

# Hard Times for the Time Trippers

时空旅者之艰难时世



Maria Jack  
Ian Lister

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Graw  
Hill

Intermediate

B2 Vantage



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Fictional and Non-Fictional Texts  
Glossary with Vocabulary Activities



西安交通大学出版社  
XI'AN JIAOTONG UNIVERSITY PRESS

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## 内容及特色介绍

Password Readers 系列读物精选了原创和经典的小说类作品。这些作品经过改编后更加适合英语学习者的需要。该系列读物为读者自主学习提供了实用且易理解的学习材料。每册读物由十余个六页长度的章节组成，故事与练习交替循环，既巩固词汇学习，又增强阅读技巧。每个故事结束后还配有与主题相关的背景信息，有助于读者深入理解文本并扩大知识面。每册读物均配有一张音频光盘，在提高听力的同时，也给人一种听的享受。先听再读，你会发现每本书都具有更为丰富的价值。

### 第一级(Beginner)

这一级别读物几乎都以现在时陈述，出现一些情态动词，尤其是 **must** 和 **can**；并包含大量关于形容词、介词和疑问词的练习。在第一级的读物中，插图在词汇学习与测试中起到了重要的作用。

### 第二级(Elementary)

这一级别读物几乎都以现在时陈述。其中也出现一些情态动词的使用，尤其是 **must**, **can**, **should**, **have to**。这一级别的大多数读物包含关于形容词比较级、不规则名词复数形式，以及疑问词和疑问句的练习。每册读物都配有全彩色插图，既帮助读者加强对文章的理解，又增加练习题的生动性。

### 第三级(Pre-intermediate)

几乎所有故事都以现在时讲述，涉及少量过去时，尤其是 **was** 和 **were**。大多数读物都聚焦于常用的基本词汇，很少出现助动词，读者可以进一步学习形容词的比较级和疑问词的用法。

### 第四级(Intermediate)

一般过去时广泛地出现在这一级别的读物中。学生可以从中掌握不规则动词的过去时态变形。文章中还包括动词的一般将来时和一些常用情态动词的用法。这一级别的文章用词更为广泛，读者可以深入学习形容词比较级和最高级的用法。其中一些读本还讲述了更为复杂的语法结构，比如条件状语从句、不定式结构等。语法讲解采用大量疑问句和否定句作为例子，以加深对语法结构的学习。

### 第五级(Upper-intermediate)

这一级别读物涉及的话题及词汇主要聚焦于现代时尚行业：电视产品、时尚设计、电子银行等。这些故事的中心内容是商业事务及现代无线通信。文章中使用了中高级难度的动词时态和其他语法结构。

读者可根据自己实际的英语水平(如词汇量、语法知识、理解能力、阅读能力等)选择适合自己的读物，而不必受制于学校年级划分或学历高低的约束。关于本系列读物的其他信息，请参考书末最后一页。



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## Words

**I Match the various sections of this book to the purpose that each part serves.**

- |                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| 1) Contents          | a) information and activities about themes connected with the story       |
| 2) Before reading    | b) pictures of places in the story with connected activities              |
| 3) After reading     | c) where you can find the words you don't know with additional activities |
| 4) Settings          | d) exercises that introduce a chapter                                     |
| 5) About the Story   | e) a list of the twelve chapters of the story and the extra activities    |
| 6) Not only glossary | f) exercises about a chapter and the language used in it                  |

## CHAPTER 1

# A Desperate Decision

**"I** t isn't true! It can't be true!"

Matt Johnson woke up suddenly. It was that nightmare again: it's the last day at Newbridge Middle School before the holidays. He comes home. His parents aren't there. There's a note on the table.

*"Dear Matt, We'll be home soon, with a surprise for you! Mom and Dad."*

He remembers what the surprise was – a summer holiday in California. In the next scene in his dream the police arrive. They tell Matt about the car accident. His parents are dead. Matt feels ill. The room is spinning. He falls to the floor semi-conscious. The dream switches to the funeral, then the journey to Greenwood to live with his Grandma.

**B** ut this time, when he woke up, Matt remembered a strange detail in the nightmare. When he was semi-conscious, there was a face near him, a pretty girl's face, Linda's face. But surely that wasn't possible.

## Pictures

2 Look at the picture of Matt and Linda, the two protagonists of the story, then use these words to complete the sentences.

He's   His   She's   Her   They're

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ tall and dark.
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_ friends.
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_ favourite sport is swimming.
- 4) \_\_\_\_\_ fair and slim.
- 5) \_\_\_\_\_ favourite sport is soccer.





He didn't know Linda then. They became friends in Greenwood, after the accident. He smiles as he remembers their incredible adventures together, traveling back in time, first to the Middle Ages and then to the Wild West. After he met Linda he was happy and his nightmares stopped. But now they are back.

"I must do something!" Matt whispers to himself desperately.

**"I** 'm home!"

Linda Chapman came happily into the house after a Saturday afternoon at the swimming pool. Her mother was by the telephone. She *wasn't* happy.

"What's wrong, Mom?" asked Linda.

"That was your father on the phone. He wants to see you tomorrow, for your birthday. Why didn't he tell me before? Now I've got everything ready for your party, but if he wants to see you, I can't stop him."

"Oh, Mom!" said Linda unhappily. "I want to stay here with you, Matt and my friends. Dad's always tired and irritated."

"It's his work, Linda, you know how important *that* is for him." Linda's mother smiled sadly.

"Don't worry, dear, I'll think of a solution to please everybody. Oh, Linda, Matt's here. He's in your room working on your computer."

Linda smiled. She ran upstairs to see her best friend – but Matt wasn't there!

On the computer screen were the words "ERROR - VIRUS". Then she saw a note on her bed. It was Matt's writing.



Dear Linda, If you are reading this note, then there are two possibilities:

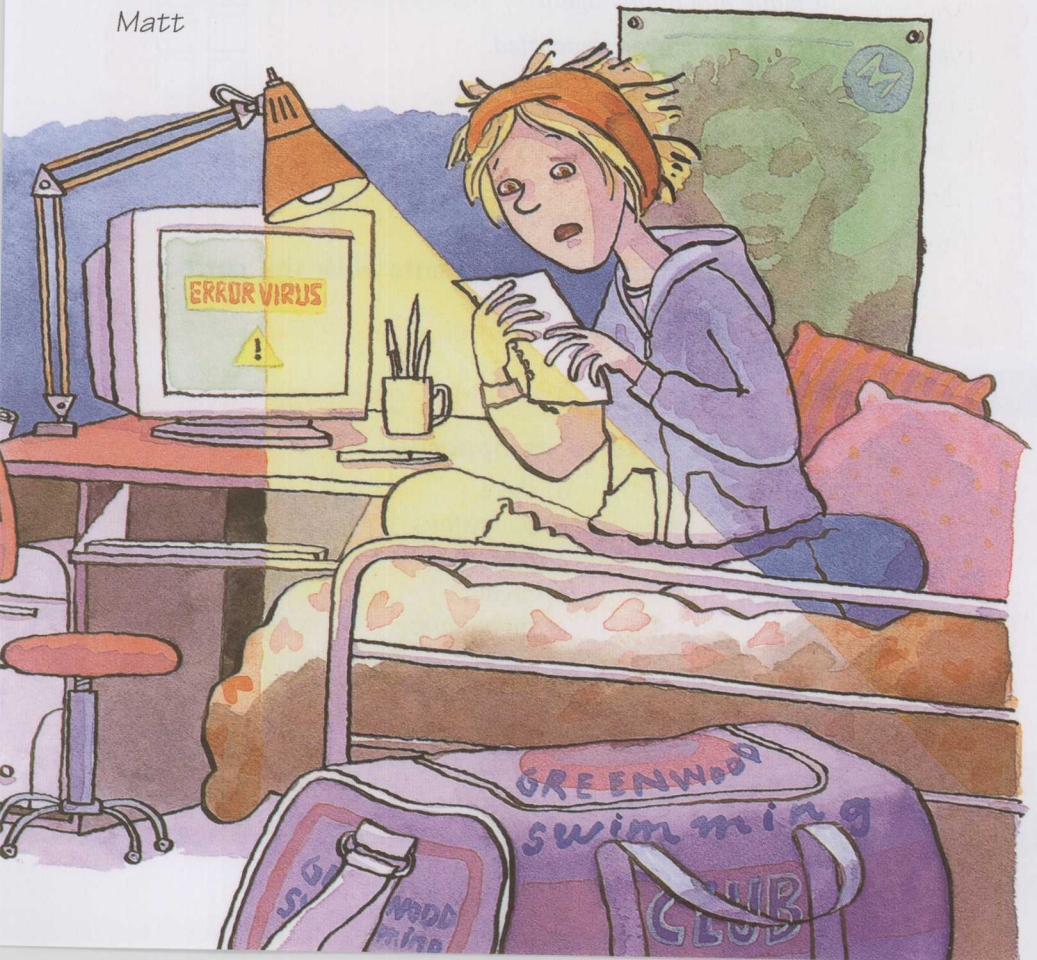
1 – something went wrong.

2 – my plan worked.

What plan, you're asking yourself? It's something I must do – I want to try to save my Mom and Dad, so I'm using the Time Trippers software to go back to Newbridge to the day before their accident. I know Mr Wells says we can't change the past, but we have this secret possibility to travel in time using the computer and I must discover if I can change my parents' destiny. I miss them so much, Linda. If it works, or if something goes wrong, I don't know if you and I will see each other again. But I think we will, because before I met you in Greenwood I'm sure I already knew you – your face was already in my dreams.

I'll never forget you, Linda.

Matt







## A Desperate Decision

### The story so far

#### 3 True or false?

Indicate T or F.

- |  | T                        | F                        |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1) Matt went to Florida for a summer holiday.                            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2) Matt lives with his grandmother now.                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3) Matt was happy when he arrived in Greenwood.                          | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4) Matt and Linda had an adventure in Roman times.                       | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5) Matt and Linda went to America during one adventure.                  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6) Linda's friendship was good for Matt because it made him happy again. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7) Linda's parents are separated.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8) It's Linda's birthday today.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9) Linda's dad thinks his family is more important than his work.        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10) Linda's mom doesn't know Matt.                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**Now rewrite the false statements with the correct information.**

### Words

#### 4 Match each word to its opposite.

- |             |               |
|-------------|---------------|
| 1) dark     | a) there      |
| 2) day      | b) downstairs |
| 3) dreams   | c) present    |
| 4) happily  | d) night      |
| 5) here     | e) nightmares |
| 6) past     | f) light      |
| 7) upstairs | g) sadly      |
| 8) dead     | h) well       |
| 9) ill      | i) alive      |



## Language

### 5 Match the beginning of each sentence to the correct ending.

- 1) If Matt goes to sleep...
  - 2) If Linda goes to see her father...
  - 3) If Matt saves his parents...
  - 4) If Matt changes the past...
  - 5) If there's a virus in the computer...
- a) ... he will change the past.
  - b) ... it can cause errors.
  - c) ... he has a terrible nightmare.
  - d) ... she will have an unhappy birthday.
  - e) ... the present will change too.

### FIRST CONDITIONAL

If he wants to see you, I can't stop him.  
If something goes wrong, I don't know  
if we'll see each other again.

## Check your comprehension

### 6 Here is a rough draft of the letter that Matt wrote to Linda. Complete the letter by writing the following sentences in the gaps.

- |                         |                                |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1) but I want to try    | 4) So you found my note        |
| 2) my plan didn't work  | 5) I want to stop the accident |
| 3) I'll always remember | 6) Goodbye                     |
| our adventures together | 7) you're thinking             |

Dear Linda,

\_\_\_\_\_! Then there are 2 possibilities:

1 - \_\_\_\_\_; 2 - my plan worked. What plan,

\_\_\_\_\_? It's something I must do - \_\_\_\_\_

so I'm going back to Newbridge. I know Mr Wells says we  
can't change the past, \_\_\_\_\_.

If something goes wrong, \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_, Linda.

Matt



## Words

I Tick the words that are related to computers.

☐ chaos

☐ software

☐ cake

☐ mouse

☐ e-mail

☐ fog

☐ screen

☐ PC

☐ inventor

☐ virus

## CHAPTER 2

# A Dangerous Idea

"O

h, Matt!" said Linda unhappily. "Why didn't you ask for my help?" Suddenly she heard a horrible laugh. It came from the computer!

Linda looked at the screen. The words "ERROR – VIRUS" now flashed red and black. "Oh no!" thought Linda. "If there's a virus, perhaps Matt will need my help!"

She moved the mouse and an e-mail message appeared, accompanied by the same nasty laugh:

*You like Johnson more than me but now you can't use the computer together any more – ha ha! Johnny*

"Johnny Briggs!" thought Linda angrily. "He's so spiteful! I know he's jealous because Matt is my friend but this is a terrible thing to do! If the virus was already in the computer when Matt used it, who knows where and *when* he is now?"

"M

om, er... I... left my jacket at the pool!" shouted Linda, running out of the house. But she didn't go to the swimming pool. In a few minutes she was at Mr Wells' house. Mr Wells was not only her History teacher at Greenwood Middle School,



## Check your comprehension

- 2 A computer has changed some of the letters in an e-mail that Linda received from Mr Wells. Which letters are incorrectly replaced by others?

Linba,

Afer 2 abvenpures in phe tasp, you and Mapp trodaddy  
wanp po use phe pime pravel sofeware, dup tlease de  
careful! Rememder, you musp nop change phe tasp!





he was also the inventor of the computer Time Travel software.

"Tut, tut! This is a very complicated affair," said Mr Wells, with a serious expression on his face. "I've told you and Matt many times, we *can't* change the past, it's too dangerous. If we modify one single event in the past there can be a chain reaction and everything can change. I travelled to the Wild West to observe the Native Americans, not to change history. I can understand Matt's feelings, but what is done is done. Can you imagine a world dominated by those dictators from history who were defeated by destiny?"

"Well, what can we do?" asked Linda, desperately. "We don't know if Matt arrived in Newbridge at the time he wanted or not. But if he is there, we must stop him!"

Mr Wells went out of the room and came back with his portable PC.

"There's no time to lose! We must protect the past!"

He started to type the co-ordinates for Newbridge. "When was the accident?" he asked.

"July the 20th," Linda replied. "But what are you doing?"

"I'm going to stop Matt before he causes chaos!"

"Wait! I'll go," said Linda with determination. "I can convince him to abandon his idea, *if* he's in Newbridge at the right time. If he isn't, then he needs *your* help. You must repair my computer and discover what place and century he's in.

Where's your phone?"

Mr Wells indicated the telephone on his desk.

Linda rang home.

"Mom! It's me. I didn't find my jacket but I found Mr Wells. I told him that I've got a problem with my computer and he's coming to look at it. Is that okay? Oh, and Mom, you remember that Mr Wells loves your chocolate cake. Well, there's still a piece of yesterday's cake in the fridge, isn't there? Great! See you later!"



"Well, my decisive young friend," said Mr Wells, sweetened by the idea of Mrs Chapman's chocolate cake. "Let's go, there's not a minute to lose."

**I**t was night and a strange, dense fog covered everything. Matt couldn't distinguish the buildings around him very well, but he was sure he was in Newbridge. The fog irritated his throat and eyes, but he was more worried about the time. "I programmed the computer for the morning of July 20th," he thought anxiously. "I hope I'm not too late."







## A Dangerous Idea

### Characters

**3 What must each of the following characters from chapter 2 do? Match the beginning of each sentence with the correct ending.**

- 1) Linda must...
  - 2) Mr Wells must...
  - 3) Matt must...
  - 4) Mrs Chapman must...
  - 5) Johnny must...
- 
- a) ... look at Linda's computer.
  - b) ... take the chocolate cake out of the fridge.
  - c) ... find Matt in the past.
  - d) ... stop sending nasty e-mails.
  - e) ... find the right street in Newbridge.

### The story so far

**4 Put the sentences in the correct order.**

- ☐ Mr Wells went to Linda's house.
- ☐ Linda discovered the virus.
- ☐ Linda told Mr Wells about Matt's intentions.
- ☐ Johnny sent Linda a virus.
- ☐ Mr Wells wanted to stop Matt.
- ☐ Matt decided to try and save his parents.
- ☐ Linda decided to convince Matt to return.
- ☐ Linda went to see Mr Wells.
- ☐ Linda phoned home.
- ☐ Matt used the software to travel back in time.
- ☐ Linda received an e-mail from Johnny.