Unit 8 The magic of Roald Dahl

Name .....
Class .....
Date .....

Start thinking

1 Answer the questions.

1 Do you like reading? Why / why not?

.....

2 What kind of books do you like reading? Why?

.....

3 What is your favourite book? Why?

.....

Comprehension check

2 Watch the video. Choose the correct answers.

1 Roald Dahl was born in …
a Wales. b Scotland. c England.

2 He and his wife Patricia had … children.
a four b five c six

3 He died in …
a 1970. b 1980. c 1990.

3 Watch the video again. Correct the factual errors in the sentences.

1 Roald Dahl's parents were from Sweden.

.....

2 He was very happy at boarding school.

.....

3 A company sent toys to his school for students to test.

.....

4 After school, he started working for a chocolate company.

.....

5 During the war, his plane crashed in the jungle.

.....

6 He got married in 1942.

.....

7 He lived with his family in a large town called Great Missenden.

.....

8 He always believed in the facts of storytelling.

.....

4 Complete the summary. Write a word or a number in each gap.

Roald Dahl was born on 13 September [1] ..... . When he was [2] ..... years old, he went to boarding school. At school, he was good at [3] ..... . After he left school, Roald Dahl went to live in [4] ..... . During the Second World War, he became a [5] ..... . He met his wife Patricia Neale when he was in the USA. They got married and they moved to [6] ..... . He started writing stories for children in the [7] ..... . Roald Dahl was [8] ..... when he died.

5 Work in pairs. Answer the questions.

1 Which Roald Dahl stories do you know?
2 Do you want to go to boarding school? Why / why not?
3 What do you want to do after you leave school? Why?

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Vocabulary

6 Match the words 1–8 with the definitions a–h.

1 accident	**a** a small, simple building, usually with one room
2 adventure	**b** a description of something that happened
3 army	**c** a person or thing that gives you good ideas
4 boarding school	**d** something bad that happens by chance
5 hut	**e** a large group of soldiers
6 inspiration	**f** something exciting that happens to you
7 replica	**g** a school where the students live and study
8 report	**h** an exact copy of something

7 Complete the sentences with the adjectives below.

■ cheerful ■ dramatic ■ homesick ■ lonely ■ magical ■ naughty ■ successful

1 Roald Dahl sold millions of books. He was a very ..... writer.
2 He didn't have many friends when he was at school. He was very .....
3 Sometimes he behaved badly at school. He was .....
4 He missed his family while he was away at school. He was .....
5 His letters were always very happy. They were .....
6 He had an exciting adventure when he was a pilot. It was very .....
7 He wrote some strange and wonderful stories. Children like them because they are .....

Extension

Work in small groups. Make a poster about a famous English-language writer. Present it to the class.

1 Make a list of the English-language writers you know.
2 Research one writer each. When you have finished, ask your group questions about each person.
3 Choose one of the writers in your group. Make a poster about the writer's life and books.
4 Present your poster to the class. Use the expressions in the box to help you.

Useful expressions: Talking about a writer

… was born in … (place / time)
His / Her parents were … (job / nationality)
At school, he / she was good / bad at …
He / She started writing when …
He / She married … in …
His / Her first story was called … It was about …
He / She died in …

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