

## 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.



## 1. VOCABULARY (PART 1): Name the wild animals



## 2. VOCABULARY (PART 2): Match the words to their definitions.

- a. A stranger
- b. A storyteller
- c. Livestock
- d. A stick
- e. A snake
- f. The savannah
- g. The bush
- h. A carcass
- i. A roof

- a. Farm animals.
- b. Wild land with a lot of grass and few trees.
- c. Land with wild plants and very few people.
- d. A person who tells stories.
- e. A body of a dead animal
- f. The cover of a house or building.
- g. A long and thin reptile with no legs or arms.
- h. A thin piece of wood
- i. A foreigner



3. **VOCABULARY (PART 3)**: Match these expressions to their definitions.

Their whereabouts	<u>Full of..., having a lot of something,...</u>
It is a gamble...	<u>The place where they are...</u>
Pregnant with...	<u>Simple and effortless walking...</u>
Simply speaking...	<u>Clearly, straightforwardly, ...</u>
An easy gait	<u>A chance, bet or long shot</u>

4. **GRAMMAR (PART 1)**: Find the opposites of the following Adjectives.

WORD BANK: EASY – HARMFUL – UNKNOWN – ABUNDANT – LEAST-FAVOURITE – YOUNG – SHORT – SANE – SMALL –NORMAL –THIN –TOOTHED

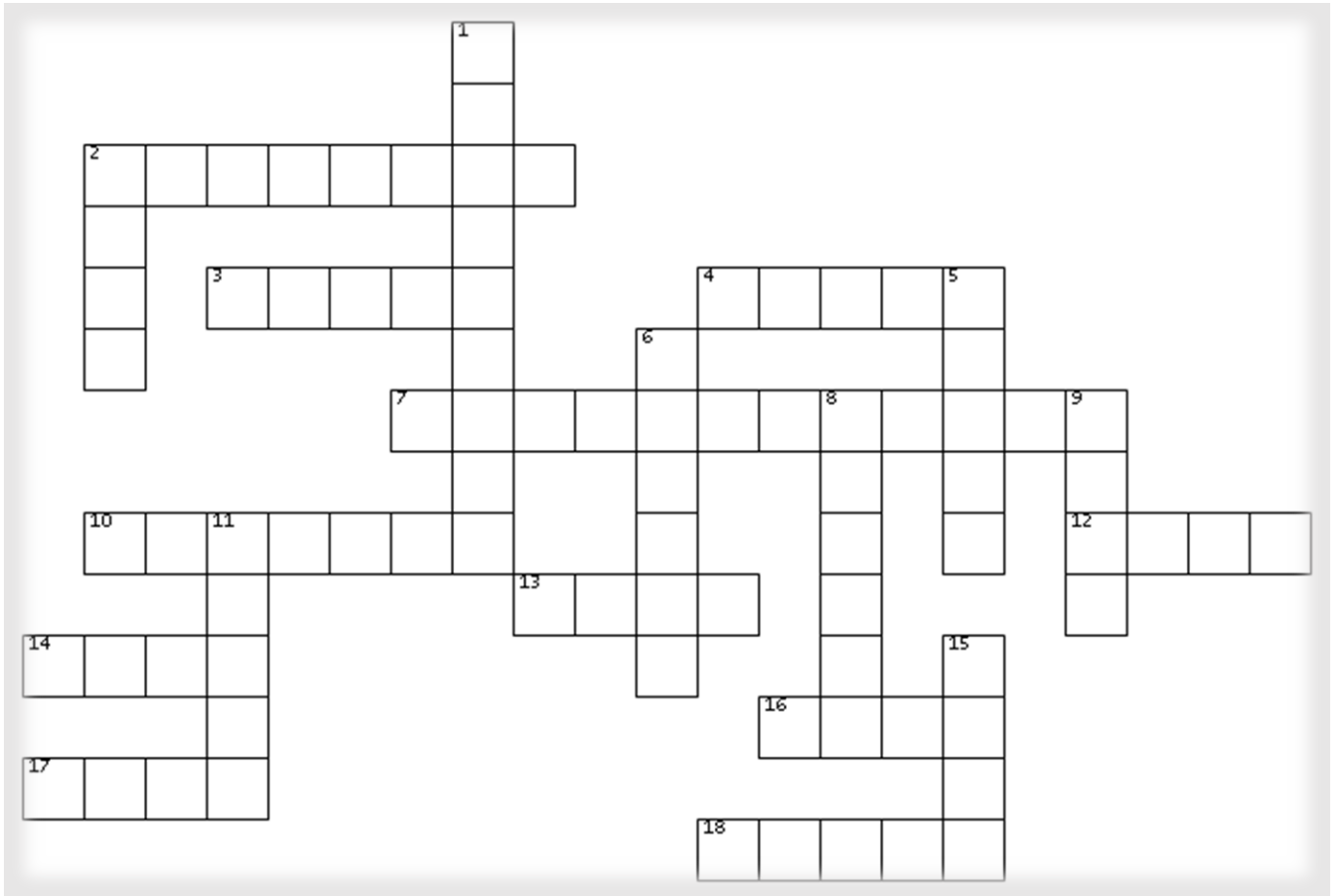
\*\*\*

- |              |         |
|--------------|---------|
| a. Big       | a. .... |
| b. Fat       | b. .... |
| c. Long      | c. .... |
| d. Toothless | d. .... |
| e. Harmless  | e. .... |
| f. Famous    | f. .... |
| g. Old       | g. .... |
| h. Hard      | h. .... |
| i. Scarce    | i. .... |
| j. Crazy     | j. .... |
| k. Strange   | k. .... |
| l. Favourite | l. .... |



## 5. GRAMMAR (PART 2): Solve this Crossword Puzzle about Verbs.

WORD BANK: BITE – BLOW AWAY– CARRY – CHASE – COME – DESTROY – HOWL – HUNT – KNOW – LAUGH – MEET – NEED – REMOVE – SCARE AWAY – SPILL – STAY – SWEEP THROUGH – SWELL – UPROOT



### ACROSS

2. To move away something with the wind
3. To pursue someone or something
4. To flow out
7. To move across quickly and with force
10. To damage something completely
12. To want or require something
13. To have information
14. To move in the direction of the speaker
16. To come across someone
17. To make a long and often sad sound

18. To move something while holding it

### DOWN

1. To frighten someone into flight
2. To use one's teeth to cut into something
5. To express mirth or happiness
6. To pull a plant out of the ground
8. To take something or someone away
9. To look for an animal to get it or kill it
11. To become larger
15. To remain in the same place



6. **GRAMMAR (PART 3):** Unscramble the following Adverbs of Place,

WORD BANK: AWAY – ANYWHERE – BACK – EVERYWHERE – FAR – PAST– WHEREVER

DESITOU		VREWEHER	
YAWA		RAF	
VREWEHERYE		SORODIN	
KABC		WHERYANE	
STAP			

7. **GRAMMAR (PART 3):** Make 5 sentences with Adverbs of Place.

- a. ....
- b. ....
- c. ....
- d. ....
- e. ....



8. **READING COMPREHENSION (PART 1):** Say if the following sentences are True or False. Justify your answer.

**GENERAL COMPREHENSION**

- a. The title of the short story is "A Stranger in Our City":.....  
.....
- b. The narrator can be a man or a woman:.....  
.....
- c. The story is about a person who is new to this place:.....  
.....
- d. The stranger is from Europe:.....  
.....
- e. The stranger's short name is Dumi?:.....  
.....
- f. The man travels because he likes eating wild meat:.....  
.....
- g. The story talks a lot about food:.....  
.....

**DETAILED COMPREHENSION**

1) Circle the correct answer.

- a. Dumi is a) rich b) poor c) curious.
- b. Dumi tells stories about a) the people he talks to b) hyenas c) rabbits.
- c. The narrator lives in a) a huge city b) villa c) town.
- d. There are few a) animals a) cars b) people in this place.
- e. Dumi wants to know more about a) nature b) TV sets c) swimming pools.
- f. The Big Five are a) aeroplanes b) animals in the African savannah c) buses.
- g. Dumi likes a) running b) walking c) sleeping.
- h. The weather in Dumi's country is a) very good b) good c) unpredictable.

2) Circle the odd one out.

- a. a) Floods b) Forest fires c) Volcano d) Storm
- b. a) Water b) Wind c) Air d) River
- c. a) Wolf b) Rabbit c) Lion d) Goat e) Sheep
- d. a) Giraffe b) Fox c) Rhinoceros d) Elephant



3) Choose the correct meaning of the following



He says the wind in his land now has wings.

- a. The wind is too powerful.
- b. The wind is not very strong.
- c. There is no wind.



He wants to know if in our lands rivers also become pregnant with too much water and spill it on livestock, people and houses.

- a. He wants to know if the rivers have children.
- b. He wants to know if the rivers have too much water when it rains.
- c. He wants to know if there is enough water in the rivers.



In summer, it carries fire and sweeps through entire bushes and forests, chasing people and burning houses.

- a. The wind is hot in summer.
- b. The wind is not strong enough to transport fire in summer.
- c. The wind transports fire in summer. This fire destroys property and harms people.

4) Put the sentences in the correct order.

- a. Dumisani tells stories about his trips.
- b. This man is from Africa and he travels to a European town.
- c. The stranger is worried about the floods in his own country.
- d. The narrator tells Dumisani that his country also has floods and forest fires.
- e. This is a short story about a traveller and a storyteller called Dumisani.
- f. He travels because he wants to understand his own country.

5) Fill in the blanks.

WORD BANK: AFRICA– COUNTRY – DUMI – DUMISANI – EUROPE –FLOODS – FOREST FIRES – MAN – STORIES – UNDERSTAND

This is a beginner short story about a a).....who travels and tells b)..... about his trips. The stranger’s name is c)....., d).....in short. He is from e) .....and he travels to f).....He goes to new places because he wants to g) .....what is happening in his h) ..... He is mostly worried about i) .....and j) .....





Learn **English**  
With Africa