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GRAVITY

You may know the story of the English scientist **Isaac Newton** (1643–1727) and the apple. When an apple falls on Newton’s head, he has the idea that some invisible force pulls things down to the ground. This force is called gravity. The word comes from Latin, and it means ‘weight’. Because of gravity, things fall when we drop them.

In simple words, everything has gravity. Gravity makes people and objects have weight. Weight is the force of gravity between a person (or an object) and the ground. The heavier the person, or object, the greater the force of gravity.

We can think of the Earth as a magnet, because it pulls everything to its centre. But in space, the sun is the centre. The Earth moves around the Sun because the Sun’s gravity is pulling it. That is why the planets move around the Sun.

We also use gravity to describe something important or serious. In *The Light Princess*, a spell is put on the princess, and she has no gravity. She floats in the air and cannot walk like other people. But she also has no ‘gravity’ in her heart. This means she does not care about the people around her. She does not feel emotions like other people. The only way she can break the spell is by growing up. That way, she can feel the weight of her emotions and begin to understand life.



GLOSSARY

- **drop:** let fall
- **emotions:** feelings
- **force:** power
- **greater:** bigger
- **Latin:** the language in ancient Rome
- **magnet:** 
• **serious:** not funny or silly
- **spell:** magic words
- **weight:** how heavy a thing is

Without gravity, we feel no weight. This happens to astronauts in a spacecraft in space. Maybe, sometimes, they feel like the light princess.

OVER TO YOU!

Do you know why you weigh less if you are on top of a mountain? If you don't, research online!

LET'S MOVE

Check the meaning of the following verbs.

 In pairs, mime and guess. Which verbs use gravity? Which move against it?

climb drop fall float
fly jump rise swim

The Light Princess





The Prince

An illustration featuring three characters. In the center is a young man with short brown hair, wearing a green tunic with yellow floral patterns and brown boots. To his left is an older woman with white hair, wearing a green patterned dress with a white collar and purple boots. To his right is a young woman with voluminous blonde hair, wearing a red dress with white floral patterns and red boots. The background is a stylized, colorful pattern of yellow and blue arches. The characters are standing on a light blue surface.

THE NURSE

THE LIGHT PRINCESS

BEFORE READING



1 Listen and match the names to the pictures.

a the Lord Chamberlain **b** Princess Makemnoit
c the nurse **d** the prince **e** the princess **f** the servants

1



2



3



4



5



6



2 Listen again and complete the sentences about the characters in Exercise 1.

aunt daughter Lord nurse servants wife

- a** The king and queen have a baby
- b** The looks after the baby princess.
- c** The work in the palace.
- d** The Chamberlain is a very important man.
- e** Princess Makemnoit is the king's sister and the baby princess's
- f** The prince wants a He wants to marry a princess.



3 Write the correct words under the pictures.

cave lake mountains river rocks shore



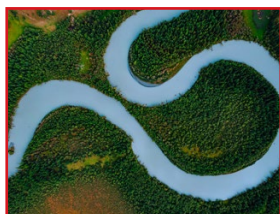
a



b



c



d



e



f

4 Listen and complete the description below with the correct form of the words from Exercise 3.

The king, the queen and the princess live in a palace. The palace is on the (a) of a beautiful (b) In and around the lake, there are lots of (c) There are (d) near the lake. In the mountains, there is a (e) There are (f) that take water from the mountains to the lake.

5 Imagine the place in Exercise 4. Draw a picture.

6 In pairs, compare your pictures. What is the same? What is different?



1 THE KING AND QUEEN WANT A CHILD

 In a country called Lagobel, there live a king and queen. They live in a beautiful palace beside a lake. But they are very sad because they haven't got any children.

'All the queens have children. Some queens have three children, some have seven, and some have twelve. But we haven't got one!' says the king. He's very sad.

The queen smiles•. 'You must wait, my dear king,' she says.

The king tries to wait, but he isn't very good at it. The months pass• and then, finally, they have a daughter. A beautiful little princess with blue eyes and golden• hair.

GOOD AT

The king is not good at waiting.
What are you good at?
What are you not good at?

 Share with a partner.

The king and queen want to have a big party for the baby princess. The king writes all the invitations•. He invites everybody, but he doesn't invite his sister, Princess Makemnoit. He forgets• to invite her. This is a big mistake• because Princess Makemnoit isn't very nice. She's a witch•.

GLOSSARY

- **forgets:** doesn't remember
- **golden:** (here) yellow, like gold
- **invitations:** cards asking people to come (to a party)
- **mistake:** wrong thing or action
- **pass:** (of time) go; finish
- **smiles:** makes a happy face
- **witch:** woman with magic powers

Princess Makemnoit isn't very nice, and she isn't very kind. She looks very strange, too. She has long black hair and a very big nose. Her eyes are blue. But when she's angry, they are yellow and green. And she is very angry now. She waits and waits for an invitation, but no invitation comes.

On the day of the party, she puts on her best• black dress. 'I'm going to the party,' she says, with a wicked• smile. Then she rides to the palace on a black horse.

That day, the king is very happy. He forgets that his sister isn't very nice. 'My dear sister,' he says. 'It's good to see you again.'

Princess Makemnoit smiles, and she walks into the palace. She goes to the baby, then she turns around three times and says:

*'Light of body, light of heart,
Baby girl, break your parents' hearts•!'*

'It's only a silly• nursery rhyme,' the guests say, and they smile. But suddenly, it is cold, and the sun stops shining•. The guests are afraid now.

NURSERY RHYMES

Nursery rhymes are funny poems for young children.
Do you know any nursery rhymes?

GLOSSARY

- **best:** better than others
- **break your parents' hearts:** make them feel very sad
- **shining:** being light and bright
- **silly:** stupid
- **wicked:** very bad

But the baby princess is happy, and she laughs and kicks her little legs. The nurse is afraid. She can't feel the baby in her arms. *She is very light*, she thinks.

It isn't a silly nursery rhyme. It's a spell•. And with this spell, the wicked witch takes away• the princess's gravity.

GRAVITY

What is gravity? Go back to pages 8 and 9 to check.



Describe gravity to a partner.

After the party, many strange things happen. That evening, the nurse holds• the baby princess in her arms. Suddenly, the baby floats up to the ceiling•. She stops there and laughs. 'Ha! Ha! Ha!'

The nurse is afraid. She rings a bell•, and a servant comes.

'Please get a ladder•,' she says.

The servant runs and gets the ladder. The nurse climbs up the ladder. Then she catches the baby's dress. The baby is safe now.

When the king and queen hear about this, they run to the nursery•. The king holds the baby, but he can't feel anything. The baby floats up to the ceiling again. She laughs and laughs.

The king is afraid. He looks up at the baby. The queen is afraid, too. The king turns to her, and he says, 'She hasn't got any gravity. She can't be *our* baby!'

-
- **bell:**



- **ceiling:** roof; top part in a room
- **holds:** has in her arms or hands
- **ladder:**



- **nursery:** room in a house where children play
- **spell:** magic words
- **takes away:** removes

‘Of course, she’s *our* baby,’ says the queen. ‘Now, think about the party. Do you remember your sister, Princess Makemnoit, turning around three times?’

‘Yes, I do,’ says the king. ‘That witch! It’s a spell. Our daughter is under a spell!’

‘Yes, you are right,’ answers the queen. She is very sad.

‘Get the ladder!’ the king says to the servant.

The servant gets the ladder, and he climbs up to the ceiling. But he can’t catch the little princess. She looks like a cloud in the sky.

SHE LOOKS LIKE A CLOUD IN THE SKY

This is a simile. A simile describes something by comparing it to another thing.

Complete these similes about yourself.

My eyes are like

When I walk, I’m like

‘Take this stick,’ says the king. Then he gives the servant a long stick. Now he can catch the baby, and he pulls her down.

The baby is safe now. But she is very light. And the king and queen are worried about the spell.

GLOSSARY

• **cloud:** 

• **stick:** 

• **looks like:** is the same as

• **pulls:** takes in his hands and moves

• **worried:** sad because something bad can happen

AFTER READING VOCABULARY

1 Use five of the words in the box to complete the sentences.

belong blanket handsome hole
ladder rise shore sword

- a** The nurse climbs up the and catches the baby's dress.
- b** She's sleeping under a rose bush, and there is a of rose petals on top of her.
- c** 'The princess doesn't in this world,' says Kopy-Keck.
- d** The palace is on the of a beautiful lake.
- e** The snake finds the in the roof of the cave.

2 Write sentences with the three words left out in Exercise 1.

3 Read the descriptions and complete the words.

- a** very big stone r _ _ _
- b** when the sun goes down s _ _ _ _ _
- c** point where two lines meet c _ _ _ _ _
- d** small area of water p _ _ _
- e** jump under water d _ _ _
- f** room under a house or building c _ _ _ _ _
- g** plant in the sea s _ _ _ _ _
- h** big hole in a mountain c _ _ _

K A2 Key English Test Reading and Writing Part 4

1 Read the sentences and choose the correct answer (A, B or C).

- 1 Both the prince and the princess are very good swimming.
A at **B** in **C** for
- 2 ‘Please a ladder!’ says the nurse.
A make **B** hold **C** get
- 3 She is in the boat under the blankets with her eyes closed.
A standing **B** lying **C** sitting
- 4 Some wind blows through the window.
A only **B** open **C** in
- 5 She laughs good news and bad news.
A with **B** at **C** for
- 6 ‘The princess doesn’t belong this world,’ says Kopy-Keck.
A on **B** at **C** in
- 7 At night, she looks at the lake her balcony.
A on **B** in **C** from
- 8 He takes his shoes, and he jumps in the lake.
A down **B** off **C** away
- 9 She holds on a tall tree. Then she climbs down.
A at **B** with **C** to
- 10 ‘There is a prize the person who finds the answer,’ says the king.
A for **B** to **C** on