

## Reading Revision- Fiction

### An extract from **The Two Jugglers** by Norman Hindsdale Pitman

One beautiful spring day two men strolled into the city. They were plainly dressed and looked like ordinary countrymen who had come to see the sights. Judging by their faces, they were father and son. The elder, a wrinkled man of perhaps fifty, had a prickly, grey beard. The younger had a small box on his shoulder.

At the hour when these strangers entered the city, a large crowd had gathered, for it was a feast day, and everyone was determined to have a good time. All the people seemed very happy. The two men walked about aimlessly. They seemed to have no friends. At last, however, as they stood reading a public notice posted at the entrance of the town hall, a bystander asked them who they were.

"Oh, we are jugglers from a distant town," said the elder, smiling and pointing towards the box. "We can do many tricks for the amusement of the people."

Soon it was spread about among the crowd that two famous jugglers had just arrived and that they were able to perform many wonderful tricks. It just so happened that, at that very moment, the mayor of the city was entertaining a number of guests at a local restaurant. They had just finished eating, and the mayor was wondering what he should do to amuse his friends, when a servant told him of the jugglers...



1. Why do you think the author chose to use 'strolled into the city' instead of 'walked'?

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2. 'Judging by their faces, they were father and son.' Why do you think the author made that assumption?

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3. What do you think that the mayor will do next?

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4. Rewrite this story in 20 words or less.

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## Reading Revision- Non Fiction

### Nelson Mandela

Nelson Mandela was a very important person in the world. He was from South Africa where he led an anti-apartheid (pronounced: anti-a-part-hite) movement. Apartheid was the separation of black and white people in South Africa. He spent twenty-seven years in prison for fighting against the government and was the first black South African President.

#### Early Life

Nelson Mandela was named Rolihlahla Mandela when he was born in Mvezo (say: m-vay-zo), South Africa in 1918. He was given the name Nelson by his teacher as it was normal for all children to be given a new English first name at school.

He did well at school and went to university afterwards, but he had to leave because he caused trouble by joining a student protest. After a while, he did finish his university degree after he had run away to the city of Johannesburg (pronounced: Joe-han-ee-burg) to escape his family making him marry someone. He eventually became a lawyer.

#### Politics and Prison

From 1942, he was more involved with politics. In 1944, he joined the African National Congress (ANC), who are a political party in South Africa. Later, he was chosen to lead the plan to fight against apartheid.

The next years were full of fighting and arrests because of apartheid and in 1962, he was arrested again. He was given a long prison sentence in 1964. During his time in prison, the rest of the world was also trying to stop apartheid in South Africa. In 1984, Nelson Mandela was the world's most famous prisoner and the song 'Free Nelson Mandela' was a UK number one record, which was used to tell people to let him out of prison.



1. What does the word apartheid mean?

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2. What do the letters ANC stand for?

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3. What is the main point of the Politics and Prison section?

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4. How do you think that people felt about Mandela being in jail? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

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### The Duck and the Kangaroo by Edward Lear

Said the Duck to the Kangaroo,  
"Good gracious! how you hop  
Over the fields, and the water too,  
As if you never would stop!  
My life is a bore in this nasty pond;  
And I long to go out in the world beyond:  
I wish I could hop like you,"  
Said the Duck to the Kangaroo.

"Please give me a ride on your back,"  
Said the Duck to the Kangaroo:  
"I would sit quite still, and say nothing but 'Quack'  
The whole of the long day through;  
And we 'd go the Dee, and the Jelly Bo Lee,  
Over the land, and over the sea:  
Please take me a ride! oh, do!"  
Said the Duck to the Kangaroo.

Said the Kangaroo to the Duck,  
"This requires some little reflection.  
Perhaps, on the whole, it might bring me luck;  
And there seems but one objection;

Which is, if you'll let me speak so bold,  
Your feet are unpleasantly wet and cold,  
And would probably give me the  
roo-Matix," said the Kangaroo.

Said the Duck, "As I sat on the rocks,  
I have thought over that completely,  
And I bought four pairs of knitted socks  
Which fit my webbed feet neatly,  
And to keep out the cold, I've bought a cloak,  
And every day a cigar I'll smoke,  
All to follow my own dear true  
Love of a Kangaroo!"

Said the Kangaroo, "I'm ready!  
All in the moonlight pale;  
But to balance me well, dear Duck, sit steady!  
And quite at the end of my tail!"  
So away they went with a hop and a bound,  
And they hopped the whole world three times round;  
And who is so happy, oh who,  
As the Duck and the Kangaroo?



1. What does the Duck want in the first and second verses?

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2. 'This requires a little reflection.'  
What does reflection mean in this sentence?

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3. How does Duck solve the problem of his cold, wet feet?

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4. How do you think both characters feel in the fifth verse? Why?

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