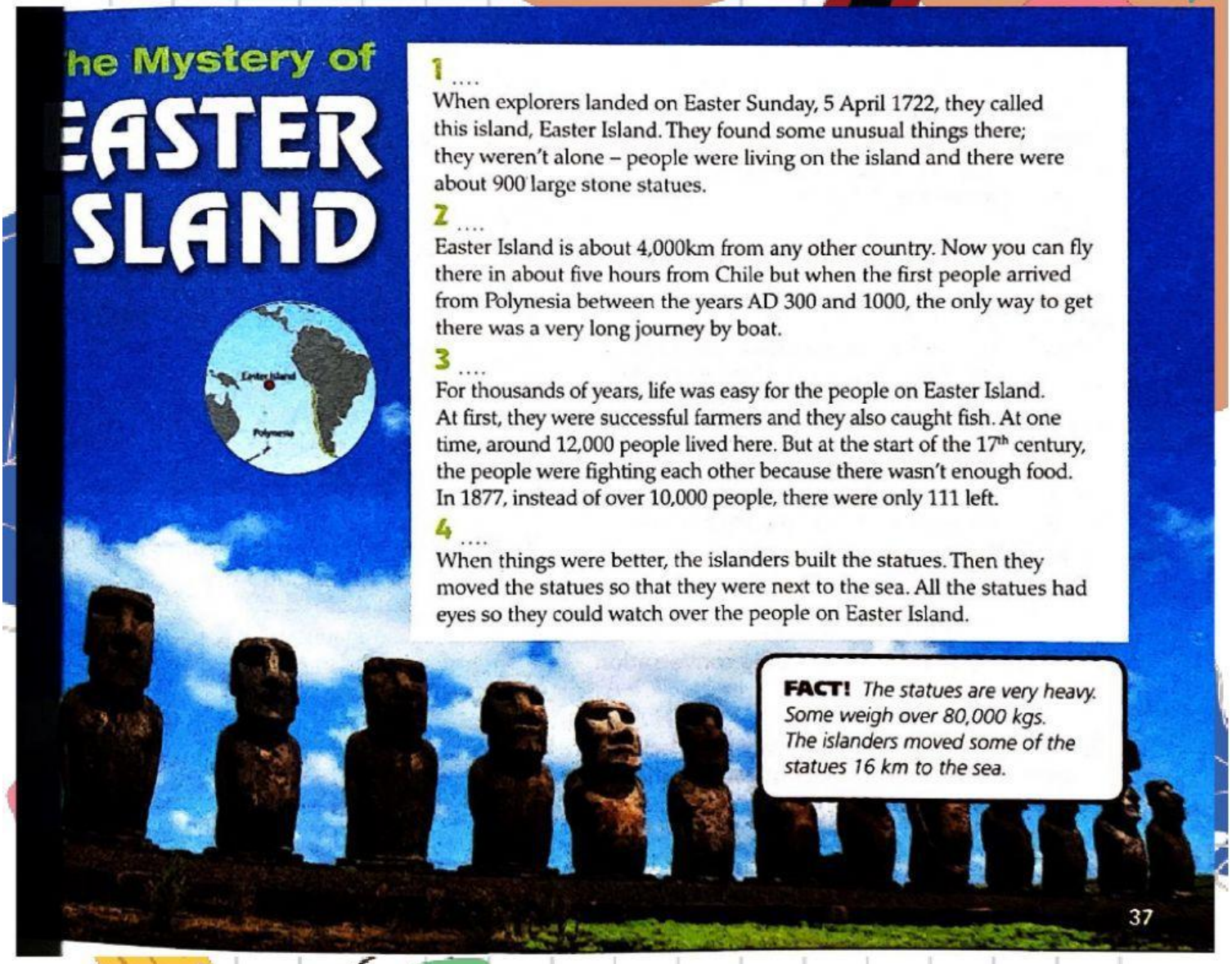
The Mystery of Easter island



The Mystery of
EASTER ISLAND

1 ....
When explorers landed on Easter Sunday, 5 April 1722, they called this island, Easter Island. They found some unusual things there; they weren't alone – people were living on the island and there were about 900 large stone statues.

2 ....
Easter Island is about 4,000km from any other country. Now you can fly there in about five hours from Chile but when the first people arrived from Polynesia between the years AD 300 and 1000, the only way to get there was a very long journey by boat.

3 ....
For thousands of years, life was easy for the people on Easter Island. At first, they were successful farmers and they also caught fish. At one time, around 12,000 people lived here. But at the start of the 17th century, the people were fighting each other because there wasn't enough food. In 1877, instead of over 10,000 people, there were only 111 left.

4 ....
When things were better, the islanders built the statues. Then they moved the statues so that they were next to the sea. All the statues had eyes so they could watch over the people on Easter Island.

FACT! *The statues are very heavy. Some weigh over 80,000 kgs. The islanders moved some of the statues 16 km to the sea.*

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

Name ..... Class.....

Read the article and match the questions with the paraphs.

a. Was life on the island always easy?

b. Where is Easter Island?

c. Who built the stone statues?

d. Why is it called Easter island?

1.....2.....3.....4.....

Read the text again and order the events.

a. There wasn't enough food.

b. Explorers called the island Easter Island.

c. People arrived on the island from Polynesia.

d. The islanders built large stone statues.

e. 111 people lived on the island.

f. People started fighting each other.

1.....2.....3.....

4.....5.....6.....

LIVEWORKSHEETS