

CONTENTS

Meet the Author	4
Before Reading	6
1 The Diary	13
2 Cheap Scarves	19
3 Emily	26
4 Jake	31
5 Uncle Sanjit	33
6 The Package	39
7 Caterina	47
8 Boho Chic	52
9 Trouble	56
10 The barge	65
11 Emily's Dream	76
After Reading	80
Test	90
Project Work	92

MEET THE AUTHOR

Hello Elspeth, tell us a little about yourself.

I studied drama at university and then worked for a theater newspaper in London. Later, I decided to train as an English teacher. By a strange twist of fate¹, I found a teaching job in Istanbul in Turkey and I have lived and worked there ever since.

Where do you get your ideas for stories?

The idea for a story often comes when I visit a place. I feel that I'd like to read a story set in that place.



Why did you choose Salts Mill as the location for the story?

Some places make a big impression² on you and Salts Mill is one of those places. It used to be a huge³ old textile mill⁴ but now it's an art gallery.

The history of the mill and its owner is fascinating. It's the perfect place for a mystery story.

What is the main theme of the story?

The main theme of the story is children working long hours and in difficult conditions. The characters in the book are fictional but in the past a lot of very young girls like Emily and Grace worked in mills like Salts Mill and a lot of the girls died young. Around the world today, children are still working in dangerous conditions and dying young.

I would like to thank Roger Clarke, an author and local historian⁵, for helping me with my research into the historical background⁶ of the mill and my mum for taking me there in the first place.

1 **twist of fate:** unplanned event

2 **make a big impression:** have a big effect

3 **huge:** very big

4 **textile mill:** building with machinery for making a type of fabric (e.g. wool)

5 **historian:** person who studies history

6 **background:** things that happened at the time of the story

BEFORE READING

1 At the heart of the story, there is a mystery at a mill. Look at the pictures in the book. Make predictions about the story.

a What do you think happens? Tick (✓).

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> death | <input type="checkbox"/> theft | <input type="checkbox"/> murder | <input type="checkbox"/> war |
| <input type="checkbox"/> kidnapping | <input type="checkbox"/> romance | <input type="checkbox"/> ghosts | <input type="checkbox"/> business |

b When does the story take place? Tick (✓).

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> in the past | <input type="checkbox"/> in the present |
| <input type="checkbox"/> in the past and the present | <input type="checkbox"/> in the future |

2 There are two stories within the story. Answer the questions using the pictures in the book to help you guess.

- a** Which story has the happiest ending?
The story in the past or the story in the present?
- b** How does the story in the past end?
With a death or with marriage and children?
- c** How does the story in the present end?
With a dream coming true or with a death?

3 Look at the pictures in the book and write the characters' names next to the sentences.



- ☐ a She works in a mill.
- ☐ b She goes to school.
- ☐ c She investigates a mystery in the snow.
- ☐ d She suffers in the cold but is very courageous.
- ☐ e She gets into trouble in a shop.
- ☐ f She has two friends who manage to help her.

4 Part of the story takes place at Salts Mill. Read and complete the text with the words below. Then listen and check your answers.

Salts
Mill



polluted cheaper better local huge
educational terrible great healthier Industrial



At the time of the (a)..... Revolution, Bradford was a very (b)..... city. People lived in (c)..... conditions and many died young. A mill owner, Sir Titus Salt wanted his workers to live in (d)..... conditions and have a (e)..... life, so he built a mill outside the city. It was completed in 1853 and it was called Salts Mill. Sir Titus Salt also built a village with houses for his workers to live in, shops, a church and a park. He later built two schools and a social club and an (f)..... institute for adults.

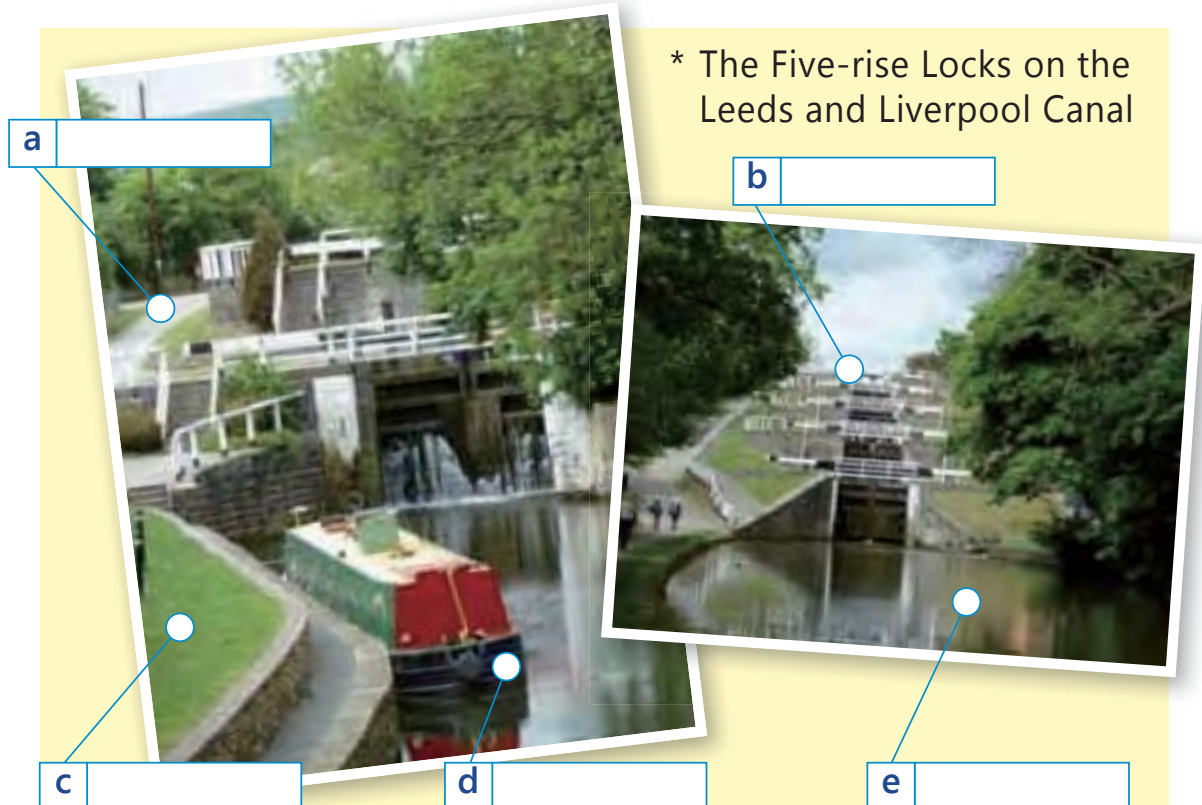
The mill continued to produce cloth for another century. In 1976 it was still producing £4 million of cloth a year. At the end of the seventies, a lot of (g)..... foreign cloth was imported into Britain. Many mills in England lost all their business and had to close. Salts Mill closed in 1986.

In 1987, a 37-year old (h)..... businessman bought the mill and opened an art gallery, which houses the largest collection of the Bradford-born artist, David Hockney's paintings. There is also a (i)..... bookshop, an art shop, an interior design shop and a restaurant. Anyone who loves art, books, food or history will fall in love with the mill. It's (j)..... !

5 Is there a factory, mill or coal mine near where you live? Find out about its history and write a paragraph.

6 Part of the story takes place by a canal. Label the photos of the canal with the words below.

barge canal towpath lock canal bank



7 Use the words from Exercise 6 to complete these sentences from the story.

- a Then sometimes, my friend Grace and I went for a walk down by the
- b We were sitting on the grassy when a canal went by.
- c It was hard pedaling along the snowy by the side of the canal, but Jake was determined.
- d Water poured down on them, but the barge didn't sink, and then it clicked. "It's OK. We're in a", she thought.

8 These verbs are from the story. Match them to their definitions.

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| _____ (a) to grip | (1) to talk very quietly |
| _____ (b) to grab | (2) to sew two things together |
| _____ (c) to squeal | (3) to look at for a long time |
| _____ (d) to stitch | (4) to talk |
| _____ (e) to stare | (5) to hold tightly |
| _____ (f) to mumble | (6) to cry out |
| _____ (g) to chat | (7) to take quickly |
| _____ (h) to slam | (8) to shut with force |

9 Match these nouns from the story with the pictures.

1) wool

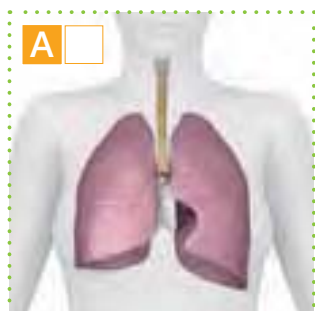
2) lungs

3) leaflets

4) roll of cloth

5) leather book

6) cart



10 Use the words from Exercise 9 to answer these questions.

- (a) Which thing do you think Caterina finds in her grandmother's attic?
- (b) Which thing do you think Emily finds by the canal?

- 11** One of the characters, Uncle Sanjit, is a clothes designer who opens a shop. He designs and then produces his own clothes. What do you know about the production of clothes? Put the different processes of clothes production in order. Write the process under the correct picture.

Selling the clothes.

Designing the clothes.

Making the clothes.

Choosing the material to make the clothes.



a _____



b _____



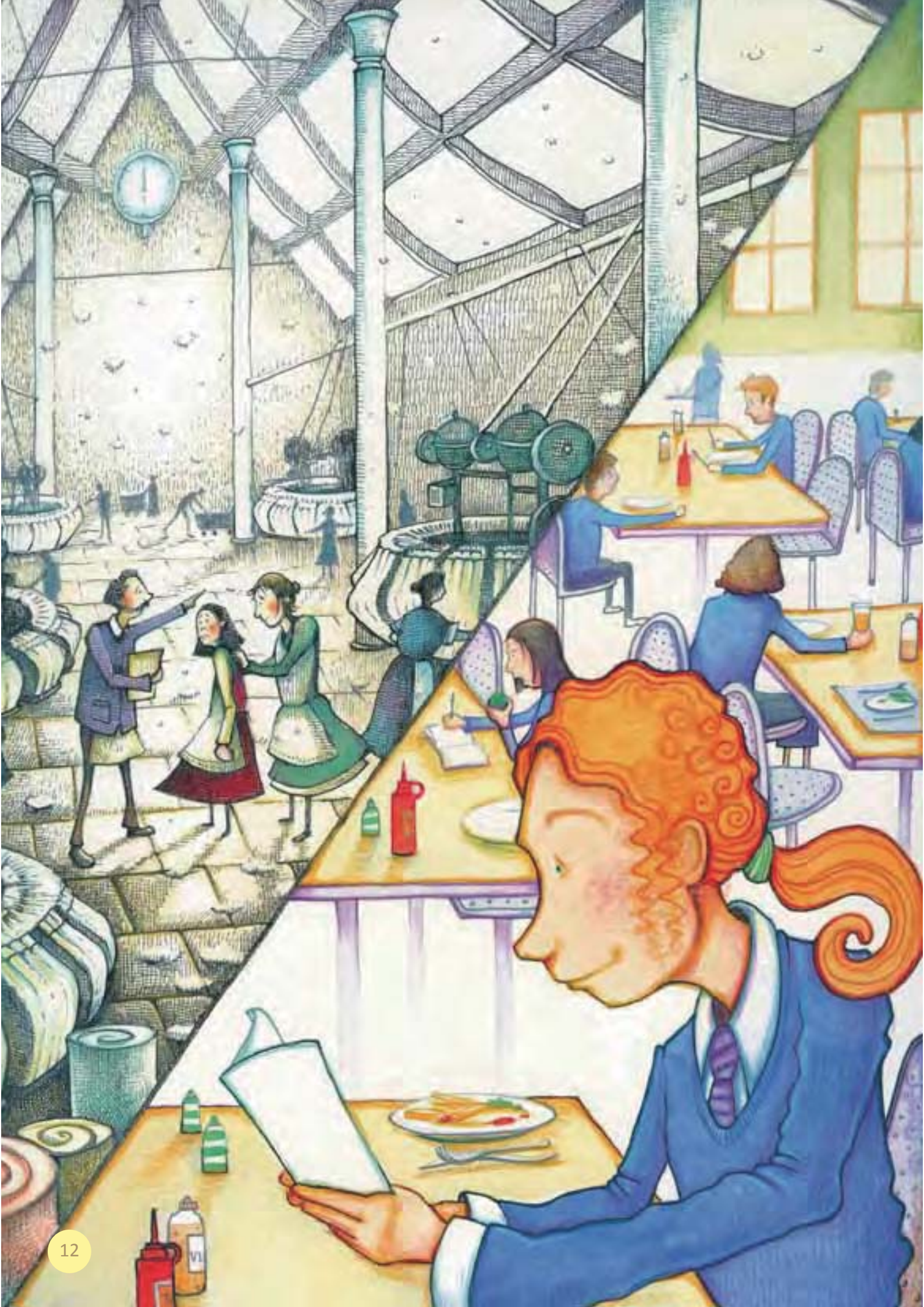
c _____



d _____

- 12** Do you like buying clothes? In groups of three discuss what type of clothes you buy and where you buy them from.

- 13** Where are most of your clothes made? Look at the labels and find out. Do a survey in class and report back to your teacher.



1. The Diary



The year was 1859. Charles Darwin's *On the Origins of Species* was published. Big Ben started ticking¹ at the Houses of Parliament in London. Charles Dickens, the famous English writer, published *A Tale of Two Cities*. The Industrial Revolution had by now changed the face of England and my great-great grandmother started working at Salts Mill, a woolen mill² in Bradford. She was only eight years old.

The air was full of a fine white dust³ that almost choked me⁴. The sound of the machines was deafening⁵. I didn't know whether to cover my eyes or my ears with my hands. I wanted to turn and run but strong hands pushed me into the room. I wanted to scream but no one would hear me.

I never forgot my first day at Salts Mill.

Emily

The year was 2012 and Caterina was sitting at a table in a corner of the school canteen⁶. It was lunchtime and she could hear the chatter⁷ and clatter⁸ of plates and knives and forks.

1 **ticking**: sound a clock makes every second

2 **woolen mill**: building with machinery for making wool

3 **dust**: small particles

4 **choked me**: made breathing difficult

5 **deafening**: very loud

6 **canteen**: restaurant in a school or workplace

7 **chatter**: noise of people talking

8 **clatter**: noise of objects touching