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Stories of imagination tend to upset those without one.
Terry Pratchett, British author

4B From cover to cover?

1 VOCABULARY
describing books and films

Complete the sentences.

1 The story was really **h***aunting*__. I can't stop thinking about it.
2 The book was extremely **th**_____-**pr**_____ and it made me think seriously about human rights issues.
3 This is the perfect holiday read – a really **e**_____ book.
4 The ending was completely **i**_____. That would never have happened in real life and it ruined the whole film for me.

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5 The plot is **i**_____. I never know what's going to happen next.

6 The book's focus on the cruel and violent events that occur in a war make for a really **d**_____ read.

7 The plot was absolutely **gr**_____. I couldn't put the book down.

8 The writer's style is difficult to read. I find his books very **h**_____-**g**_____.

9 The final scene was incredibly **m**_____ – I cried all the way out of the cinema!

10 His new novel is very **f**_____-**m**_____ – so much happens in each short chapter.

3 GRAMMAR adding emphasis (1): inversion

a Complete the sentences with the adverbial expressions in the list. In some sentences more than one answer may be possible.

Hardly	Never	No sooner	Not only
Not until	Only	Rarely	Scarcely

1 *Hardly* had we set off when the engine started rattling.

2 _____ the clock struck midnight did the musicians start playing.

3 _____ have I heard such a moving speech. The last time was at the funeral of a close relation.

4 _____ had we sat down to eat than the doorbell rang.

5 _____ when you get on the scales do you realize how much weight you've put on over Christmas.

6 _____ had she entered the classroom when the students started to pester her.

7 _____ was my father in pain, but his pride had also been hurt.

8 _____ had the fans witnessed such a resounding victory in the history of the club.

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b Rewrite the sentences to make them more emphatic.

1 The exam began when all the papers had been given out.
Only *when all the papers had been given out did the exam begin* _____.

2 He betrayed my trust and he wrecked my car.
Not only _____
_____.

3 The sun had only just gone down when the temperature fell dramatically.
Scarcely _____
_____.

4 I have never seen such a wonderful sight.
Never _____
_____.

5 As soon as the teacher turned her back, the children started whispering.
No sooner _____
_____.

6 The woman had just sat down when her baby started crying.
Hardly _____
_____.

7 You rarely find two people so alike.
Rarely _____
_____.

8 Classes will not recommence until a replacement teacher has been found.
Not until _____
_____.

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4 LEXIS IN CONTEXT Translation Diary

Look at the Lexis in Context on Student's Book p.41. Then complete the words.

1 The man turned around and **l***eft* when nobody answered the door.
2 All of the rooms in the hotel were **i**_____.
3 He **i**_____ the kidnapper not to hurt him.
4 The child sat **m**_____ in the corner of the room.
5 His illness has left him completely **i**_____, and he has to remain in bed.
6 Can I borrow that book when you're **d**_____ **w**_____ it?
7 She said nothing and **m**_____ smiled in response to his question.
8 I tried to give the police an **a**_____ description of the attacker.
9 Beware! Thieves may try to steal your **b**_____ without you noticing.
10 That shop sells bags of every **c**_____ shape and size.

5 LISTENING

a iChecker Listen to a radio programme about film adaptations of books. According to Lindsey, are these book-to-film adaptations successful or not?

1 *The Lord of the Rings* _____
2 *The Hunger Games* _____

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b Listen again and mark the sentences **T** (true) or **F** (false).

1 According to Lindsey, a good film adaptation is exactly the same as the book.
2 A good adaptation has to get the timing right.
3 Choosing the right cast can make a big difference to the success of a film adaptation.
4 The main reason for the success of *The Lord of the Rings* series is its setting.
5 Special effects were used extensively in the creation of the character Gollum.
6 The main reason why Lindsey doesn't like *The Hunger Games* films is the casting.

6 READING

a Read the text once. What advice does the writer give?

b Read the text again and choose the best answer.

1 As an adult, the writer regards her childhood ideas about reading as… .
   a extremely resourceful
   b quite thorough
   c rather immature
   d very sophisticated

2 The writer hates Russell Banks' *Book of Jamaica* because… .
   a she didn't understand the plot
   b she made herself finish it
   c she doesn't think much of the author
   d she had an awful summer job at the time

3 The writer's advice to readers who aren't enjoying a particular book is to… .
   a find an alternative
   b take a break
   c try a different book by the same author
   d finish it at all costs

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4 According to the writer, the first 50 pages of a book is....

a the minimum that her friends suggest reading
b enough to find out what a book is about
c what she advises people to read to find out if they will like a book
d the minimum she needs to read to know if she's going to like a book

5 The writer considers that people may end up reading less if....

a they watch a lot of TV adaptations
b they think reading is a waste of time
c they persevere with books they aren't enjoying
d they are given too many bad books to read

c Look at the highlighted idioms and phrasal verbs in the text. What do you think they mean? Check in your dictionary, then use them to complete the sentences.

1 If the title doesn't _____, the story surely will.
2 Whenever I _____ an author, I go on to read all of their books.
3 Have you ever read a review that _____ reading a novel?
4 If you've read it, _____ don't tell me what happens in the end!
5 I watched the film _____ although I can't say that I really enjoyed it.
6 All our proposals were dismissed _____.

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Lionel Shriver
On how not to read

The most stupid childhood vow I ever made was to finish every book I started. Maintained well into adulthood, this policy turned reading the first page of any volume into a miniature death sentence. I imagined my compulsive completion to be a sign of adult seriousness. In truth, it was a vanity – a poorly thought-out and typically adolescent whim.

As a consequence of this inane commitment, I reserve a special loathing for many books that I shouldn't have been reading in the first place. I remember working as a summer camp councillor in my 20s and absolutely despising poor Russell Banks' *Book of Jamaica*. Yet I never allowed myself to read something else because I had already started it. I say 'poor' Russell Banks, because I love his other books, and the fact that I forced myself to keep reading a book for which I was not remotely in the mood was not his fault.

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I have occasionally heard from a reader who is furious because he or she did not enjoy one of my novels yet still read to its bitter end. I reject this fury out of hand. For pity's sake, if you don't take a shine to a novel, there are loads more in the world; read something else. Continue suffering and it's not the author's fault. It's yours.

Granted, it's a good idea to give some books a chance even if they don't grab you at first, especially if they come recommended by someone you trust. But 50 pages is plenty. With some books I have an allergic reaction after two or three.

Reading time is precious. Don't waste it. Reading bad books, or books that are wrong for a certain time in your life, can dangerously put you off the activity altogether. The sign that I don't like the book I'm reading is finding myself watching reruns of *Come Dine With Me*.

Glossary

Come Dine With Me a popular British reality TV show that has been running since 2005.

LIVEWORKSHEETS