# **New First Certificate Themes**

# DUCOVERE/ AND INVENTION/



Garton-Sprenger Lugton McIver

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# BOOK ONE DUCOVERE AND TWENTION

udy Garton-Sprenger udy Lugton Nick McIver



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> Judy Garton-Sprenger Judy Lugton Nick **Melye**r



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New First Certificate Themes aims to establish a stimulating context in which the late intermediate student can achieve accuracy and fluency in English. The course consists of two books, each with a general theme. This first book concentrates upon Discoveries and Book 2 develops the theme of Relationships.

Each book is divided into ten units, with two test papers and a structure index at the back. The units provide a number of related passages followed by systematic practice in the areas of reading com-

prehension, vocabulary, structure and written skills.

We have chosen passages which offer (a) a choice of interesting subject matter, (b) a wide cross-section of the differing styles and registers of English writing, and (c) contextualised examples of the major language features which are highlighted in the language sections of each unit. The choice of photographic and other visual material reflects the theme being developed and provides an added stimulus for language practice and discussion.

Each unit contains the following sections:

Reading Comprehension A passage with multiple-choice

questions.

Structure and Usage Major structural points arising from the

passage are explained and consolidated

in a variety of exercises.

Further Reading Passage Expands on the subject matter of the

earlier passage in the Unit.

Language Points Explains and practises vocabulary and

other language features which have

occurred in the passages.

Discussion and Composition Suggests topics for oral discussion and

written composition, which can be

expanded into projects.

# Guidance for use with classes preparing for the Cambridge First Certificate in English

New First Certificate Themes is an updated, revised edition of First Certificate Themes and will be of particular interest to candidates preparing for the revised Cambridge First Certificate exam. The new edition covers the written part (Papers 1–3) of the exam and follows the revised format. The oral topics and picture descriptions in New First Certificate Themes are, in addition, very relevant to Paper 5.

The following guide shows how the language work in *New First Certificate Themes* is related to the requirements of the *First Certificate* examination.

#### FIRST CERTIFICATE EXAM

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Paper 1
Reading Comprehension

Paper 2
Composition

Paper 3
Use of English

#### NEW FIRST CERTIFICATE THEMES

Multiple-choice comprehension questions (testing vocabulary as usage, grammatical control and understanding of gist and detail) follow the first *Reading* passage in each unit.

Vocabulary and grammar practice is given in the Structure and Usage and Language Points sections of each unit.

Practice in different types of writing (letters, dialogues, descriptive, narrative, discursive, is given throughout both books, in exercises called *Skills* and in the *Discussion and Composition* sections of each unit.

(Set books, which are included in an optional question in this paper, are not covered in *NFCT*.)

Systematic practice exercises are included in the Structure and Usage and Language Points sections of each unit. Practice in summary writing is given periodically in the Discussion and Composition sections.

Test Papers are given at the back of each book.

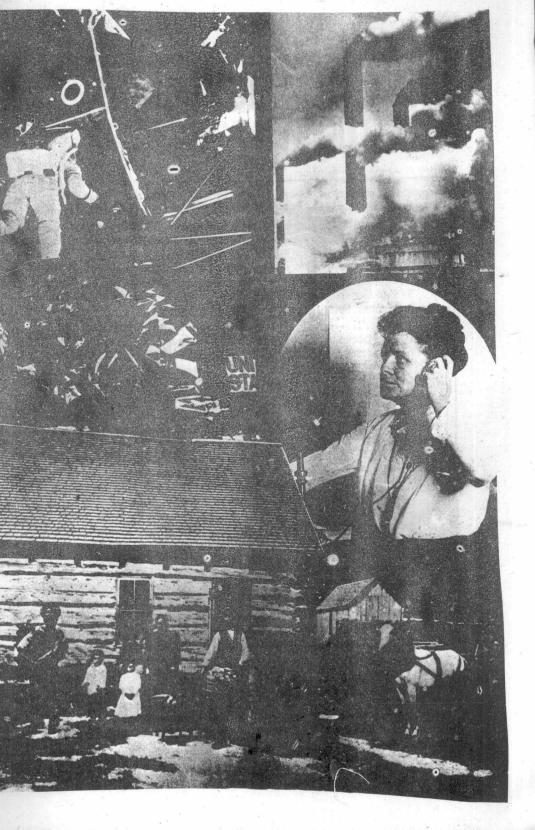
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The accompanying *Notes for Teachers* contains a key to answers for the exercises in both books.

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# UNIT 1, INVENTOR/ AND INVENTION/



# The General's Father

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow it.

'Of course,' said the General, 'my father was a bit of an inventor as well, you know.' And here he reached for his pipe and tobacco pouch, settling even deeper into his armchair. I glanced across at John, who smiled and threw me a look as if to say, 'Here we go on another of the old boy's unlikely tales', and he too sank further into his chair. The steady ticking of the clock, the warmth of the room, the gentle flickering of the fire all combined to form the temptation to fall asleep; but I knew I must not, if only out of politeness.

The General had finished filling his pipe: 'Yes,' he mumbled, almost to himself, 'a bit of an inventor'. He had upon his face that faraway look that I knew so well. 'Only another hour,' I thought, 'and then you can go home'. What I said was somewhat different: 'An inventor, you say,

General. How interesting - do tell us about it!

Yes, my boy. A little known fact about my father. Most people have heard of him for his travels – I've told you about his trip down the Orinoco and how he discovered the lost tribe of the Urapagayos, I think, and of his discovery of the Malise Islands . . . haven't I?

'Yes, General,' said John, who I thought had fallen asleep, and then,

under his breath, 'several times'.

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20 'Mmmm....I thought so., But not about his inventions, I think. Do stop me if you've heard it before — I know how an old man can repeat himself. Now, where was I....?'

Your father, sir. The inventor.

Oh! er.... yes! Well, this was before he went to South America, when he was still in the army, around the time that he met my dear mother, I suppose. A toothbrush, you see. He invented a toothbrush.

John exploded in his chair. Fortunately, at the last minute he managed to prevent an attack of hysterics, and the result was a kind of convulsive cough. Even by the orange glow of the fire I could see that he was a bright shade of red. 1.... I'm sorry, General, he stammered, nasty tickle in my throat. You say your father invented the toothbrush?

Not the toothbrush, you fool — a toothbrush. A particular kind of toothbrush: It was after dinner one night and, as so often happens, my father had got a piece of food stuck in his teeth. However hard he tried, he couldn't get it out with his ordinary toothbrush. Then it struck him — a toothbrush that you could stick on your finger, a kind of rubber tube that you could get the whole thing into your mouth and bend your finger round all the little corners and cracks between your teeth. You see, simple really! Simple, but the idea of a genius!'

'A very good idea,' I said, honestly quite impressed. 'Did he ever

have it manufactured?"

Tried, my boy, tried. But you'll remember this was some time ago. Rubber wasn't as well developed as it is nowadays. In order to make it strong enough, the rubber tube had to be so thick that once you'd got your finger into it you couldn't bend it — and you couldn't get it into your mouth. Thought I'd take it up myself, but never got round to it.'

### Reading Comprehension

#### Choose the most suitable alternatives.

- 1 Do you think the General
  - A rarely told long stories.
  - B often told long stories.
  - C sometimes told long stories.
  - D never told long stories.
- The General mumbled almost to himself because 2
  - A he had forgotten what he was going to say.
  - B nobody was listening.
  - C he had forgotten that he had an audience.
  - D he was almost asleep. .
- The General looked
  - A much further away than he really was.
  - B as if he wished he was somewhere else.
  - C as if he wished John and the author would go away.
  - D as if he was deep in thought.
- The author said something different from what he was thinking (l. 12) because
  - A he wanted to be polite.
  - B he was interested.
  - C he wanted to go home early.
  - D he wanted to stop the General from going to sleep.
- The General's father was
  - A not famous for his travels.
  - B famous for his inventions.
  - C infamous for his inventions.
  - D famous for his travels.
- John said 'several times' (I. 19)
  - A without meaning to.
  - B quietly.
  - C to the author.
  - D in his sleep.
- The General's father went to South America
  - A when he was still in the army.
  - B before he met his wife.
  - C after he invented his toothbrush.
  - D about the same time as he invented his toothbrush.
- The General announced that his father had invented a toothbrush and

Rauton areas for the selection of each tell tripue of utapers may a

- A John found this very amusing. The first state seed of each alphone progress
- B John's chair collapsed. When will briefly about 10 page 11 contrapped above

- C John blew up.
- D John attacked the General.
- 9 John was 'a bright shade of red' because
  - A he had a bad cough.
  - B he was embarrassed.
  - C the light of the fire made him look that colour.
  - D he had blown up.
- 10 'Stammer' (I. 30) means
  - A whisper.
  - B say nervously.
  - C say rudely.
  - D shout.
- 11 After the General's father had failed to remove the piece of food from his teeth
  - A somebody hit him.
  - B he was hit by a new kind of toothbrush.
  - C he suddenly saw a rubber tube.
  - D he suddenly had an idea.
- 12 The General didn't try to have his father's toothbrush manufactured because
  - A it was too long ago.
  - B he never had the time.
  - C he never wanted to.
  - D he couldn't get it into his mouth.

## **Language Points**

#### 'DISCOVER' AND 'INVENT'

Look at these sentences.

'He discovered the lost tribe of the Urapagayos.' (p 5, I. 16)

'He invented a toothbrush.' (p 5, 1, 26)

You discover things that already exist, but have never before been found.

You invent things that are completely new.

#### Examples:

The Vikings discovered America.

Copernicus discovered that the Earth goes round the sun.

Henry Ford invented mass-production. The same of the s

Bell invented the telephone.

The discovery that matter is made up of tiny particles, called atoms, led to the invention of the atomic bomb.

thousands who come to see them yearly at Tussaud's.

### DIFFERENT WAYS OF SPEAKING and best and to

The verbs 'mumbled' (I. 9) and 'stammered' (I. 30) are used in the passage to express two different ways of speaking. Below you will see these two, and four other 'speaking' verbs.

#### Exercise 1

Read the six incomplete sentences that follow, and write in the verb you think most suitable for each.

shouted cried stammered mumbled exclaimed whispered

- 1 'Goodness,' he . . . , 'I can't eat all this food.'
- 2 'Be very quiet', she . . . . , 'because mother's asleep."
- 3 'I'm ssssorry I'm ssso late', he . . . .
- 4 The old man . . . something, but I couldn't understand what he said.
- 5 'Help!' she . . . . 'I can't get out!' vi status addus a waz yluebbaga e .
- 6 'Wait there,' he . . . from his bedroom. I'll be down in a minute.'

#### CONFUSING OPPOSITES

Look again at question 5 of the Reading Comprehension (p.6). You will see the words 'famous' and 'infamous'.

'Infamous' is not the opposite of 'famous': the opposite of 'famous' is 'unknown'. 'Infamous' means 'famous for nasty or unpleasant reasons'.

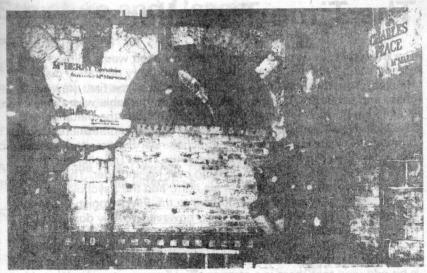
'Valuable', 'invaluable' and 'worthless' are also easily confused in this way.

'Worthless' is the opposite of 'valuable'. 'Invaluable' means 'so valuable that it is beyond price'.

#### Exercise 2 ...... (Mark 13 g) appropagate and to edit tool edit be revocable to

Fill in the gaps in the following passage with some of these words.

A trip to Madame Tussaud's is always an interesting experience. The way the models of . . . statesmen, entertainers and historical figures seem to come to life always amazes me. I marvel at the amount of work that . . . artists, whose names we shall never know, must have put into creating these life-like portraits. An afternoon at the Exhibition is an . . . experience for anyone interested in history, in the arts—or just anyone with a little imagination. And then, of course, there is the Chamber of Horrors, where the acts and deaths of . . . murderers and evil-doers are eternally acted out by the wax models. Even though the lives of these people may have been . . . , they have at least done some good by providing entertainment (if that is the right word) for the thousands who come to see them yearly at Tussaud's.



Above: A scene from the Chamber of Horrors, Madame Tussauds.

#### TO HAVE SOMETHING DONE

Look at this sentence. The bytewens was of passage &

'Did he ever have it manufactured?' (p 5, l. 41)

There are many things that we do not do ourselves, but that others do for us.

his finder. Also here is one little white lever, and here is another

orne Cledi lia noitae est betitami lia ben sw

Notice the structure that is used to express this.

## Examples:

I had my car repaired last week.

When are you going to have your hair cut?

He hasn't had his suit cleaned for six months.

You must have your teeth cleaned regularly.

#### Exercise 3 w ored Turus revel entires as a sever the level one regard and

Make similar sentences out of the following groups of words.

- 1 I trousers mend yesterday.
- 2 We must house paint soon.
- 3 I all my money steal by a robber last week.
- 4 I must go to the dentist and tooth take out.
- 5 Didn't you eyes test by the optician recently?
- 6 Rich people can afford to clean their houses prepare their meals by servants.

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# The Time Traveller

The thing that the Time Traveller held in his hand was a shining metal object, scarcely larger than a small clock, and very delicately made. He placed the mechanism on the table in front of the fire, drew up a chair, and sat down. The only other object on the table was a small shaded lamp, the bright light of which fell full upon the metal object. There were also perhaps a dozen candles about, so that the room was brightly illuminated. I sat in a low armchair near the fire, and I drew this forward so as to be almost between the Time Traveller and the fireplace. Filby sat behind him, looking over his shoulder. The Doctor and the Mayor watched him from his right, and the Psychologist from his left, and the Young Man stood next to the Psychologist. It seems incredible to me that any kind of trick, however cleverly done, could have been played on us in such circumstances.

'This little object,' said the Time Traveller, 'is only a model. It is my plan for a machine to travel through Time. You will notice that it looks a bit odd, and that there is a strange twinkling appearance about this bar, as though it were in some way unreal. He pointed to the part with his finger. 'Also, here is one little white lever, and here is another.'

The Doctor got up out of his chair and peered at the thing. 'It's beautifully made,' he said.

It took two years to make, answered the Time Traveller. Then, when we had all imitated the action of the Doctor, he said: 'Now I want you all to understand, that if you press this lever here, the machine will go into the future. If you press the other one, the motion will be reversed. In a minute I am going to press the first lever, and off the machine will go. It will vanish, pass into the future, and disappear. Have a good look at the thing. Look at the table too, and satisfy yourselves that there are no tricks. I don't want to waste this model and then be told I'm a fake.'

30 There was a minute's pause, perhaps. The Psychologist seemed about to speak, but changed his mind. Then the Time Traveller put his fingers out towards the lever. 'No,' he said suddenly. 'Lend me your hand.' And turning to the Psychologist, he took his hand, and pressed his finger onto the lever. We all saw the lever turn. There was a breath of wind, a candle was blown out, the lamp swayed, and the little machine swung round, became indistinct, was seen as a ghost for a second or so; and it was gone — vanished.

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### Structure and Usage

#### PREPOSITIONS OF PLACE

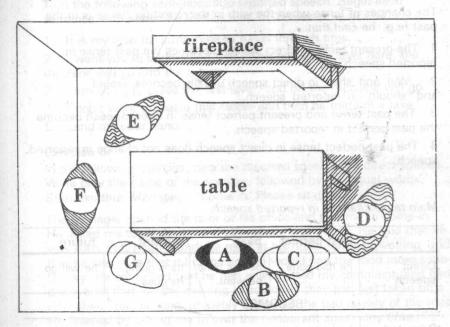
#### Exercise 4

Read carefully the first paragraph of the passage on p 10 again, and then look at the diagram of the room.

The Tune Traveller saidt styou ast names dooks

The table and the fireplace are indicated, and the letters A–E represent the people in the story.

A represents the Time Traveller. You must work out which characters are represented by the letters B-E.



When you have done this, write sentences describing exactly where each of the characters is sitting. You should make your explanations as exact as possible, and make use of the prepositions 'between', 'next to', 'in front of', 'behind' and 'near'.

#### Example:

Let us *suppose* that F is the author, G is Filby and E is the Psychologist.

Then: The author is near Filby and next to the Psychologist.

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