

## English Short Story!—A STRANGER IN OUR TOWN—With Adverbs of Place (Level A1-A2)

There is a stranger in our town. He is a storyteller. The stories he tells are about the places he visits, the food he eats and the people he talks to. Where he comes from, hyenas laugh at night.

In our land we have foxes and wild pigs. We eat rabbits and raise livestock: cattle, sheep and rarely goats. In this place, wolves no longer howl at night.

Our stranger walks with a walking stick—you know, just in case. In case of what? We ask. In case he meets a snake, a snake in the grass. A big, fat and long snake in the grass.

Sometimes he just stays **indoors** because he is afraid of what he can meet **outside**. We tell him not to worry. Our wild animals are toothless, I mean, harmless.

What about the Big Five **back** in his land? We know all about them. They are always in the news. The leopard, the elephant, the rhinoceros, the buffalo and the famous lion! Does he meet them all the time? Is his stick enough to scare them away?

He says he does not know them. His great-grandfather does. He used to hunt them but now he is too old to hold a spear. His teeth can no longer bite.

Our stranger says the animals in the savannah are like the hair on his grandfather's head. It is hard to see them **anywhere** as time flies **past**. In the past, they used to be **everywhere**.

Like us, he sees the animals in the news. He does not know where they live, what and how they eat, where they sleep. Simply speaking, he does not know their whereabouts. They live **far**.

What about the hyenas who laugh at night?

He says they want to steal their goats or chickens or whatever they can eat. In the bush, meat carcasses are now scarce. The hyenas need food so they go **wherever** the food is.

Our stranger travels because where he comes from the land has gone crazy. He no longer knows if the rain will last for two days or more. It is always a gamble. Sometimes the rain makes the river swell and the water spills **everywhere**.

He says the wind in his land now has wings. The power of the wind in his land is enough to uproot a tree and remove the roof of a house. It is enough to blow everything **away**. It is enough to destroy one's dreams.

This is why our stranger travels. He knows something strange is happening in his land so he wants to know if the wind also has wings in other lands. He wants to know if in our lands rivers also become pregnant with too much water and spill it on livestock, people and houses. He wants to know.

We tell him that the wind has wings here too. In summer, it carries fire and sweeps through entire bushes and forests, chasing people and burning houses. It is the type of wind that blows everything **away** too, forever.

Our stranger's name is Dumisani. Dumi in short. He is tall and walks with an easy gait. Walking is his favourite activity. He walks and travels and sees the world. In turn, the world shows him its secrets.



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