

Fiction

Isabel Allende is from Chile. Her book *City of the Beasts* is the first in a three-part series for young adults.

- 1 Look at the cover of the book on page 21. What sort of book do you think it is? What do you think it is about?
- 2 Read the summary of the story so far and the extract from Chapter 1. How does Alex feel? Choose one adjective: EXCITED, MISERABLE, THRILLED, HAPPY

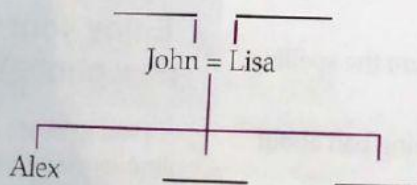
- 3 Match the words and phrases to the definitions.

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 1 ship me off | a people who rob travellers |
| 2 package | b a film or TV programme that gives the facts about a situation |
| 3 furious | c send me somewhere (when I don't want to go there) |
| 4 fist | d a hand which is tightly closed |
| 5 documentary | e something that is covered in paper and sent in the post |
| 6 mosquitoes | f a very serious disease which destroys the body |
| 7 caimans | g South American fish with sharp teeth |
| 8 bandits | h very angry |
| 9 leprosy | i insects that suck blood, sometimes causing malaria |
| 10 piranhas | j reptiles that are like small alligators |

- 4 Find five words the author uses instead of *said*.

1 (his father) explained **VERBS:**

- 5 Complete the family tree.



- 6 What does this extract tell you about the following characters?

1 Alex 2 Alex's father 3 Kate

- 7 Work in groups. Discuss these questions.

- 1 Alex says, "I'm fifteen, Dad, and that's plenty old enough for you to at least ask my opinion." Is he right?
- 2 What do you think is going to happen next in the story?

Exercise 6- Match with the right name

_____ practical, calm, easy-going.

_____ he gets angry quickly; he worries

_____ adventurous, not good at cooking