

## TRAVELLING THE WORLD

- 1 Read the story *Yak<sup>1</sup>* and answer the questions:  
 What did Yak dream of? What did he need a lot of money for?

## Yak

(after Donald Bisset)

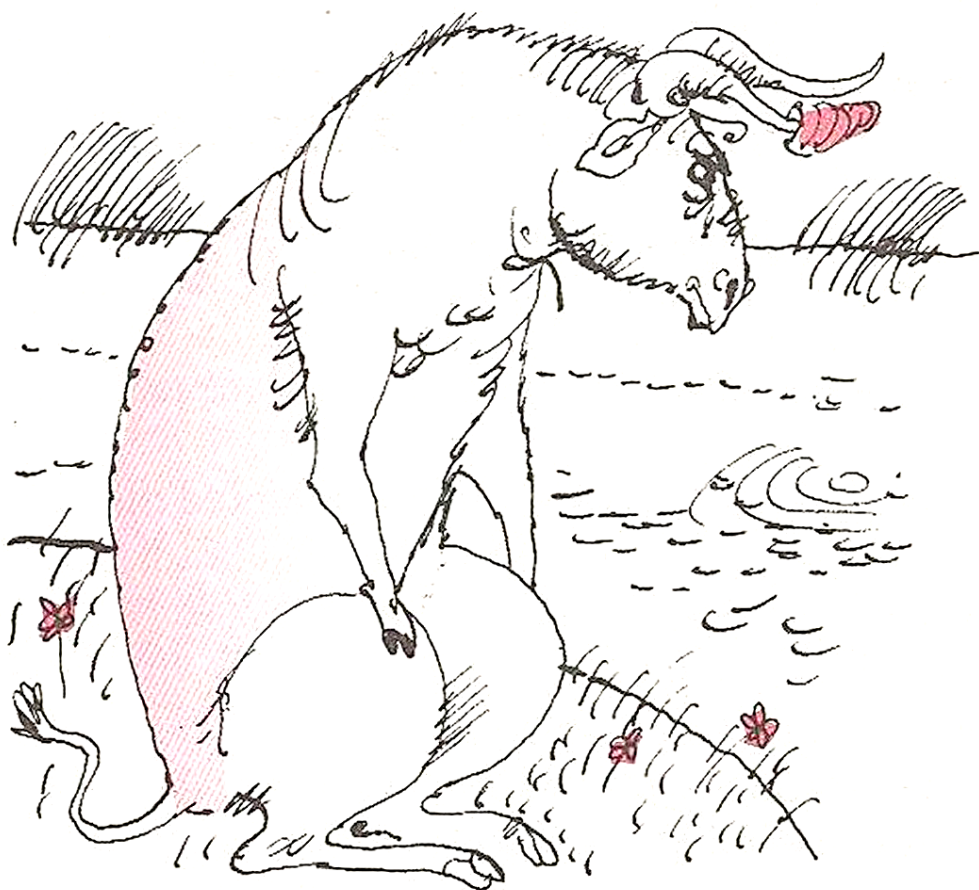
Far, far away from anywhere, Tibet [tr'bet] — Тибет in the mountains of Tibet, there lived a yak. Of course he wasn't really far from anywhere. He was near the snow and the ice and the cold wind and the wet grass and the stony rocks. All day the wind blew hard and the sun stayed behind the clouds. And there were black crows that flew about in the air. Yes, he was near all that. But he was far away from shops and picture-books and ice-cream and the cinema and children on their way to school.

Now the yak had not got a name, so I'll just call him Yak.

Well, Yak was very fond of sitting in a quiet place and listening to the sound of the sea. He had a sea shell, a lovely sea shell and when he held his ear to it, he could hear the sea.

"How has it got here?" thought Yak, but there it was, and it was what Yak liked best in the world. He usually hid the shell from the other yaks and the crows during the day-time. But at night, when the stars were out, he sat behind the rocks on the mountain and listened to the sound of the sea in the shell. And he wished so much to go to the seaside. So one day he picked up his shell, said good-bye to the other yaks and started. Do you want to

<sup>1</sup> yak [jæk] — як, тибетский бык (длинношерстный бык)



know how a yak carries a shell when he is walking? Oh, he just carried it on one of his horns<sup>1</sup>.

He didn't know which way to go, but he thought, "I'll just walk and walk till I get to the sea." So he walked all day and in the evening he ate some grass and listened to the sea in his shell and went to sleep. He walked all the next day and next but still he didn't come to the sea.

All round him were the mountains. Sometimes he saw a herd of lamas<sup>2</sup> and once he saw an eagle<sup>3</sup> high up in the air; but still he didn't come to the sea.

One day he was drinking from a little mountain stream. He was very tired and unhappy. He sat down beside it and took down his shell and listened.

The stream was running over the stones, and it looked at Yak and wondered what he was doing. So it asked him, "What are you doing?"

<sup>1</sup> horn [hɔ:n]— рог

<sup>2</sup> herd [hɜ:d] of lamas ['lɑ:məz] — стадо лам

<sup>3</sup> eagle ['i:gl] — орел

“I’m listening,” said Yak.

“Oh, let me listen too,” said the stream.

So Yak held the shell near the stream and the stream listened.

“Why, that’s the sea,” it said, “that’s the sea!”

“Do you know the way there?” asked Yak.

“Do I know the way?!” said the stream. “Why, I’m going there all the time. Just you follow me and you’ll get there.”

“Thank you,” said Yak, and he followed the stream.

Soon the stream grew bigger until at last it was a big river with boats on it. “Boats?” thought Yak. “How nice! I shall sail in a boat to the sea. I can’t walk any more.” So he got in a boat and away they went.

The boat had a big red sail and the wind blew it along while Yak just sat and had a nice rest.

At last they got to the seaside. It was wonderful. Yak sat down on the sand and watched the waves. He was very happy. “This is nicer than the wet cold mountains,” he thought.

It was so hot that he went to the barber’s<sup>1</sup> and had his long hair cut short<sup>2</sup>. After that he went down to the seashore again and gave the children rides on his back for twopence<sup>3</sup> a time. He soon had enough money to buy all the hay<sup>4</sup> and ice-cream he wanted.

It was very nice there on the seashore, but best of all were the late evenings when it was dark. There were no people then and Yak sat and listened to the sound of the sea and watched the ships on the open sea and the sun on the horizon [hə'raɪzn]. Then, in the dark, the stars came out one by one, and the little waves played on the shore.

<sup>1</sup> **barber** ['bɑ:bə] — парикмахер

<sup>2</sup> **he had his long hair cut short** — ему подстригли его длинную шерсть

<sup>3</sup> **twopence** ['tʌpəns] — два пенса

<sup>4</sup> **hay** [heɪ] — сено

## Do You Understand The Story?

2 *Choose and read the correct ending to each sentence.*

- 1 Yak wanted to go to the seaside because:
  - he did not like the mountains where he lived.
  - he wanted to see new places.
  - he wanted to watch and to hear the real sea.
- 2 Yak felt unhappy because:
  - he did not know which way to go.
  - he was tired and hungry.
  - there was nobody who could show him the way.
- 3 Yak went to the barber's to have his hair cut because:
  - the weather was very hot.
  - he did not like his long hair.
  - the children were afraid of his long hair.
- 4 Yak enjoyed dark evenings because:
  - there were no people then and he could listen to the sounds of the sea.
  - he could see bright stars in the sky.
  - there were no children who always asked him to give them a ride on his back.

3 *Answer the questions.*

- 1 How could Yak hear the sound of the sea?
- 2 Why did he hide the shell from the other yaks?
- 4 Why did Yak feel sad one day?
- 5 What helped him to find the way to the sea?
- 6 How did he get to the seaside?
- 7 Why did Yak go to the barber's?
- 9 Why did Yak like the late evenings best of all?

**How Good Is Your English? (see pp 26 –27)** ● ● ● ●

## What Do You Think?

- 4 *What do you think made Yak leave the mountains where he lived and start travelling?*
- 5 *Do you think Yak was happy when he got to the seaside? Why?*



## How Good Is Your English?



6 Use the proper word from the box.

- 1 It is wonderful to spend your holidays at the .....
- 2 The fisherman took us down the river in his old .....
- 3 It is not very pleasant to sit in a ..... room alone.
- 4 Some people like to travel by train, some by .....
- 5 People dream that one day they may travel to the .....

boat
seaside
dark
stars
ships

7 *Adjective? Adverb? Choose the proper word (✓).*

- 1 Yak liked to sit in a (quiet, quietly) place and listen to the sound of the sea.  
Yak liked to sit (quiet, quietly) behind the rocks and listen to the sound of the sea in the sea shell.
- 2 Yak was ( happy, happily) when he sat down on the sand and watched the waves.  
Yak looked (happy, happily) at the waves in the sea.
- 3 Yak didn't know how to get to the seaside, that's why he looked so (sad, sadly).  
Yak thought (sad, sadly) of the wonderful things he could see at the seaside.

8 Use the correct preposition.

- 1 All day the wind blew hard and the sun often stayed ..... the clouds.
- 2 He was fond ..... watching the waves.
- 3 Yak was sad because he was far ..... shops and picture books and ice-cream and children ..... their way to school.
- 4 He could hear the sea when he held his ear ..... the sea shell.
- 5 The stream was running ..... stones.

over
to
behind
from
on
of

9 *So? Such? Choose the proper word (✓).*

- 1 It was (so, such) wonderful there on the seashore.
- 2 It was (so, such) a wonderful place with high mountains and little streams.
- 3 Yak was (so, such) happy to give children rides on his back.
- 4 It was (so, such) a happy idea to go to the seaside.
- 5 Yak was (so, such) tired that he couldn't walk any longer and stopped near the stream to rest.

10 a) *Fill in Past Indefinite or Past Continuous for each of the verbs.*

	Past Indefinite	Past Continuous
to eat	ate	was/were eating
to sit		
to carry		
to drink		
to swim		
to run		

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

- 1 At nights, Yak usually ( sat, was sitting) behind the rocks and (listened, was listening) to the sound of the sea.
- 2 One day, when Yak ( drank, was drinking) from a mountain stream, it began to talk to him.
- 3 When the stream saw Yak with a sea shell near his ear, he wanted to know what Yak (did, was doing). Yak said that he (listend, was listening).
- 4 When Yak (walked, was walking) , the sea shell was on one of his horns.
- 5 So he (walked, was walking) all day and in the evening he (ate, was eating) some grass and went to sleep.