

11 Read the story *Miranda's Journey*<sup>1</sup> and answer the questions: Where did Miranda live? Where did Miranda want to come to?

### Miranda's Journey

(after Donald Bissef)

Once upon a time there was a duck who lived in Africa. She was an English duck and her name was Miranda.

Arthur ['ɑ:θə],  
Miranda [mɪ'rændə]

Her great wish was to come to England and play with the girls and boys who lived there. So she said good-bye to all her friends: to the lions and tigers and monkeys but not to the crocodiles. She hated crocodiles. She said good-bye to her friends and flew away. For miles<sup>2</sup> there was nothing but forest; then she saw the sea. She came to Italy. She could see the children at the seaside, they were playing with the golden sand. Then she came to some mountains and had to fly high over them. The air was colder and colder; it was snowing. Suddenly she heard a song. The song was coming nearer and nearer and Miranda recognized<sup>3</sup> a popular French song.

Just at that moment she saw a lot of French swallows, the swallows were flying south to Italy. As they passed they all dipped their wings in salute<sup>4</sup>. And Miranda dipped hers.

She was tired and hungry. It was snowing hard. She couldn't see anything in front of her and flew on blinded by the snow<sup>5</sup>. And all the time she thought of summer

<sup>1</sup> **journey** ['dʒɜ:ni] — путешествие

<sup>2</sup> **for miles** — на долгие мили

<sup>3</sup> **to recognize** ['rekəɡnaɪz] — узнать

<sup>4</sup> **to dip the wings in salute** [sə'lu:t] — покачать крыльями в знак приветствия

<sup>5</sup> **blinded** ['blaɪndɪd] **by the snow** — ослепленная снегом



days on English ponds, and of the children she was going to meet and play with. She was always flying to London. She flew on for hours like this. The wind and the snow suddenly stopped. Above her she could see the stars, and below the bright light of a big town. It was London.

She flew down and landed on a pond. There was a little nest in the middle of the pond. She was pleased.

She ate some pond grass and got in the nest. She was just going to sleep when she heard someone shouting, "Miranda Duck! Miranda Duck!"

"Here I am!" she said, then jumped out of the nest and swam to the bank of the pond. She saw a messenger boy<sup>1</sup> there.

"Telegram for you," said the boy, "sign here, please!"

Miranda signed. Then with the telegram in her beak she swam back to her nest.

Oh! She was happy. She opened it. It was from the girls and boys in Africa, and it read:

*Miranda, Miranda, Miranda Duck,  
Here is a message to wish you good luck.  
From the children of Africa, oh, Ducky dear, do  
Look after yourself<sup>2</sup>, we're thinking of you.*

The lights went out<sup>3</sup> at the house across the road. She could hear the people saying good night to each other. Then all was quiet. She put the telegram under one wing and her head under the other, and went to sleep.

## Do You Understand The Story?

12 Choose and read the correct ending to each sentence.

- 1 Miranda's greatest wish was:
  - to see Italy and France.
  - to play with the boys and girls who lived in England.
  - to enjoy warm summer days on English ponds.
- 2 It was hard for Miranda to fly because:
  - she had to fly thousands of miles.
  - the weather was cold and snowy.
  - she was alone.

<sup>1</sup> a messenger ['mesɪndʒə] boy — посыльный

<sup>2</sup> Look after yourself — Побереги себя

<sup>3</sup> The lights went out — Свет погас

- 3 She was happy to get a telegram from Africa because:
- the telegram was very friendly.
  - it was the first telegram she ever received.
  - she was always happy to get telegrams.

**13** *Answer the questions.*

- 1 Where did Miranda live?
- 2 What was Miranda's greatest wish?
- 3 Did she say good-bye to her friends?
- 4 What was the first country she came to?
- 5 What did she see at the seaside?
- 6 What was the weather like when she was flying over the mountains?
- 7 Was it hard for Miranda to fly? Why?
- 8 What did she think of on her way to London?
- 9 Where did she land?
- 10 What happened when she was just going to sleep?
- 11 Was she happy to get a telegram?
- 12 What did her friends from Africa write about?

**14** *Prove the following statements.*

- 1 Miranda's greatest wish was to go to England.
- 2 It was hard to fly.
- 3 After hours and hours of flying she came to London.
- 4 She was happy to get a telegram from Africa.

**15** *Describe Miranda's journey to London.*

**How Good Is Your English? (see pp 32 – 33)** ● ● ● ●

**What Do You Think?**

**16** *Say:*

- why Miranda flew away to England.
- why Miranda was happy to get a telegram from her friends.





## How Good Is Your English?



17 Choose the proper word from the box.

- 1 Our greatest ..... is to travel and to see the world.
- 2 ..... gives us a lot of pleasure.
- 3 You can feel really ..... after a long journey.
- 4 Many people would like to go on holiday somewhere where it is nice and .....
- 5 This is the ..... to the town centre.

tired
travelling
road
quiet
wish

18 Match the words from column A with the words in column B.

A	B
golden	songs
high	light
windy	mountains
bright	days
popular	sand

19 Use the correct preposition.

- 1 They walked ..... the field road.
- 2 The car drove ..... the car park.
- 3 A lot of birds were flying ..... the trees.
- 4 Does this train go ..... London?
- 5 Hundreds ..... people visit museums, galleries and other places of interest every day.

over
out of
to
of
across

20 a) *Fill in Past Indefinite and Present Perfect for each of the verbs.*

	Past Indefinite	Present Perfect
to come	<i>came</i>	<i>have/has come</i>
to fly		
to hear		
to meet		
to stop		
to pass		
to read		
to change		
to sign		
to recognize		

b) *Past Indefinite? Present Perfect? Choose the correct form of the verb (✓).*

- 1 “We’ve been so busy; this week (flew by, has flown by),” my friends said.
- 2 “I (met, have met) a lot of interesting people while travelling in Spain,” she said.
- 3 The car (stopped, has stopped) when the driver saw the red light.
- 4 “(Did you hear, Have you heard) of this famous traveller?” my friend asked me.
- 5 We were walking along the road which (passed, has passed) through green fields.
- 6 When I was little, I (read, have read) only fairy tales.
- 7 “I can’t recognize Jane. She (changed, has changed) so greatly,” Tom said.
- 8 The boy (signed, has signed) his name at the end of the letter and put it into an envelope.