

READING ACTIVITY

1/4

LOST AT DEAD MAN'S CAMP

Read the excerpt and then do the activities below.

CALIFORNIA!

The suitcases were packed, the airline reservations were made and Megan, Alex and Steve were ready to leave for California. Liz drove them to Tampa International Airport and said, "Have a great vacation and work hard on that old house! Remember to call us every day."

"Don't worry about us!" said Alex and Steve, excitedly.

"Oh, mom," said Megan, "just think of the great pictures I can take in California!"

The three friends ran to the airline gate and boarded the plane. They were on their way to the West Coast. After a flight of about seven hours, the plane landed at San Francisco International Airport, and Aunt Helen was there to meet them. She was an attractive woman of about 40, with a friendly smile. She had short dark hair, brown eyes and glasses. She was wearing a dark blue business suit.

"Hi guys!" said Aunt Helen, warmly. "Welcome to California! I'm so glad to see you again, Megan and Alex. And I'm happy to meet you, Steve."

"We're so happy to be here!" they said, happily. "Thanks for inviting us."

"Thanks a lot for inviting me, too, Ms Collins!" said Steve, smiling.

"Oh, Steve, please call me Aunt Helen," she said, laughing. "This will be a vacation that you'll never forget. There's lots to see and do in California. And, of course, there's lots of work to do in the old house. Let's go and get the SUV, and you can meet Sam."

"Who's Sam?" asked Megan.

Aunt Helen laughed and said, "You'll soon find out."

The three friends and Aunt Helen walked all the way to the parking lot. Aunt Helen stopped in front of a SUV and said, "This is Sam!" A handsome German shepherd was sitting in the back seat. he looked at the three friends and barked.

"You have a dog!" exclaimed Alex.

"Yes!" said Aunt Helen. Then she turned to Sam and said, "Sam, I want you to meet my niece and nephew, Megan and Alex, and their good friend, Steve. They're going to stay with us." Sam looked at Aunt Helen and seemed to understand everything she said.

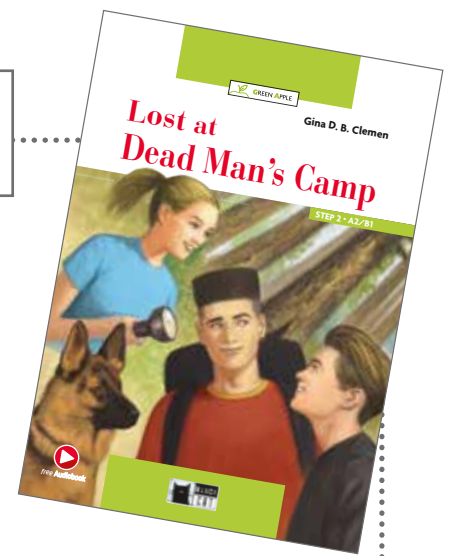
"Get into the SUV and I'll tell you Sam's story," said Aunt Helen.

They left the parking lot and started to drive on the freeway. They could see San Francisco Bay and its bridges: the Golden Gate Bridge, the Bay Bridge, the San Mateo Bridge and the Richmond Bridge. They crossed the Bay Bridge and started to travel east, towards the Sierra Nevada Mountains. The three friends stared at the beautiful city with its tall buildings and bright lights.

"I found little Sam when he was still a puppy," said Aunt Helen. "A car hit him on a busy street. He was crying because he was badly injured. So I took him to the SPCA shelter and a kind vet looked after him for a month. Then one morning the vet called me and said, 'The puppy you brought here is feeling well now, but he doesn't have a master...' I immediately said, 'I'll take him home with me!' Now Sam's three years old and he's my wonderful pet."

"What a great story!" said Steve, look at Sam. "You saved Sam thanks to the SPCA."

(from Chapter Two)



READING ACTIVITY

2/4

ACTIVITIES

1 Choose the correct answer, a, b or c.

1. Who took the plane to San Francisco International Airport?

- a. Liz
- b. Aunt Helen
- c. Megan, Alex and Steve

2. How long did the flight to the West Coast take?

- a. 40 minutes
- b. seven hours
- c. four hours

3. Who was Sam?

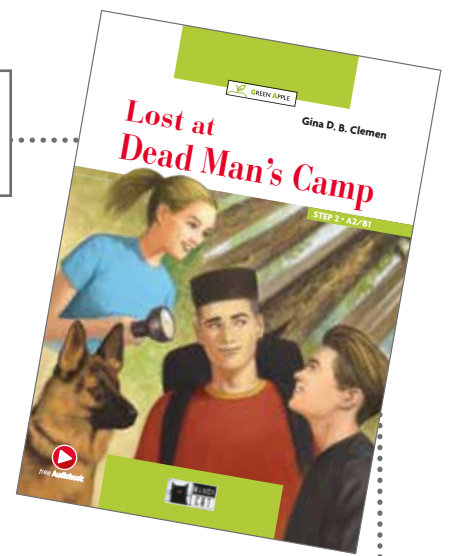
- a. a German shepherd
- b. Aunt Helen's husband
- c. Aunt Helen's three-year-old son

4. Which bridge did the three friends and Aunt Helen cross to travel east?

- a. the Bay Bridge
- b. the Golden Gate Bridge
- c. the Richmond Bridge

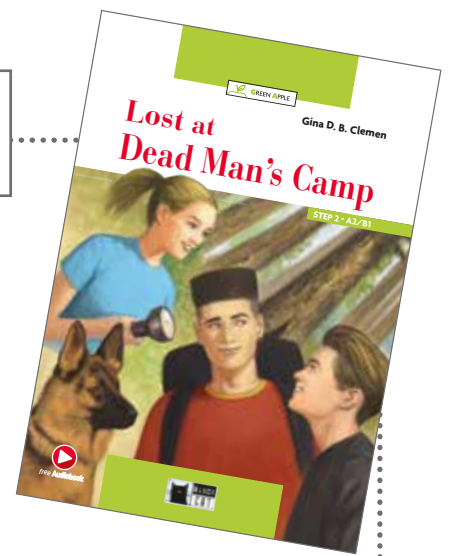
5. Where did Aunt Helen find Sam?

- a. at the SPCA
- b. on a busy street
- c. at the Marine Aquarium



READING ACTIVITY

3/4



2 Are the following sentences true (T) or false (F)?

1. Aunt Helen drove the three friends to the airport. T F
2. Megan wanted to take some great pictures in California. T F
3. Liz told Alex and Megan to call home every weekend. T F
4. Aunt Helen was about forty years old. T F
5. Sam stayed at the SPCA for ten days. T F
6. A kind vet sold the puppy to Aunt Helen. T F

