**A** anyone	**B** someone	**C** everyone
8	**A** do	**B** does	**C** did

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Speaking in Pairs

2 Do you wear a school uniform? If the answer is yes, describe it. If the answer is no, describe what you usually wear when you go to school.

Vocabulary

3 **Write the names next to the photos.**

1  m _ _ _ _ _ p _ _ _ _

2  s _ _ _ _ _ _ _

3  s _ _ _

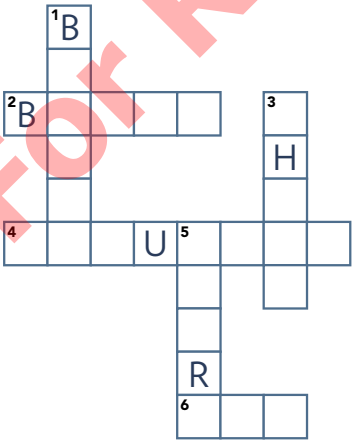
4  c _ _ _ _ _ _ _

5  d _ _ _ _

6  m _ _ _ _ _

Crossword – School Uniform

4 **Complete the crossword with the parts of the school uniform numbered in the picture.**





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Writing

5 A **Which of these do you have and what do you use them for?**

1 

2 

3 

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5 B **What did they use in the 1970s instead?**

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

Speaking in Groups

21st-century Skills

6 Read the following extract from an online article by the BBC and discuss it in small groups. Use a dictionary, if necessary.

'We feel we've lost our kids to smartphones'

TV personalities Matt and Emma Willis said they wanted to be a part of a new Channel 4 documentary because they felt they had "lost their kids" to smartphones. The series is a social experiment on the impact of smartphones and social media on children. Experts monitored pupils at The Stanway School in Colchester and their behavioural changes as they gave up their phones for 21 days.

Harry said that he used his phone for "at least 9 hours a day" before taking part in the documentary, "looking at YouTube, gaming and texting". He described the moment he had to give up his phone: "It was dreadful. It's like a part of me is missing and something that I need in my life is now in a box for 3 weeks." But by the end of the 21-day experiment he said he was "more interactive" and it had made him realise he had to be careful what he was looking at online".

Scarlett said she found life without a smartphone "really good" and she now turns it off at 9pm to give her wind-down time before bed. Scarlett said she enjoyed taking part in the programme. "When I had no phone, I was completely fine - I concentrated during lessons, I understood, I was more sociable, I was kind to people, I came downstairs and helped my family... we played board games every night." She now believes "smartphones should be banned for children under 16".

Jessica said she now thinks, "Is there anything else I could do?" every time she reaches for her phone. Jessica didn't believe she was addicted to her phone before she took part. She did miss talking to friends online, but soon realised she did not miss apps like TikTok and Instagram.

John Player, the head teacher at The Stanway School said "Staff noticed a considerable difference in the students after the experiment."

Source: www.bbc.com

Why not try this experiment yourself, even just for a day? Do you agree with Scarlett that children under 16 should not have smartphones? Why? Why not?

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Chapter 1

A Surprise for Susan

2 'Where have you been, Susan?' shouted Susan's grandmother. 'You're late again! I tried to call you many times, but you didn't answer your phone.'

'I know, Gran. I'm sorry. I forgot to charge[1] my mobile before I went out.'

'That's no excuse[2],' said her gran - for the millionth time!

Susan knew there was no excuse. Her gran always told her to keep her mobile phone charged, especially if she was going out with her friends. It was even more important now that she and her sister, Fiona, were staying with their grandmother, who was now a widow[3]. When their parents died in a car accident 6 months before, they were living in the centre of Glasgow, but she and her little sister, Fiona, had to leave their home and school and move to Calderton, a small town near Glasgow, and make new friends.

Calderton is not a real town in Scotland.

1 **charge** to put electricity in something
2 **excuse** a good reason for doing something
3 **widow** a woman whose husband has died

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She loved her grandmother, but she was stricter[1] than her mother. Susan knew she was wrong, but she didn't want to say that to her gran.

'It's only 10 o'clock, Gran, and it's still light outside. Can't I enjoy myself?' she said angrily[2].

'You're only 14,' her gran said. 'Calderton isn't a big city like Glasgow, but it's still dangerous for you to be out in the park. When I was your age, I didn't go to the park with my friends at this time in the evening. What were you doing anyway? Just talking about boys or watching videos on your mobile, I suppose.'

'My mobile wasn't working, remember? I was chatting to my friends. Anyway, Gran, it's not fair[3]. You were a teenager in the 1970s. Nowadays all my friends can stay out late when it's still light. I'm a teenager, not a wee primary school kid, like Fiona,' and she pointed to her 8-year-old sister, who was just coming out of her bedroom because she heard her gran and Susan arguing[4].

'wee' is a Scottish word meaning 'little'.

'What's happening?' Fiona asked. 'You woke me up. I have to get up early for school tomorrow!'

1 **strict** severe
2 **angrily** in an angry way
3 **fair** (here) right
4 **argue** to discuss in an angry way

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'I know,' answered Susan. 'Sorry! Nothing is happening. It's just Gran being difficult!'

'I'm not being difficult!' said her gran. 'I just want you to be safe – and you have to get up early for school in the morning, too.'

'I'm going to bed then!' said Susan, angrily, and she ran into her bedroom and slammed[1] the door behind her.

The next morning, Susan woke up early. She sat up in bed and, as always, turned to look at her posters on the wall behind her. What a surprise she got when she saw that, instead of Taylor Swift, her favourite singer, there was now a poster of David Bowie!

How did that get there? she thought. *Someone has changed my poster.*

She jumped out of bed, then saw that the room was different too.

Where's my desk? And my computer?

She looked at the brightly coloured sheets and duvet on the bed, the orange and brown flowery

The 'duvet', sometimes called a 'continental quilt', only became popular in the UK in the 1970s, but it was used in other European countries long before then.

1 **slam** to close in a noisy way

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curtains, and the orange wallpaper[1] covered with posters of singers and bands that she didn't know.

'What's happening?' Susan cried. 'Am I dreaming?'

Then, she heard voices. She ran out of her room and into the kitchen. There was a woman standing at the sink with her back to her.

'Gran!' she called out. 'Something strange has happened to my room.'

The woman turned around to look at her, but it wasn't her gran! It was someone else. She looked a little like her gran, but she was younger – probably about 45.

'Good morning, Anne! You're up early. Sit down and have some breakfast before you go to school,' she said. 'I didn't hear what you said. Were you speaking to me?'

Susan stood there, astonished[2]. She couldn't speak.

Why is she calling me Anne? she thought. *That's my gran's name.*

'Nothing,' she muttered[3], and she sat down on

1 **wallpaper** paper used to decorate walls in a room
2 **astonished** very surprised
3 **mutter** to say something very quietly

For Review Only

a chair at the table in the middle of the room and looked around. The kitchen was different. The white cupboards with the grey marble[1] worktops[2] were gone. In their place there were dark wooden cupboards and yellow worktops. Everything looked old-fashioned[3]. She looked down and saw that her nightclothes were different too. Instead of her colourful pyjamas, she was wearing a nightdress with pink flowers all over it. She felt like crying. She couldn't understand what was happening. It seemed like a nightmare[4], but she was awake! Then she saw a newspaper on the table – and the date – 30th May 1974!

'Is there anything wrong, Anne?' said the woman. 'You look frightened[5]. Did you have a bad dream?'

Susan felt confused[6]. Then she understood who the woman was. It was her gran's mum – her great-grandmother! She remembered seeing her in some of her gran's old photos. She looked just like her gran. Susan looked around the room and

1 **marble** a type of hard, white stone
2 **worktop** a surface in a kitchen where food is prepared
3 **old-fashioned** not modern, in an old style
4 **nightmare** a bad dream
5 **frightened** afraid
6 **confused** not knowing what is happening

For Review Only

saw herself in a mirror on the wall near the door. She was shocked[1] to see it wasn't her face in the mirror. It was her grandmother's! She looked like her grandmother did when she was a young girl.

I'm in the past! thought Susan. *In some way, during the night, I travelled back in time to 1974. That year, my gran was 14 – the same age as me – and I am now her! But how - and why?*

This house looked the same as her gran's – more or less. She knew that her gran lived in the same house that she lived in as a child. But it was decorated differently, like in her gran's photos from the 1970s. Susan realised[2] the woman was still talking to her. She was now sitting on the chair beside her. Susan turned towards her and tried to think of something to say to her.

'Yes… I mean, no, nothing is wrong. Yes, I had a bad dream. I don't feel very well, Gran. I mean… Mum,' she said.

I'll have to remember to call her 'Mum', thought Susan.

1 **shocked** very surprised in a bad way

2 **realise** to understand

For Review Only

Reading

A2 Key

1 Choose the correct answer A, B or C.

1 Susan and Fiona now live with their grandmother ....

A in a big city. **B** in a village. **C** in a small town.

2 Susan's grandmother is angry with her because ....

A she forgot to take her mobile phone with her.
B she didn't charge her phone.
C she didn't know what time it was.

3 When she woke up the next morning, the first thing Susan saw was ....

A her computer on her desk.
B orange and brown flowery curtains.
C a poster of David Bowie.

4 When Susan looked in the mirror, she saw ....

A her own face. **B** her mother's face.
C her grandmother's face.

5 At school that day, Susan was going to have ....

A a maths test. **B** a home economics test.
C an English test.

6 The milk on the table was in a ....

A plastic bottle. **B** glass jug. **C** glass bottle.

7 After taking Susan to school, her 'mum' ....

A went back home.
B went shopping.
C went to work.

8 The weather forecast said that in the afternoon it was going to ....

A be warm. **B** be cold. **C** rain.

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Reading Comprehension

2 Decide if the following sentences about Susan are true (T) or false (F).

		T	F
1	Susan's grandmother was a widow.	☐	☐
2	Susan was in the town centre with her friends.	☐	☐
3	Susan was wearing a nightdress with pink flowers.	☐	☐
4	Susan had a temperature.	☐	☐
5	Susan ate scones for breakfast.	☐	☐
6	Susan was happy that she didn't have to use a seatbelt.	☐	☐

Speaking in Groups

21st-century Skills

3 Susan is happy to see that milk in the 1970s is sold in glass bottles that can be reused. Which products were not sold in plastic containers in the past? Can we ever 'return to the 1970s' and use less plastic? Discuss with a group of friends.



Before-reading Activity • Chapter 2

Listening

3 **4 Listen to the start of Chapter 2 and complete the sentences below with *one* word.**

1 Susan walked across the _____.
2 She didn't know _____ her friends were.
3 Susan had flour, sugar, _____, eggs and milk in her bag.
4 The girl asked Susan to _____ her some of the ingredients.
5 The classroom had long tables, _____ and fridges.
6 The girl with blonde hair was at the _____ at the back of the room.

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