

LESSON 49

Listening and Understanding

Listen to the recording, and then answer this question: Did the boy go where he wanted to?



1

He hitchhiked to Dover and, towards evening, went into a boat to find somewhere to sleep. When he woke up next morning, he discovered that the boat had, in the meantime, travelled to Calais. No one noticed the boy as he crept off.

10



2



3

From there, he hitchhiked to Paris in a lorry. The driver gave him a few biscuits and a cup of coffee and left him just outside the city. The next car the boy stopped did not take him into the centre of Paris as he hoped it would, but to Perpignan on the French-Spanish border.

15

There he was picked up by a policeman and sent back to England by the local authorities. He has surely set up a record for the thousands of children who dream of evading school.

20



4

Guided Conversation

1 Answer questions about the text.

Example: Are children who play truant from school imaginative? No, they aren't.

- 1 How do they usually spend their time?
- 2 Do they usually travel far?
- 3 They've been put to shame by one boy, haven't they?
- 4 How far did he travel while playing truant?
- 5 Where did he go first?
- 6 How did he get there?
- 7 Where did he go towards evening?
- 8 What did he want to do?
- 9 Where was he when he woke up?

2 Ask questions about the text.

Example: Some children play truant from school. (Who?)

- i) Do some children play truant from school?**
- ii) Who play truant from school?**

- 1 Most of them are unimaginative. (How many?)
- 2 They spend a day fishing. (How?)
- 3 They go to the cinema sometimes. (Where?)
- 4 They see the same film over and over again. (How many times?)
- 5 One boy has put them all to shame. (Who?)
- 6 He travelled 1,600 miles while playing truant. (How far?) (When?)
- 7 He hitchhiked to Dover. (Where?)

3 Tell the story, using these key words.

- 1 children who — truant — unimaginative
- 2 fishing — same film over — as far as
- 3 put to shame — boy — 1,600 miles
- 4 hitchhiked Dover — boat — sleep
- 5 woke up — discovered — boat — Calais
- 6 No one noticed — boy — crept off
- 7 From — hitchhiked — Paris — lorry
- 8 driver gave him — left — just outside
- 9 next — not — centre — Perpignan — border
- 10 There — picked up — England — authorities

4 Guided summary. In not more than 80 words, describe the boy's experiences. Write two different paragraphs using the points and connections given below.

CONNECTIONS	POINTS	CONNECTIONS
<i>who</i>	[1 Boy played truant. 2 Travelled 1,600 miles.] <i>and</i>
<i>where</i> <i>only to find</i>	[5 Found himself — Calais — morning. 6 Lorry driver: lift and something to eat.] <i>where</i>
<i>After</i>	[10 Picked up — policeman. 11 Sent home — authorities.] <i>There</i> <i>and</i>

5 Talk about you.

- 1 Do you know any stories about children who have run away from home? Tell us about one of them.
- 2 Are there some days when you would like to take a day off school? Why? / Why not?
- 3 If you could take tomorrow off, what would you do? Where would you go?
- 4 Do you like to explore new places on your own, or do you always prefer to be with other people?