



THE IN-CROWD – EXTRA

Level 2

This level is suitable for students who have been learning English for at least two years and up to three years. It corresponds with the Common European Framework level A2. Suitable for users of CROWN magazine.

SYNOPSIS

When Cameron's dad gets a new job in England, the family has to leave Scotland and move south. Shona, 14, is really excited. Cameron, 15, is miserable. He's football captain and he likes his life in Scotland. The new school is worse than he expects. Nobody talks to him – they laugh at his red hair and his Scottish way of speaking. Jack is the football captain here and leader of the in-crowd, the cool kids – the ones who laugh at Cameron.

Cameron makes friends with Victor and Marina – they're into drama and they're *not* in the in-crowd. Cameron likes Marina.

Then Cameron gets into the football team. He scores important goals and suddenly the in-crowd invite him to their parties.

He's flattered. He's in with the in-crowd and a football hero. He forgets his real friends. He knows he's behaving badly, but he can't help it. He dances with Jack's sister, but she's got nothing to say, and he knows he really likes Marina.

Jack's sister is jealous and makes trouble between Cameron and Marina. Marina is very upset, but Shona sees what's happening and explains it all to her. Cameron has a birthday party. The in-crowd get bored and leave, but Cameron doesn't care – it seems like Marina still likes him after all.

CULTURAL BACKGROUND

Cameron's family moves down to Manchester for his dad's job. Manchester is a big industrial city in the north of England. It has a university and a good night life, with lots of clubs. It is also home to Manchester United, the most famous football team in Britain; their ground is called Old Trafford. People say it rains more in Manchester than any other city in Britain.

Scotland's population is falling as people move away to find jobs. The Scottish accent is strong and many vocabulary items are different from English (see Fact File page 42). Cameron's accent would mark him out from the other kids at school.

CASUAL LANGUAGE

There are five informal expressions in the story.

- **'... he's, like, the leader of the in-crowd ...'** Teenagers often add 'like' – it doesn't mean anything.
- **'Get lost'** This means, 'Go away and stay away.'
- **'How's it going?'** This means, 'Is everything OK with you?'
- **'The thing is, ...'** We use this to introduce a difficult topic.
- **'No way!'** This means 'I'm not going to ...'

HOW TO USE YOUR SCHOLASTIC ELT READER

Choosing

Is this the right story for your class? Do they want to read it? If not, choose another! Ask them some questions. For example: *Have you ever moved to a new school? What was your first day at this school like?*

Have a class vote. *It's important to be in the in-crowd. Yes/No.*

Motivating

Get your class to want to read *The In-Crowd*. Motivate them with some background information and a taste of the story:

Starting a new school and trying to be popular is always difficult. Cameron doesn't do it right in this story. He upsets the people he really likes. But you should see him play football ...

Organising

Plan a class reading schedule. Decide how many pages to set for reading each week. Select exercises from the back of the reader and extra activities from this resource sheet to go with each chunk of reading.

Anticipating

Read People and Places on pages 4-5 aloud with the class. Talk about the characters. Ask for predictions. What is going to happen in this story?

Glossary

Go to New Words! on the inside back cover of the reader. Translate the words with the class or get students to find meanings at home.

Casual language

Introduce the informal expressions used in *The In-Crowd*. Put them into context (see above). Tell students to look out for them as they read.

Book exercises

Show students the Self-study Activities on pages 46-48. These are divided into sections. Students complete some exercises before they read a section, and some after. (Answers are in this resource sheet.)

Feedback

Have class feedback sessions each week. Talk and ask about the story so far. Get students to ask each other questions. Check exercise answers with the whole class. (Answers to all exercises are on page 4 of this resource sheet.)

Fact files

After the story, there are 4 Fact Files. Set these as self-study or use for whole class work. The files explore the themes of the book in a fun and cultural context with interactive elements. Project ideas are on page 4 of this resource sheet.

What did they think?

Get everyone to do a written or verbal review of *The In-Crowd*. Compare opinions. Did you like it? Let us know at:

readers@link2English.com

RESOURCE SHEET STUDENT ACTIVITIES



THE IN-CROWD - EXTRA

Chapter 1: A new school

1 Some of the names are wrong in these sentences. Find the right ones.

- a) ~~Cameron~~ ^{Shona} is really excited about the move to Manchester.
- b) Cameron went walking in the mountains for his holiday.
- c) Mr Grant has to take his piercing out.
- d) Saint Andrews is a town in Scotland.
- e) Shona wants to be back in Scotland.

2 Answer these questions.

- a) What do you think is Cameron's worst moment on his first day at school?
.....
- b) What is impossible for Cameron now?
.....
- c) How does Cameron feel after his first day at school?
.....

3 Work with another student. One of you is Cameron. One of you is a student in Cameron's class. You're not in the in-crowd. Try and make Cameron feel more welcome. Have a conversation.

Chapter 2: New friends

1 Who's in? Who's out? Which of these people are in the in-crowd?

Jack Justin Kate Marina Matt Victor

2 Use these words to complete the questions.

What When Where Who Why

- a) ^{Who} is captain of the football team?
- b) isn't Victor in the football team?
- c) are the team trials?
- d) does Cameron play on the football field?
- e) did Victor write on the sports notice board?

Now answer the questions.

Chapter 3: Team trials

- 1** True or false? Correct the mistakes.
- a) Cameron scores a goal at the team trials.
Cameron doesn't score, he passes to Sam and Sam scores.
 - b) He's happy because he's made some friends and he's in the team.
.....
 - c) The other boys in the team decide not to pass the ball to Cameron.
.....
 - d) Everyone passes the ball to Cameron in the Friday friendly.
.....
 - e) Mr Tucker is pleased with the team after the game.
.....

2 What do you think?

- a) Will Cameron ask Marina out?
.....
- b) Oliver says girls don't know about football. Do you agree?
.....

Chapter 4: The match

1 Put these events in the order they happen.

- a) Cameron decides to go to Jack's party.
- b) Cameron and Victor decide to go to Patcha on Friday night.
- c) Jack invites Cameron to a party at his house.
- d) Cameron asks Victor and Marina to go to Patcha on Saturday night, but they can't.
- e) Cameron goes to the party – he loves it.
- f) Didsbury Manor win 4-3 against Park School.
- g) Jack says Victor and Marina can't come to his party.

2 Answer these questions.

- a) Where did Victor, Cameron and Carly go on Saturday night?
The cinema.
- b) What will happen if Didsbury Manor lose the game on Friday?
.....
- c) Why do Didsbury Manor get a penalty?
.....
- d) How many goals does Cameron score against Park School?
.....
- e) Why does Cameron decide to go to Jack's part instead of Patcha with Victor and Marina?
.....

3 Victor and Marina are upset after the game. They walk home together and talk about Cameron, the game, Patcha and the team party. Work with a partner. Have their conversation.

Chapter 5: In with the in-crowd

Answer these questions.

- What lie has Cameron told Victor and Marina?
.....
- Why does Cameron feel two metres tall at lunch?
.....
- In what way is Cameron a bad friend to Victor?
.....

Chapter 6: Strange messages

1 Put these words in the right sentences.

after and because before but until

- *After* he talks to Shona, Cameron decides to say sorry to Victor and Marina.
- Cameron tries to talk to Victor during break, Victor walks away.
- He tells Jenny about the messages he wants to talk to *someone*.
- Marina's mobile won't work she gets a SIM card.
- Jenny tells a friend about the messages Shona hears their conversation.
- Cameron needs to talk to Victor and Marina it's too late.

2 Work in pairs. What do these text messages mean?

I luv U

Gonna B l8 - soz

R U comin 2nite?

Chapter 7: The party

Choose the best answer.

- Cameron's having a party. He's feeling
a) excited. b) bored. c) worried.
- Cameron's parents are
a) going out. b) staying in. c) coming to the party.
- Marina
a) is definitely coming. b) may come.
c) is definitely not coming.
- Jack, Justin and Matt leave
a) just before b) just after
c) at the same time as Cameron's real friends arrive.

Final Tasks

1 Will the in-crowd still be nice to Cameron on Monday? Imagine what happens when everyone arrives in class. Write a paragraph. Include some dialogue.

2 Choose one of the characters from the story. Write a page of their diary for one of the days in the story.

VOCABULARY BUILDER

1 It's a goal!!!

Look at the list of new words at the back of *The In-Crowd*. Find words to complete these gaps.

- When Justin *missed* a in a game last term, Jack was really angry.
- Cameron was of his old team in Scotland and he played in
- The Manchester United go crazy when Wayne Rooney a goal.
- Cameron the ball to Sam and Sam it into the goal.
- In a football team, the try to score goals. The try to stop the other team scoring goals.

2 Match the two halves to make new words. Then find a definition for each new word below.

changing	board
drama	crowd
goal	trials
in	keeper
notice	rehearsal
team	room



changing room []

- We put on our sports kit here.
- It's cool to be with these kids.
- Everything that's happening at school is on here.
- We've got three of these after school this week, and our parents are coming to watch on Friday.
- If you don't go to these, you won't get into the team.
- This player stopped two penalties against us.

3 Use these expressions to complete the gaps.

Get lost How's it going? like No way. the thing is

- 'Thanks for lending me your iPod.'
'No problem. Can I have it back now?'
'Well,, you see, I think I've broken it.'
- 'Why did the drama teacher choose you for Romeo? Jack's a much better actor than you.'
'....., Matt!'
- 'Why are you defending her? She's so horrible to everyone.'
'Because she's my best friend.'
- 'Hey, Jo. I haven't seen you in ages.'
'Yeah.'
- 'I've got to stay after school and help with the drama group. Will you help too?'
'Me?!

TOO COOL FOR SCHOOL?! (pages 38-9)**1 Thinking, talking and writing.**

Students work in pairs or small groups and prepare a list of school rules. Tell them to aim for a well-run school where students are happy and results (sports, exams, music, drama) are really good. Encourage them to be idealistic! Students present their rules to the class. Have a vote on the best/worst rules.

2 Debate

Choose a topic:

- School uniform is a good thing
- Students can run schools better than teachers
- Or another topic that students feel strongly about

Take a class vote. How many agree/disagree? Divide the class in two. One group prepares arguments in favour of the topic. The other group prepares arguments against. The first group presents their ideas. The second group questions them. Then they swap. Take a second class vote. Has anyone changed their minds?

ARE YOU AN INDIVIDUAL? (pages 40-1)**Questionnaire and discussion**

Get students to prepare their own questionnaire on the topic of bullying. Here are some useful facts about bullying in the UK:

- 80% of British teenagers say they are bullied
- 70% stay at home at least once a month to avoid bullies
- 1 in 4 teenagers get threatening emails and text messages
- 2 out of 3 teenagers think telling a teacher about being bullied will make the problem worse*

Students can base their questions around these facts, eg. *Have you ever been bullied? Yes/no*, and collect statistics from other students. They can present their results to the class.

Follow up with a discussion.

SCOTLAND (pages 42-3)**Research**

Give students a choice of topics around Scotland: The Edinburgh festival; Glasgow Rangers and Celtic football teams; Scottish bands like Travis and Franz Ferdinand; famous Scots like Sean Connery, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, William Wallace (Braveheart), or Alexander Graham Bell; food specialities; or one of the topics introduced in the fact file.

Students find out what they can about their topic on the Internet or in the library for homework. Have five minutes of questions and answers about each topic or get students to present their information to the class.

FOOTBALL FRENZY (pages 44-5)**1 Match report**

If students are football fans, get them to write a report of a match they have seen live or on television, using as much of the vocabulary as possible from the fact file.

2 Women's football

Women's football is the fastest growing sport on the planet. There is a women's premier league in the UK and Arsenal, Everton and Liverpool all have successful women's teams. There are lots of international competitions, too.

One of the most famous female footballers is the Brazilian, Milene Domingues. She plays for Atletico Madrid and is married to the equally famous Brazilian footballer, Ronaldo.

Get students to find out about women's football in their country for homework. Then have a class discussion.

*(Statistics sourced from CBBC Newsround)

ANSWER KEY**Self-study Activities (pages 46-8)**

- 1 Open answer.
- 2 a) i b) iii c) ii
- 3 c
- 4 a) bet b) rehearsal c) piercing d) notice board
- 5 a) Cameron b) Shona c) Jack d) Marina e) Justin f) Victor
- 6 Open answers.
- 7 a) made b) felt c) won d) held
- 8 a) striker b) missed c) penalty d) passed e) changing room f) defender g) kissed
- 9 a) joins b) win c) Jack's d) Jack's sister
- 10 a) False (He doesn't score. He passes the ball to Sam and Sam scores. b) True c) False (He plays very well and scores two goals.) d) False (He thinks that Jenny is boring. He prefers Marina.)
- 11 Open answers.
- 12 Open answer.
- 13 a) Victor b) Jenny c) Shona d) Jack e) Marina
- 14 a) True b) True c) False (Jenny tells him that Marina is now Victor's girlfriend. But it isn't true.) d) False (He shouts at Marina about the text messages.) e) True f) False (Only Victor, Carly, Marina and Kate give him a present.) g) False (He doesn't care.) h) True
- 15 Open answers.

Resource Sheet Activities**Chapter 1**

- 1 a) Shona c) Jack Sullivan e) Cameron
- 2 a) Open answer. b) Playing in the Edinburgh under 18s team. c) Unhappy.

Chapter 2

- 2 a) Who: Jack b) Why: Because he hasn't got time for football. c) When: On Thursday at 4.30 p.m. d) Where: Midfield e) What: Cameron's name

Chapter 3

- 1 a, d, e, f and g are false. b and c are true. a) Cameron doesn't score; he passes to Sam and Sam scores. d) Nobody passes to him. e) He isn't happy. He wants them to see teamwork and goals.
- 2 Open answers.

Chapter 4

- 1 The correct order is: b, f, c, g, a, d, e.
- 2 a) the cinema b) They'll be out of the cup. c) Because a defender pulls Cameron's shirt. d) Two. e) Because he wants to be in the in-crowd.
- 3 Open answers.

Chapter 5

- a) He told them there was a team party on Friday – it wasn't a team party, it was Jack's party. b) Because Jack defends him against the Year 10s. c) He laughs about Victor with his new 'friends'.

Chapter 6

- 1 a) After b) but c) because d) until e) and f) before
- 1 I love you. I'm going to be late – sorry. (LB = I + eight, pronounced late) Are you coming tonight?

Chapter 7

1. c 2. b 3. b 4. b

Vocabulary Builder

1. missed, penalty 2. captain, midfield 3. crowd, scores 4. passed, kicked 5. strikers, defenders
1. changing room 2. in-crowd 3. notice board 4. drama rehearsal 5. team trials 6. goalkeeper
1. the thing is 2. Get lost 3. ,like, 4. How's it going? 5. No way.