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# About the Series

## Meet the Time Detectives



Liam and Rose are the **Time Detectives**. But are they really detectives? No, they aren't trying to solve crimes. But every adventure they have is a mystery; a mystery they must solve. Like detectives, Liam and Rose look for clues. When they travel through time, they face the same questions:

- ★ Where are we?
- ★ When are we?
- ★ What is happening?
- ★ Who are the people we meet?
- ★ Who can we trust?
- ★ Are we in danger?

Liam and Rose are two twenty-first century friends. But when they travel in time, they lose the technology they use every day. So they have no phones, no internet, no messaging or social media, no GPS. They are on their own, and they only have their own skills and ideas.

Some people say that history repeats itself. But really, it's *people* that repeat themselves. So, when Liam and Rose travel into the past or into the future, they discover people and situations that reflect their own world and their own time. And they face new and unexpected challenges.

This series of six stories opens with *Total Eclipse*, in which the main characters meet each other and start their journey through time and space. The series closes with *Out of the Maze*, when Liam and Rose return to where it all began.



### WORD DETECTIVE!

To be a Time Detective, you need to know these words.  
Use a dictionary to look them up.

**detective solve crime unexpected clue mystery**

# How to Become a Knight

Do you want to be a knight? There are two rules:

- 1 You must be a man.
- 2 You must be noble or have land.

Do you qualify? OK, now you can begin!

## Your five-step guide to becoming a knight

- 1 Start learning at an early age. Boys aged about seven can go to castles to work as **pages**. They learn good manners and serve food and drink at the dinner table.
- 2 Knights ride horses, so learn to ride! You can start on a wooden horse with wheels. Then learn on a real horse.
- 3 Learn to fight. Again, you can start with wooden swords. Also, keep fit. Swimming is good exercise – but remember, the water is very cold!
- 4 When you are fourteen, you can become a **squire** and help a knight prepare for battle. You can also fight by his side. But don't forget your studies!
- 5 After about four years of experience in war, you can become a knight.

### Investigate



A squire is an apprentice. That means he is a young person who works for someone to learn a skill. Apprentices are very common today, too. What skills or jobs can they learn?

Download your free Time Detective Notebook and use it in your investigations.

### GLOSSARY

- **battle:** a fight in a war
- **manners:** behaviour
- **noble:** with high status or rank
- **studies:** lessons; learning

# The Age of Chivalry

The term Middle Ages covers the time from the 5th to the 15th centuries. The late Middle Ages, when this story is set, is sometimes called the Age of Chivalry. In their daily lives, knights follow strict rules called the **Code of Chivalry**. The word chivalry comes from the French word *cheval*, or horse. And of course, knights ride horses!

## Investigate



Listen and write four rules of the Code of Chivalry in your Time Detective Notebook.

## That's entertainment!

As a knight, you can compete in **tournaments**. In the Middle Ages, everybody loves tournaments. They are the number one entertainment! Tournaments take place on large fields outside a town. There are large **stands** for the spectators to sit in. These are like the stands you see at sports grounds. The spectators can get very excited. Sometimes, they become violent, just like football fans today. So what do the people watch? The number one entertainment is **jousting**. It is a great way for young knights to become famous. In a joust, two knights fight on horses. They carry lances. Each knight tries to knock the other knight off his horse. There are prizes for the winner, such as a new suit of armour or gold. Every knight wants to win!

## Investigate

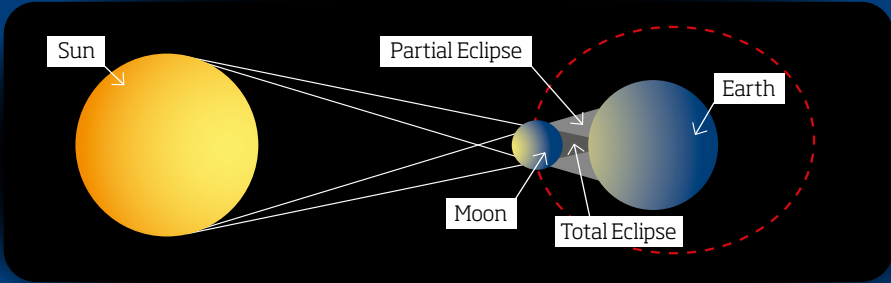
What else can you watch or listen to at a tournament?  
**Write your answers in your Time Detective Notebook.**

### GLOSSARY

- **armour:** protective clothing made of metal
- **compete:** take part in a game or contest
- **knock:** hit; strike
- **lances:** long wooden weapons
- **spectators:** audience
- **violent:** acting with force



# Astronomy



## What is a solar eclipse?

We all know that the Moon travels around the Earth and the Earth travels around the Sun. A solar eclipse happens when the Moon passes between the Sun and the Earth. In some places on the Earth, people only see the Moon covering a part of the Sun. This is a **partial eclipse**. In other places, the Moon completely covers the Sun. This is a **total eclipse**. A total eclipse can last between 1.5 to 7.5 minutes. The Moon's shadow falls on the Earth and everything goes dark. You can even see stars in the daytime!

### Investigate



What is the difference between a solar and a lunar eclipse?

Write your answers in your Time Detective Notebook.

# Solar eclipses in history

Total eclipses can be a bit scary. Or just confusing. Here are some amazing solar eclipses from the last 3,000 years!

**2,000 BCE**

**2,000 BCE** In ancient China, they believe the Sun is a god and a dragon is eating it. So people fire arrows and make a lot of noise on their drums... and frighten the dragon away.



**585 BCE** In Turkey, a solar eclipse happens during a battle between two armies. The soldiers think this means that the gods want them to stop fighting. So they make peace!

**585 BCE**



**376 BCE** The Greek philosopher Anaxagoras is the first person to explain why eclipses happen. He also says that the Sun and the Moon aren't gods but planets. The people in Athens don't believe him and make him leave the city!

**376 BCE**



**840 CE**

**840 CE** The emperor Louis of Bavaria sees a total eclipse. It lasts over five minutes. He is very frightened when he sees the Sun start to appear again... and he dies of shock!



**1230 CE**

**1230 CE** People in Europe are getting up when the Moon covers the Sun. So they decide that it's OK to go back to bed. They get a surprise an hour later when the Sun is bright again!



## GLOSSARY

- **ancient:** from very long ago
- **armies:** groups of soldiers
- **BCE:** Before Common Era (also BC)
- **CE:** Common Era (also AD)
- **emperor:** ruler of an empire
- **philosopher:** someone who studies the meaning of life
- **shadow:**



**1504 CE**

**1504 CE** Christopher Columbus is stranded on the island of Jamaica. His tools tell him there is going to be a lunar eclipse. So he tricks the native people into giving him food by saying he can darken the Moon. It works!

# TOTAL ECLIPSE

Sir Lionel

Clarence



Liam



Rose



*Sir Bertram*

*Harold*

*Matilda*

**1** Look at the people.  
Who do you think is...?

- a** a squire
- b** a servant
- c** a knight
- d** a lady
- e** from the twenty-first century

# Before Reading

1 Look at the knight and the squire. Match the words to the things.

helmet

cloak

lance

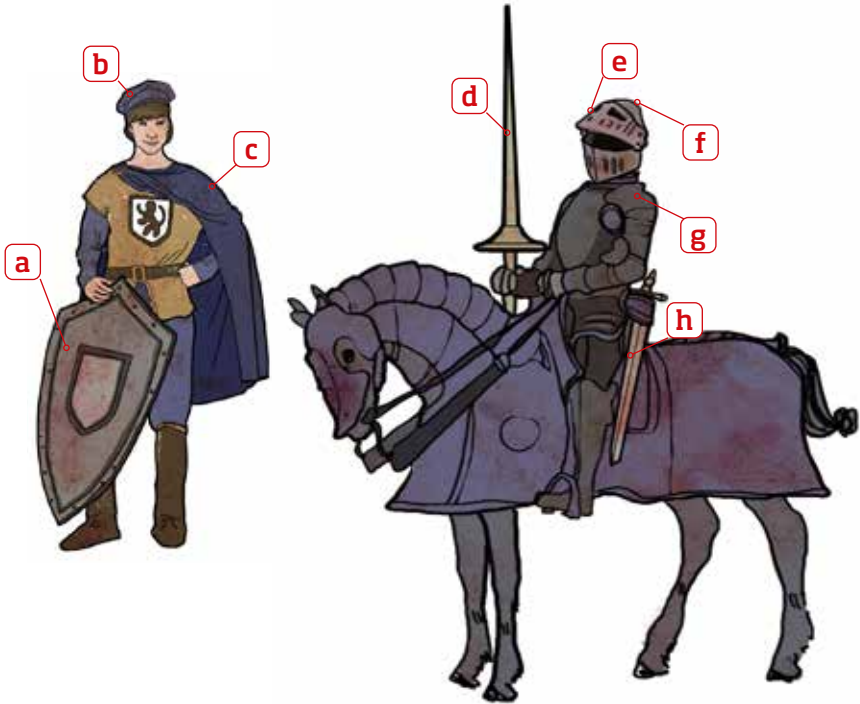
suit of armour

cap

sword

shield

visor



## Living words

Armour is still important today! You wear **body armour** (or protective clothing) for sports such as skateboarding, skiing and running. **Helmets** are essential when you go cycling or play baseball. And don't forget, British kings and queens still make people **knights**. Just think of Sir David Beckham!





**2 Listen to an extract from the beginning of *Total Eclipse*. Then complete the sentences with the words from the box.**

waiting holding crashing shining  
sitting looking racing

A boy is **a** ..... near the edge of a cliff.

Above him, the sun is **b** ..... in a clear blue sky. Seagulls are circling high up in the air.

Beneath him, waves are **c** ..... to the shore. He can hear them, **d** ..... against the rocks, a long way below.

It is a perfect spring day. But the boy isn't here for the sunshine. He is **e** ..... for the darkness.

A very special darkness.

Then the boy hears another sound, a human sound.


'Hi,' a voice says.


He turns around. A girl is **f** ..... at him. She's maybe 14 or 15, with shoulder-length blonde hair, and she's **g** ..... a red backpack.

'What an amazing place,' she says. She has an American accent.

**3 Think about the following questions.**

- a** Who is the boy?
- b** Who says 'Hi'?
- c** What do you learn about the boy and girl?
- d** What happens next?

**4  Work with a partner. Look at the chapter headings on the Contents page. What do you think happens in the story? How do you think the story ends?**

**5  Share your ideas with the class.**





## 1 THE DAY OF THE ECLIPSE



A boy is sitting near the edge of a cliff.

Above him, the sun is shining in a clear blue sky. Seagulls are circling high up in the air.

Beneath him, waves are racing to the shore. He can hear them, crashing against the rocks, a long way below.

It is a perfect spring day. But the boy isn't here for the sunshine. He is waiting for the darkness.

A very special darkness.



### GLOSSARY

- **crashing:** hitting strongly
- **darkness:** no light
- **waves:** movement of water in the sea

Then the boy hears another sound, a human sound.

‘Hi,’ a voice says.

He turns around. A girl is looking at him. She’s maybe 14 or 15, with shoulder-length blonde hair, and she’s holding a red backpack.

‘What an amazing place,’ she says. She has an American accent. ‘My name is Rose, by the way.’

‘I’m Liam.’

‘Liam. That’s Irish, right?’

‘Yes, my mum’s Irish.’

‘Cool. It’s short for William, like William Shakespeare, but I think you know that.’ She smiles. ‘I have a cat called Billy. That’s William, too.’

Rose puts her backpack on the grass, and Liam’s heart sinks<sup>•</sup>. She clearly plans to stay. Liam doesn’t want to talk. He wants to be alone. He checks his phone. Three minutes until it begins.

‘I’m really looking forward to<sup>•</sup> this. You too, huh? My dad’s a marine biologist. He studies dolphins and stuff<sup>•</sup>. You know, life in the sea. But me, I love looking up at the stars. And this eclipse is so cool. I mean, it’s a *total* eclipse. It’s awesome<sup>•!</sup>’

Liam nods<sup>•</sup>.

‘My dad’s working here at the university. He’s doing research for one year. We normally live in Los Angeles. Our apartment in Brighton’s cute<sup>•</sup>, but it’s a bit small. Our house in the States<sup>•</sup> is huge! Do you live in Brighton?’

‘Yes,’ says Liam.

*This is annoying<sup>•</sup>*, he thinks. He really doesn’t feel like talking!

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## GLOSSARY

- **annoying:** that makes one feel a little angry
- **awesome:** great; cool; brilliant
- **cute:** lovely; nice; sweet
- **heart sinks:** feels disappointment
- **looking forward to:** feeling happy about something in the future
- **nods:** moves his head up and down to say “yes”
- **States:** United States of America
- **stuff:** (here) other things



‘Do you have any eye protection?’ Rose asks.

‘Yeah, of course. You can’t look directly at the sun.’

He looks in his bag. There is a science fiction novel, a notebook, some pens and pencils, some chocolate... and a cardboard box. He takes it out.

‘What’s that?’ she asks.

‘Don’t you know? It’s a pinhole camera.’ He points at a small hole on one side of the box. ‘The light from the sun shines through this hole. And you can look at an image of the sun on the back of the box, here.’ He shows her.

‘That’s neat,’ she says. Then Rose takes a pair of shiny black goggles from her backpack.

‘These are special goggles from NASA. You know, the space people. My dad has a friend there.’

They are very impressive.

‘Do you want to wear them?’ she asks.

‘Me?’ Liam says, surprised. ‘What about you?’

‘That’s OK, I have a spare pair.’

And Rose takes another pair from her backpack.

‘My sister can’t be here today. She has a horrible cold so she’s at home in bed.’

‘Wow,’ says Liam. ‘Thanks.’

Liam is putting on the goggles when Rose says, ‘Hey, Liam, hurry up! The eclipse is starting!’

He looks up at the sky. It’s true! A black line is touching the round sun. It’s the dark edge of the moon.

### Investigate



Find out how to make a pinhole camera.

Write your findings in your Time Detective Notebook.

### GLOSSARY

- **impressive:** remarkable; cool
- **neat:** (here) cool
- **pinhole:** very small hole
- **protection:** (here) safety cover
- **shiny:** bright
- **spare:** extra



# After Reading

## Vocabulary

1 Complete the word groups with words from the story.

castle cloak flat shirt stars eclipse dress house  
glove NASA apartment sun cap moon tent

**CLOTHES AND ACCESSORIES**

purse

**HOMES**

palace

**SPACE**

sky

2 Add three more of your own words to each group.

3 Write your own sentences using a word from each group.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

# After Reading

## Cambridge English Exams

### **K** A2 Key English Test Reading and Writing Part 4

**1** Read the extract from the story. Choose the correct answer (A, B or C).

Midnight. There is no moon tonight. The sky is **1** ..... and black and full of stars.

Liam is **2** ..... up at them, sitting under the window of his prison cell.

He hasn't got a bed or any blankets. The stone **3** ..... and stone floors of his cell are cold and hard.

He is alone in a prison. **4** ..... he is thinking about his life six hundred years in the future.

He's thinking about his parents and their small flat with its distant view of the sea. He's thinking about his cat Ziggy, and his black patch over one eye that **5** ..... him look like a pirate.

He remembers his friends, his books, his untidy room, and all the **6** ..... unimportant things of his life. And he misses them.

- |                    |                   |                 |
|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| <b>1</b> A clean   | <b>B</b> clear    | <b>C</b> sunny  |
| <b>2</b> A looking | <b>B</b> watching | <b>C</b> seeing |
| <b>3</b> A doors   | <b>B</b> bed      | <b>C</b> walls  |
| <b>4</b> A Or      | <b>B</b> Because  | <b>C</b> And    |
| <b>5</b> A makes   | <b>B</b> does     | <b>C</b> seems  |
| <b>6</b> A short   | <b>B</b> heavy    | <b>C</b> little |