Reading Worksheet 1: Read and Answer the following questions.

1 THE TICHBORNE CASE



1 In 1854, a young English aristocrat, Sir Roger Tichborne, fell in love with his cousin Katherine and proposed to her. Both families were strongly opposed to the marriage, and Sir Roger, heartbroken, left England to travel around the world and try to forget. His ship sank off the coast of America and he drowned. His body was never recovered, but after three years he was officially declared dead and the family fortune passed to his nephew, Henry. Sir Roger's mother, however, refused to believe that he was dead and ***advertised*** all over the world for news of her long-lost son.

2 In 1866, one of these advertisements came to the attention of Thomas Castro, a butcher in Wagga Wagga, Australia. He wrote to Lady Tichborne ***claiming*** to be Sir Roger and apologizing for not having written to her for 12 years. He said that he would like to come home but had no money. Lady Tichborne was overjoyed that her "son" had been found. She wrote back, suggesting that he should visit a ***former*** family servant, named Bogle, who was living in Sydney.

3 Castro discovered as much as he could about the Tichborne family and visited Bogle, an elderly and rather short-sighted gentleman. Despite the fact that Castro was ten centimeters shorter and ten kilograms heavier than Sir Roger, Bogle ***confirmed*** that he was real. Castro explained that the hardships of life in Australia had changed his appearance. On receiving a letter from Bogle, Lady Tichborne sent enough money to pay for the fare back to England.

4 When she met Castro, Lady Tichborne was ***convinced*** that he was her son and arranged for him to receive £1,000 a year, a very large sum of money in those days. If Castro had not been greedy, that might have been the end of the matter, but he insisted that he was the rightful **heir** to the title and to the entire family fortune, which was extremely large. Apart from Lady Tichborne and the family solicitor, members of the family and friends were not convinced and started to look for ***evidence*** to disprove Castro's claims. The real Sir Roger had been brought up in France and spoke French fluently, but when Thomas Castro was addressed in French, he could not reply. He said that he had forgotten how to speak French because there had been no opportunity to use that language in Australia.

5 ***Eventually***, in 1871, the matter went to court, and although his most important **ally**, Bogle, had died by that time, Castro pressed ahead with the case. Henry Tichborne's lawyers soon discovered that this man was neither Sir Roger Tichborne nor Thomas Castro. In fact, he was Arthur Orton, who had been born in Wapping in London and had spent most of his life in Chile. He was also wanted by the Australian police for horse-stealing.

6 Nevertheless, the claimant managed to produce a hundred witnesses who swore under **oath** that he was who he claimed to be. After a hearing of 102 days, the court found that he was not Sir Roger Tichborne. Castro, alias Orton, was then arrested and charged with perjury, that is, with telling lies in court. After a second trial lasting 188 days, he was found ***guilty*** and sentenced to 14 years in prison. He still ***maintained*** that he was Sir Roger, but when he was ***released*** from prison in 1884, he finally admitted that he was an **imposter**. He died on 1 April 1898.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Reading Worksheet 1: Read and Answer the following questions.

A. The following words are boldfaced in the text. Match them the following words with their definitions. Put the letters on the lines provided. There are more definitions than you need.

____	1. heir (para. 4)	a)	a person who pretends to be someone else to deceive others
____	2. ally (para. 5)	b)	a person who legally receives money, property, or a title from another person who dies
____	3. oath (para. 6)	c)	a type of lawyer who gives advice about the law and sometimes represents people in court
____	4. imposter (para. 6)	d)	a person who helps or supports someone else
		e)	a promise to tell the truth in a law court
		f)	a false name that someone uses to keep his real name secret

____ 5 solicitor Para 4

B. Mark the following statements True (T) or False (F).

T F 1. Three years after the ship sank, Lady Tichborne received a letter from a man living in Australia.

T F 2. Lady Tichborne didn't send Thomas Castro enough money to return to England until the former family servant, Bogle, confirmed that Castro was her son.

T F 3. Castro didn't find £1,000 a year enough, so he insisted that he should have access to the whole family fortune.

C. Mark the best choice.

1. Which of the following is **TRUE** according to the text?
   a) Castro had never been to London before.
   b) Henry Tichborne doubted that Castro was his lost uncle Sir Roger.
   c) Castro knew nothing about the Tichbornes before he visited Bogle.
   d) Castro died in prison in 1898.
2. Castro was imprisoned for 14 years because he _____.
   a) stole the Tichborne family fortune
   b) actually killed Sir Roger
   c) stole horses in Australia
   d) told lies in court

D. Answer the following questions.

1. Why did Sir Roger decide to leave England and travel around the world?

   _____

   _____.
2. What was the difference between Castro and Sir Roger in terms of physical appearance?

   _____

   _____.
3. What evidence helped the family members and the solicitor be convinced that Castro was not Sir Roger?

   _____

   _____.

LIVEWORKSHEETS