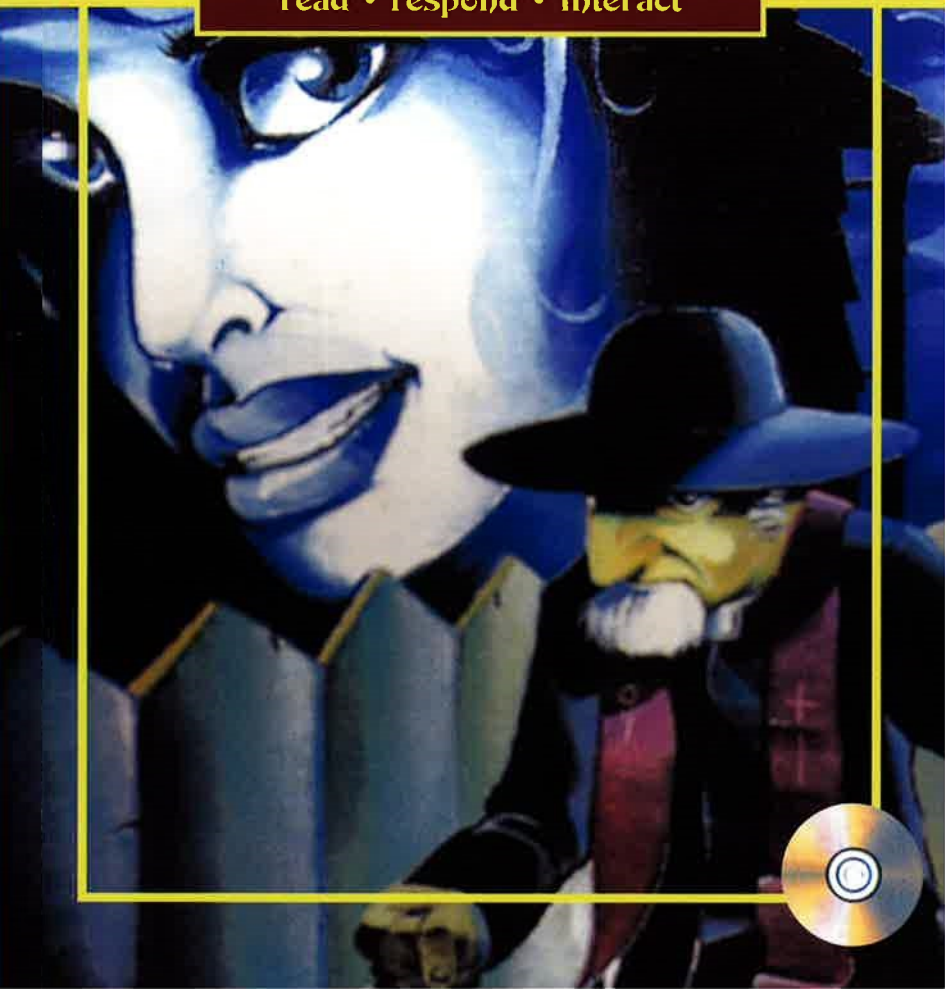


Stanford House Classics - Beginners

THE EXORCIST

Barbara Chatwin

read • respond • interact



This series of simplified Stanford House Classics readers has a vocabulary of approximately 500 head words.

They are suitable for students aged between 8 and 11. These books are particularly useful as support material for teachers of English as a second language, since they have been structured to encourage active reading: on the left-hand page there is the story, complete with explanatory notes in English, and on the right-hand page there are exercises which refer exclusively to the text opposite.

Some exercises review student's grammatical knowledge of the English language, others are just good fun. By the end of the book the student will know the story and should be able to recount it, too!

THE EXORCIST

Barbara Chatwin

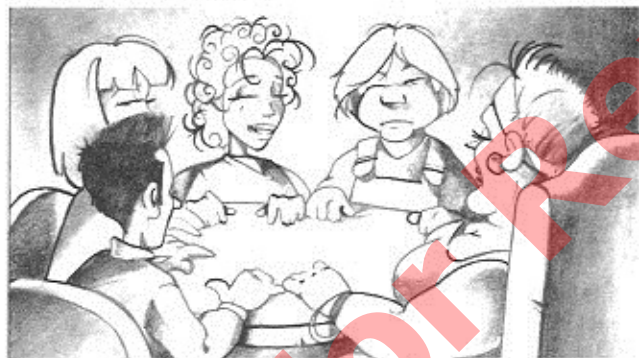
When four teenage friends go to Mrs Rose's house, they don't expect to be visited by the devil! Rachael, one of the friends, is possessed by Satan and strange things happen when she is present. Father Michael, a famous exorcist, is sent for. He thinks it will be easy to free Rachael from the devil but the devil is not satisfied with possessing only Rachael... he wants Father Michael! Can Rachael's friends save her and Father Michael from Satan?



Stanford House

THE EXORCIST

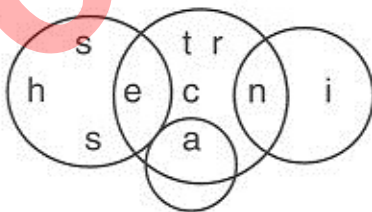
"Shush¹, Rachael! Be quiet! This is serious... you mustn't giggle²!" Four teenagers and a woman sat³ round a table, their fingers⁴ touching on the table. It was almost dark in the room. The woman's eyes were closed. "Is she asleep?" whispered⁵ Rachael. "No, she isn't asleep... she's in a trance!" Sam Johnson answered. Rachael giggled again. "Shush!" repeated Betty. "You'll ruin everything!"



1. **shush**: silence.
2. **to giggle**: to laugh.
3. **sat** is the past tense of 'to sit'.
4. **fingers**: we have five fingers on each hand.
5. **to whisper**: to speak softly.

ACTIVITY

The letters in the balloons make words. The words make a sentence from the text on page 2. What is it?



Complete the questions with the words in the balloons.

Who is?
Is the woman in a?
How many people are the room?
Are YOU..... student?

Listen and correct.

"There's somebody¹ in the room," said Mrs Rose, the woman. "Of course there is," giggled Rachael. "We are in the room!" "She means² a spirit... not us," whispered Sam. "Who are you? What's your name?" The woman asked the spirit. Suddenly, her eyes opened. "AHHHHH!" She cried. "The spirit is evil³... not good! Don't take your hands off the table. Keep your fingers touching. The spirit is looking for⁴ somebody!"



1. **somebody/someone**: a person.
2. **to mean**: to signify.
3. **evil**: very bad.
4. **to look for**: to search for.

ACTIVITY

Match the sentences with the pictures.

a.



b.



c.



d.



e.



f.

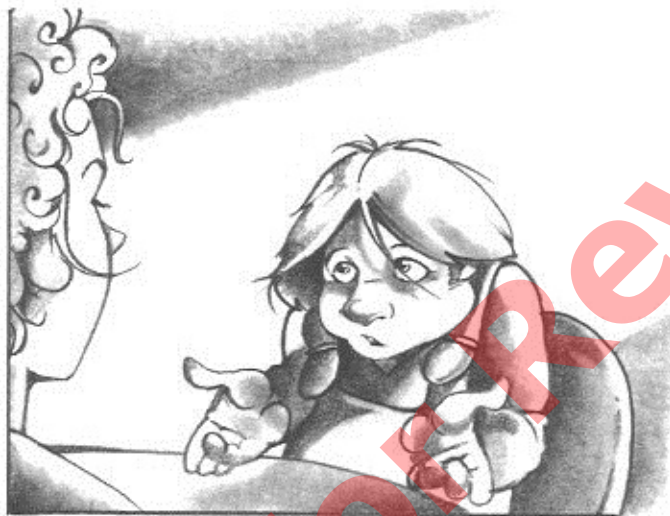


Don't giggle!
Don't close your eyes!
Be quiet!
Don't whisper!
Keep your fingers touching!
Don't take your hands off!



Listen, repeat and correct.

"This is stupid, I'm leaving," said Rachael and took¹ her hands off the table. "No, stay where you are," William whispered. "Something is happening²! This is GREAT!" But Rachael stood³ up. A red light began⁴ to shine⁵ in the room. "I don't like this, I'm leaving," Rachael repeated. The light moved and completely covered the girl. "SIT DOWN," said the woman urgently. Rachael sat down!



1. **took** is the past tense of 'to take'.
2. **to happen**: to occur.
3. **stood** is the past tense of 'to stand'.
4. **began** is the past tense of 'to begin/to start'.
5. **to shine**: to illuminate.

ACTIVITY

 **Answer the questions.**

How many teenagers were there?

.....

What colour was the light?

.....

Who did the light shine on?

.....

What's Sam's surname?

.....

Where did they sit?

.....

What did Rachael do?

.....

Who whispered "something is happening?"

.....

What did the woman tell Rachael to do?

.....