# SCHOLASTIC READERS

# A FREE RESOURCE FOR TEACHERS!





### Starter Level

This level is suitable for beginner-level students who have been learning English for less than a year. It precedes the Common European Framework level A1. Suitable for users of CLICK magazine.

### **SYNOPSIS**

Zoey and her friends are all students at Pacific Coast Academy – the PCA – a boarding school in California. There is a dance contest at school. Zoey loves dancing, so she's looking for a dance partner to enter with. Her best friend Chase offers, but everyone knows he can't dance, so Zoey turns him down. Then, Zoey's friend Lola suggests Gene – he's in Lola's dance class and he's a great dancer. Zoey's really excited.

Lola, meanwhile, is going to audition for the school play. The play is called 'Tea and Biscuits' and Lola wants the part of Margaret, who is English. She can already do a great English accent, but when she sees Simon, an English boy at school, she sees a chance to get to know him. She tells him her English accent is terrible, and asks him to teach her.

Then Zoey's dance partner Gene has an accident and ends up in hospital. Chase decides to help Zoey. He persuades his roommates, Michael and Logan, to teach him to dance. He practises all night long, and then falls asleep.

Lola auditions for the part of Margaret and gets it. Simon realises that she lied to him about her accent – it's already perfect. He's angry, but he forgives her.

The dance contest is over when Zoey learns that Chase has tried to help her. She finds him asleep in the garden – exhausted. He wakes up and can't believe they've missed the contest. Zoey doesn't mind. She's really touched that he worked so hard for her. The story ends with them dancing together in the moonlight.

#### THE BACK STORY

Zoey 101 is a television series for young teenagers, showing on the Nickelodeon channel. It ran for four seasons, from 2005 to 2008, and won a lot of fans and several awards. The star of the series, American actress Jamie Lynn Spears, has won awards for the show too, including the Kids' Choice Awards for top actress in 2006. Jamie Lynn sings the theme song of the show, 'Follow Me', and is the younger sister of pop singer, Britney Spears.

Since the series ended, Jamie Lynn has become a mother. She lives with her family in Mississippi and she hopes to become a serious actor. 'I want to do big movies and just have a successful career,' she says. 'Not a crazy one.'

Jamie Lynn's character in the show is called Zoey. Zoey and her friends are the first girls to attend the Pacific Coast Academy, which used to be an-all boys' boarding school. Zoey shares Room 101 with two other girls, and that's where the show gets its name. Her roommates in Series 3 are Lola, played by Victoria Justice, and Quinn, played by Erin Sanders, who only has a small part in this story.

Zoey 101 is filmed on location in California. The show was created by Dan Schneider, who used to be an actor before he became a writer and producer. Schneider appeared in one episode of Zoey 101 as a mad taxi-driver!

### **MEDIA LINKS**

**DVD:** Only Season 1 of the TV series of *Zoey 101* is available on DVD. *Dance Contest* is Episode 40 in Series 3.

**CD:** A recording of *Dance Contest* is available to accompany the Scholastic Reader.

**Internet:** The official website at **www.nick.com** has facts about the show, games and profiles of the main characters.

## **HOW TO USE YOUR SCHOLASTIC READER**

### Choosing and motivating

Is this the right story for your class? Have they seen the series *Zoey 101*? Motivate them with background information (see The Back Story above). Play the first page of the story on the CD. Ask what they think is going to happen in the story.

### Organising

Plan a class reading schedule. Decide how many pages to set for reading each week. Select exercises from the Self-Study section at the back of the reader and extra activities from this resource sheet to go with each chunk of reading. (All answers on page 4 of this resource sheet.)

### Using the CD

Students can listen and follow in their books. They can listen and then read. They can read and then listen. All these activities will improve their reading speeds and skills. At Starter level, the CD is useful for pronunciation practice as well as listening and reading activities. Pause the CD after short sentences. Show how the speaker uses intonation to convey meaning.

#### Glossary

Go to 'New Words' at the back of the reader. Translate the words with the class or get students to find meanings at home. The Vocabulary Builder on page 3 of this resource sheet practises the new words in a different context.

### **Casual language**

Introduce the informal expressions used in *Dance Contest* (see Vocabulary Builder on page 3 of this resource sheet). Put them into context. Ask students to look out for them as they read.

### Fact Files

Set these as self-study or use for whole class work. These provide background information about the show and the stars and some of the differences between schools in the US and the UK.

### What did they think?

Get everyone to do a written or spoken review of *Dance Contest*. Compare opinions. Did *you* like it? Let us know at: **readers@scholasticeltreaders.com**.

# SCHOLASTIC READERS

## **RESOURCE SHEET STUDENT ACTIVITIES**





## People and places

#### Answer the questions. 1 Who ... Chase a) loves Zoey? b) wants to be famous? ..... c) is from Britain? d) thinks, 'I'm very cool!'? e) is always helping her friends? ..... f) is very clever? ..... 2 Where is it? Match the sentences and the places. a) This is next to the Pacific Ocean. i) The garden. b) The students meet here and do ii) The Pacific Coast Academy. sports. c) The boys sleep here. iii) Room 101. d) Students meet for drinks here. iv) The boys' bedroom. e) The girls sleep here. v) The students' café.

### Pages 6–11

| 1 Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)? Correct the false ones. |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)? Correct the false ones.   |  |  |  |  |
| Chase is a great dancer.   |  |  |  |  |
| F. Chase is a terrible dancer.                                       |  |  |  |  |
| Zoey wants to dance with Chase.                                      |  |  |  |  |
| · ·  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| ) Gene is a great dancer.  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| d) Gene is in Lola's English class.                                  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| ) Lola wants to be in the school play.                               |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| ) Lola's working on her American accent.                             |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| <b>2</b> Write the words in the sentences.                           |  |  |  |  |
| best big funny great quiet terrible                                  |  |  |  |  |
| best big runny goeat quiet terrible                                  |  |  |  |  |
| ) 'The dance contest is a  |  |  |  |  |
| b) There's a football game on Saturday.                              |  |  |  |  |
| c) Chase is Zoey's friend.   |  |  |  |  |

- d) Chase is a ..... dancer.
- e) The school play has a ..... name!
- f) Simon and Lola want to find a ..... place.

### **3** Who is it? Match the sentences and the names.

- a) Her mum is a dancer. b) 'He's cool,' thinks Zoey. ii) Zoey.
- c) He's in Zoey's homework class. iii) Zoey's family.
- d) 'Simon's cute,' she thinks. iv) Gene.
- e) They're coming to watch the contest. v) Simon.

# **4** Talk to a partner. What kind of contests do you like? What contests do you watch on TV?

### 5 Work with a friend. You are Gene and Gene's friend.

**Gene:** Tell your friend about the dance contest and your new partner. **Gene's friend:** Ask questions about Zoey and the contest.

### Pages 12-17

- 1 Put can or can't in the sentences.
- a) Logan is carrying drinks for his class. He .... *Can't*... see.
- b) Gene ..... dance on Saturday. He ..... leave hospital for a month.
- c) Zoey ..... find a new partner.
- d) Michael and Logan ..... dance. They ..... teach Chase.
- e) Chase ...... tell other people funny things about them.

### 2 Who says this? Who do they say it to?

d) tea? you do some want

| a) | 'She can find a new partner.'            |      |                       |  |
|----|--|------|-----------------------|--|
|    | Logan                                    | to   | Chase and Michael     |  |
| b) | 'We don't have time.'                    |      |                       |  |
|    |  | to   |                       |  |
| c) | 'Maybe you can help me?'                 |      |                       |  |
|    |  | to   |                       |  |
| d) | 'Let's try again.'                       |      |                       |  |
|    |  | to   |                       |  |
| e) | 'What can I do?'                         |      |                       |  |
|    |  | to   |                       |  |
| f) | 'Let's think for a minute.'              |      |                       |  |
|    |  | to   |                       |  |
| 3  | Put the words in the right ord           | ler. |                       |  |
| a) | please? tea can have I biscuits and some |      |                       |  |
|    | Can I have some te                       | ea i | and biscuits, please? |  |
| b) | today is hot it very.                    |      |                       |  |
|    |  |      |                       |  |
| c) | teacher a bad I'm.                       |      |                       |  |
|    |  |      |                       |  |
|    |  |      |                       |  |

.....

## **RESOURCE SHEET STUDENT ACTIVITIES**

| e) accent English me he's with helping my.                                  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| f) good your accent is very English.  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <b>4</b> You are Gene. You are in hospital! Write an email to your parents. |  |  |  |  |  |
| Pages 18–25   |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1 Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)? Correct the false ones.        |  |  |  |  |  |
| a) Michael and Logan give Chase some dancing lessons. $\mathcal{T}$         |  |  |  |  |  |
| b) 'Chase and Zoey can win the contest,' think Michael and Logan.           |  |  |  |  |  |
| c) Chase wants to be very good for Michael and Logan.                       |  |  |  |  |  |
| d) 'Your English accent is terrible,' says the teacher.                     |  |  |  |  |  |
| e) Simon doesn't want to see Lola again.                                    |  |  |  |  |  |
| f) Zoey and Chase dance in the contest.                                     |  |  |  |  |  |
|   |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2 Circle the correct answers.   |  |  |  |  |  |
| a) Michael and Logan want to <i>sleep / do the dance again</i> .            |  |  |  |  |  |

- b) Chase wants to *sleep / do the dance again*.
- c) The teacher is looking for people for the *dance contest / school play*.
- d) Zoey's family is at the dance contest / in Las Vegas.
- e) The dance contest is *over / starting now*.
- f) Zoey and Chase dance in the *contest / garden*.

#### **3** Write a new end for the story.

Chase gets up on Saturday morning. He finds Zoey. They try the dance. They can do it! What happens next?

### **FINAL TASKS**

1 Zoey can dance. Lola can do an English accent. Chase can't dance. What can you do? What can't you do? Write five things.

### **2** Talk about these questions.

- Why is Chase a good friend to Zoey in this story?
- Are you a good friend?
- Finish this sentence: A good friend is ...

# **3** Lola and Simon have tea in the students' café. What do they say? Write their conversation. Start like this:

Simon: Let's go to the cinema. Lola: Great! What's on?

# **4** Change the story. Zoey likes Chase. She wants to be his girlfriend. He only wants to be friends. Write a play.

**Example:** In the girls' bedroom, Zoey is looking out of the window. **Lola:** *Hi, Zoey! What's wrong?* 

Zoey: Oh, nothing ... Well, it's Chase. I like him, but does he like me?

### **VOCABULARY BUILDER**

| 1<br>for | 1 Look at the 'New Words' at the back of the book. Find words for these sentences. |                           |  |  |  |  |
|----------|--|---------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| 1.       | Let's go into that café and have some t£A  |                           |  |  |  |  |
| 2.       | A good dancer d  | every day.                |  |  |  |  |
| 3.       | She is clever and very c   |                           |  |  |  |  |
| 4.       | My favourite f player is Cristiano Ronaldo.  |                           |  |  |  |  |
| 5.       | He's a great player. He can w  | the game.                 |  |  |  |  |
| 6.       | She knows many words in English but he is terrible.                                | er a                      |  |  |  |  |
| 7.       | I don't see him often. He's in a different at school.                              | C                         |  |  |  |  |
| 8.       | There's a dance cwatch it.   | on television! Let's      |  |  |  |  |
| 2        | Find the wrong word in these sentence  | es. Write the right word. |  |  |  |  |
| 1.       | Do you want some tea and buildings.  | biscuits                  |  |  |  |  |
| 2.       | John is a very nice girl.  |                           |  |  |  |  |
| 3.       | Have you got a good dance paper for the contest?                                   |                           |  |  |  |  |
| 4.       | Chase is Zoey's bus friend.  |                           |  |  |  |  |
| 5.       | You're late! The game is open.   |                           |  |  |  |  |
| 6.       | Zoey and her friends go to a boring school.  |                           |  |  |  |  |
| 7.       | Shakespeare is famous for his places.  |                           |  |  |  |  |
| Ca       | Casual language  |                           |  |  |  |  |

- **'Watch out!**' (p.12). Gene says this to Logan because Logan can't see him.
- 'No way!' (p.19). Michael says this when Logan asks, 'Can they win the contest?' It's a very big no!

### Complete the sentences with the casual language above.

- 1. A: 'Are you coming to the football game?'
- B: '.....! I hate football.'
- 2. '.....! There's a car! It's going very fast.'



## FACT FILE FOLLOW-UP

### ZOEY 101 – THE SHOW AND THE STARS (pages 26–7)

### **Research and write**

Students work in small groups. Each group chooses a TV series that they enjoy. Each person in the group gets a topic to research: summarise the story, write profiles for each of the stars, find out about the locations where the show is set, list the awards the show and actors have won. In class, groups share their research and compile a fact file about the series.

### Discuss, write and act

Students work in groups. They're going to write a scene for their own TV show. They choose a location, some characters and a short storyline. They can choose a theme song, too, if they like. They write a short scene from their story. They act it out for the class. The class votes on the best idea and scene.

Example scene: A mother and her two teenage children are in the kitchen. They want to organise a birthday surprise for the dad, who is going to be 40. Everyone has different ideas and they have an argument.

### AT SCHOOL IN THE US AND THE UK (pages 28–9)

### **Discuss and write**

In pairs, students discuss differences between their school and the PCA. They write their ideas in list form. Pairs compare lists across the class.

### Imagine and write

Students imagine they have just arrived at a boarding school like the PCA. They write an email to their parents. In their email, they answer these questions about the school: Who are your friends? What's your bedroom like? What are your favourite subjects? What are the teachers like? What's the food like? What sports are you playing?

### Discuss and draw

Students design and draw their ideal school uniform. Put the finished sketches on the wall and ask the class to vote for the best uniform.

### **CD FOLLOW-UP**

Tell students that it's OK not to understand every word. With practice, they will understand more and more.

### Observation

1. Choose a scene from the CD and prepare questions on it before class, e.g. Page 10: Who is a dancer in Zoey's family? How many days are there before the contest? Who is coming to the PCA for the contest?

Play the scene a couple of times and ask the students your auestions.

2. Play a different scene. Students write at least two questions for their partner to answer. Play the scene again. Students answer each other's questions.

### Prediction

Read a section with the students and play the relevant part of the CD. Stop at some dramatic points and ask, 'What happens next, do you think?'

### Roleplay

Put students into pairs or threes, They choose one of these scenes and act it out:

- Zoey, Michael and Chase (pages 6-7)
- Zoey, Lola and Gene (page 10)
- Lola meeting Simon (page 11)
- Simon teaching Lola (page 16)
- Simon and Lola after the auditions (page 22)

### ANSWER KEY

### Self-Study Activities (pages 30-2)

- 1 Open answers.
- 2 a) a biscuit b) tea c) a play d) Hi, guys!
- 3 Open answers.
- 4 a) Zoey b) Michael c) Chase d) Lola e) Gene f) Simon
- 5 a) Zoey to Michael b) Zoey to Chase c) Lola to Gene d) Lola to Zoey e) Lola to Simon
- 6 Open answers.
- **7** a) X one month b)X Zoey's family c)  $\checkmark$
- d) X they don't want to help him e) X He hates it.
- 8 a) in hospital b) Logan c) dance partner d) 'Tea and Biscuits' e) likes
- 9 Open answers.
- 10 a) over b) win
- 11 Open answers.
- 12 The correct order is: d, f, c, a, e, b.
- 13 a) drive > dance b) Sunday > Saturday c) bed > chair d) clever > stupid e) hates > loves
- 14-15 Open answers.

### **Resource Sheet Activities**

### People and places

- 1 b) Lola c) Simon d) Logan e) Zoey f) Quinn **2** b) i c) iv d) v e) iii

### Pages 6-11

- 1 b) F. She doesn't want to dance with Chase. c) T d) F. Gene is in Lola's dance class. e) T
- f) F. Lola's working on her English accent.
- **2** b) big c) best d) terrible e) funny f) quiet
- 3 b) iv c) v d) i e) iii
- 4-5 Open answers.

### Pages 12-17

- 1 b) can't, can't c) can't d) can, can e) can
- 2 b) Michael to Chase
  - c) Chase to Michael and Logan
  - d) Simon to Lola
  - e) Zoey to Lola
- f) Lola to Zoey
- **3** b) It is very hot today. c) I'm a bad teacher.
- d) Do you want some tea?
- e) He's helping me with my English accent. f) Your English accent is very good.
- 4 Open answers.

## Pages 18-25

- 1 b) F. They can't win the contest.
  - c) F. He wants to be good for Zoey.
  - d) F. 'It's great!' she says.
  - e) F. Simon wants to see her again.
  - f) F. The contest is over.
- 2 b) do the dance again c) school play d) in Las Vegas e) over
- f) garden
- 3 Open answers.

### **Vocabulary Builder**

- 1 2. dances 3. cute 4. football 5. win 6. accent 7. class
- 8. contest
- 2 2. girl > guy 3. paper > partner 4. bus > best 5. open > over 6. boring > boarding 7. places > plays

### Casual language

1. No way! 2. Watch out!