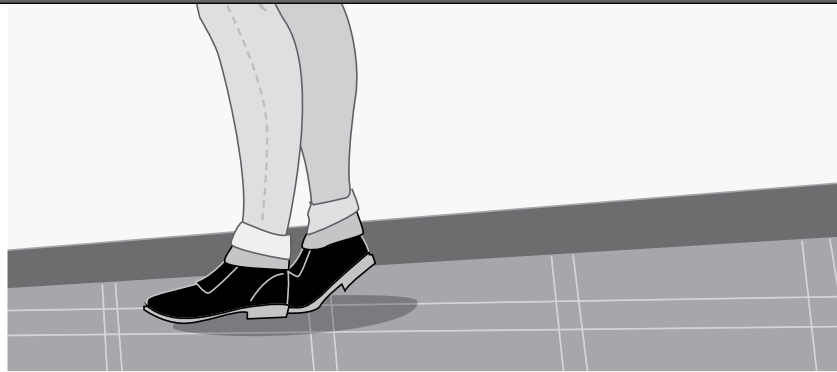


ESL  
EXTRAS



# THE COAT

SAMPLE PAGES



CLARE HARRIS

## CHAPTER 1



It was a Sunday in April and suddenly the Melbourne wind was cold—too cold for me. I shivered in my Brisbane clothes.

"It's freezing here!" I told my boyfriend, Ed. He phoned me every day.

"Then come back to Brisbane," he said. "I miss you, Anni darling!"

All that evening, and next morning as I hurried to the bus stop, I thought about Ed. *He doesn't understand,* I thought. *I can't go back to Brisbane yet!*

I was shivering when I arrived at work. Sue, my boss, looked at my thin jacket.

"Anni, you need a good coat," she said. She was wearing a thick red jacket. She looked wonderful. She always looked wonderful.

"I'm not really cold," I said. It wasn't true, but I didn't have the money for a new coat.

I had to save money, so I always walked home and looked around Melbourne. That day, I passed a second-hand shop. A sign in the window said: WINTER COATS SPECIAL.

I looked away quickly. I didn't want a second-hand coat. I hated second-hand clothes.



## CHAPTER 2



The next morning I wore two jumpers under my jacket. When I arrived at work, I saw a black coat on my chair.

"Try it on!" said Sue. "It's my old coat. You can borrow it."

I picked up the coat. It was thick and soft, with black buttons and a midnight blue lining. It looked expensive.

I tried it on. It fitted perfectly.

"Thanks, Sue." I was grateful—well, part of me was grateful. Another part of me didn't want Sue's old coat.

Yes, I was jealous. Sue had everything: her import-export business, a big house, lovely children, expensive clothes.



I had nothing. I lived in a tiny flat. I did office work and translations for Sue. When I lived in Brisbane, I worked as a cleaner. I wanted to start my own business, making biscuits, but I couldn't get a bank loan.

"How's Ed?" Sue asked.

"Oh, fine. I talked to him last night."

That was another problem. Ed wanted us to get married. He asked me almost every week, but I didn't *want* to get married.

Sue's life was easy; mine was difficult. It wasn't fair.

QUESTIONS FOR TEACHERS TO ASK

CHAPTER 1

> Before reading

- What kind of book is this? Adventure? Mystery? General fiction?
- Do you need a thick coat where you live? (You could show/draw a map of Australia – where do people need a coat?)

---

**Vocabulary** shiver, freezing, wonderful, op (opportunity) shop (from the picture), second-hand, special (meaning special price)

---

> Picture prediction

What's in the picture? What kind of shop is this? Are these coats new or second-hand?

> After reading: questions

- Who is telling this story?
- What's her name?
- Where does Anni live?
- Where does her boyfriend live?
- Where did Anni live before?
- Which words tell us she was cold?
- What did her boss say about that?
- What was her boss wearing?
- Why did Anni say she wasn't cold?
- Why did she walk home? (Two reasons.)
- What did she see on the way home?
- Did she go in and buy a coat?
- What did she think about second-hand clothes?

> Language to note

- Too cold for me
- You need (a coat)
- She looked wonderful (note use of 'looked')
- I looked away quickly
- I hated: very strong language

> Discussion: extending the text

What do we know about Anni?

> Discussion: about learners' lives

- What do you think of second-hand clothes? What are the different words for second-hand clothes shops? (Op shop, charity shop, recycling boutique, retro/vintage boutique.) Where is your nearest op shop?
- Can you remember a time when you were too cold? What time of year? Where were you? What were you wearing?

➤ Writing topic

The day I was too cold.

QUESTIONS FOR TEACHERS TO ASK

CHAPTER 2

> Before reading

How do you feel about people with a lot of money and beautiful things? Are you always happy for them? Do you ever feel *jealous*? (Could also use the word *envious* – not as painful a feeling.)

---

**Vocabulary** jumper, buttons, lining, fitted, perfectly, grateful, jealous, import-export, translations, tiny, loan, fair

---

> Picture prediction

Whose coat is in the picture? Can you guess?

> After reading: questions

- What did Anni wear the next day?
- What was on her chair?
- Can you describe the coat?
- Did it fit?
- Was Anni really grateful?
- Why was she jealous?
- What did Anni want to do?
- What was stopping her?
- What was her problem with Ed?
- Why did Anni say, 'It wasn't fair'?

> Language to note

- borrow (and lend)
- part of me
- I wanted to start my own business
- Ed wanted us to get married

> Discussion: extending the text

What else do we know about Anni?  
Is jealousy a good feeling to have?

> Discussion: about learners' lives

- Have you ever been jealous of someone?
- Do you think life is fair?

➤ Writing topics

My favourite jacket.

OR

Imagine you are one of Anni's friends. Write an email giving her some advice.

> Extra work on spelling/sounds

Make a chart of the short vowel sounds (a/e/i/o/u).

Ask students to find words from the story that fit in the columns. Separate standard spellings from less common spellings such as:

- was, want
- doesn't, wonderful, money, nothing.

NOTE: Keep this chart on the wall (or get learners to copy it in their books) as you'll be adding more words as you go through the chapters. You'll also be creating other charts.

> Past tense sounds

You could remind learners that when regular verbs end in t or d sounds, the 'ed' past tense ending becomes an extra syllable: *wanted, fitted, needed, ended, sorted, hated, reminded*.

Student Worksheets >>

The next four pages are student worksheets, for group or independent use.



1

Word Quiz

Circle the correct answer.

1. If you **shiver**, your body shakes because you are:
  - cold.
  - laughing.
  - running.
2. **Freezing** means:
  - a bit cold.
  - ice-cold.
  - tired.
3. Winter Coats **Special** means:
  - sale price.
  - expensive coats.
  - old coats.
4. The **lining** of a coat is on the:
  - inside.
  - outside.
  - top.
5. If you are **jealous**, your friend's good luck makes you feel:
  - happy for your friend.
  - unhappy with your life.
  - lucky.
6. Something **second-hand** is:
  - new but dirty.
  - not new, already used.
  - as big as your hand.

2

Missing Words

Fill in the missing words from the box below. Check your dictionary if you need to.

loan   grateful   perfectly   import-export   fair   buttons

Anni's boss, Sue, lent Anni a black coat with black \_\_\_\_\_.

It fitted Anni \_\_\_\_\_.

Anni was \_\_\_\_\_ for the coat, but she was jealous too. Sue had an \_\_\_\_\_ business and a big house. Anni wanted to start a business, but couldn't get a bank \_\_\_\_\_. She felt that life wasn't \_\_\_\_\_.





3

What happened first? What happened next?

Number the sentences in order from 1–5.

Chapter 1

- \_\_\_\_ Anni told Sue she wasn't really cold.
- \_\_\_\_ Anni walked past a second hand shop.
- \_\_\_\_ Anni told Ed it was freezing in Melbourne.
- \_\_\_\_ Sue said Anni needed a coat.
- \_\_\_\_ Anni hurried to the bus stop.

Chapter 2

- \_\_\_\_ Anni picked up the black coat.
- \_\_\_\_ Anni was grateful – well, part of her was grateful.
- \_\_\_\_ Anni tried on the black coat.
- \_\_\_\_ Anni saw a black coat on her chair.
- \_\_\_\_ Anni arrived at work in two jumpers and a jacket.



4

Opposites

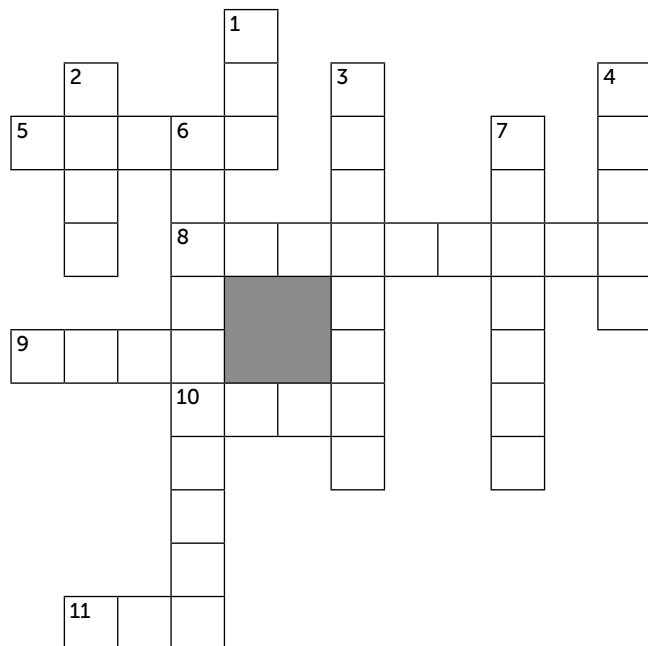
Fill in the crossword with the opposite of the underlined words. You can find the answers in Chapters 1 and 2.

Across

- 5. I loved second-hand clothes.
- 8. The coat looked cheap.
- 9. I lived in a huge flat.
- 10. Sue looked at my thick jacket.
- 11. Sue had a small house.

Down

- 1. It's my new coat.
- 2. Sue's life was difficult.
- 3. It's boiling here!
- 4. I wore two jumpers over my jacket.
- 6. Sue had nothing.
- 7. I looked away slowly.





5

True or false?

Are these sentences true or false?

- |  | T                        | F                        |   | T                        | F                        |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Anni didn't have much money.                  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 5. Anni wanted to start her own business. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Anni worked as a cleaner in Melbourne.        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 6. Anni wanted to get married.            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Sue always looked good.                       | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 7. Ed didn't want to get married.         | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Sue lent Anni a coat with a pale blue lining. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 8. Anni thought her life wasn't easy.     | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

6

Not fair = unfair

Use *un*, *in* and *im* to make the negative words.

<b>UN-</b> not fair = <u>unfair</u> not grateful = _____ not happy = _____ OR sad not true = _____ OR false not lucky = _____ not well = _____ OR sick	<b>IN-</b> not expensive = <u>inexpensive</u> OR cheap not formal = _____ <b>IM-</b> not possible = <u>impossible</u> not perfect = _____ not polite = _____ OR rude
Do you know anyone who is <b>ungrateful</b> ? _____ Do you ever think life is <b>unfair</b> ? _____ Where could Anni buy an <b>inexpensive</b> coat? _____	

7

It's freezing here = it is freezing here

When we're talking (or writing informally), we use *contractions*. Can you write the words in full?

Contraction	Short for
1. It's freezing here.	It is freezing here.
2. I'll ring you.	
3. He doesn't understand.	
4. I didn't want a second-hand coat.	
5. I couldn't get a bank loan.	
6. It wasn't fair!	



8

### Which word?

Choose the correct word. You can find the answers in Chapters 1 and 2.

for at to around on up in

1. "Then come back \_\_\_\_\_ Brisbane."
2. I didn't have the money \_\_\_\_\_ a new coat.
3. I had to save money, so I always walked home and looked \_\_\_\_\_ Melbourne.
4. I was shivering when I arrived \_\_\_\_\_ work.
5. "Try it \_\_\_\_\_ !"
6. I picked \_\_\_\_\_ the coat.
7. I lived \_\_\_\_\_ a tiny flat.

9

### Words that go together

Match the words from the story.

a thin	children
second-hand	buttons
black	loan
a big	clothes
lovely	flat
a bank	jacket
a tiny	house

10

### Half and half sentences

Match the sentence halves.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| _____ 1. Anni was freezing in Melbourne,        | <b>a.</b> but Anni didn't.                            |
| _____ 2. Anni had to save money,                | <b>b.</b> because she was cold.                       |
| _____ 3. Anni didn't go into the shop           | <b>c.</b> and tried it on.                            |
| _____ 4. Anni wore two jumpers under her jacket | <b>d.</b> because she hated second-hand clothes.      |
| _____ 5. Anni picked up Sue's coat              | <b>e.</b> but she didn't want to go back to Brisbane. |
| _____ 6. Ed wanted to get married,              | <b>f.</b> so she always walked home from work.        |

TIP

Some people use a comma before but or so. Some don't.

# THE COAT

## WORKSHEET ANSWER KEY

### CHAPTERS 1 and 2

#### 1 Word quiz

- |                |                            |
|----------------|----------------------------|
| 1. cold.       | 5. unhappy with your life. |
| 2. ice-cold.   | 6. not new, already used.  |
| 3. sale price. |                            |
| 4. inside.     |                            |

#### 2 Missing words

Anni's boss, Sue, lent Anni a black coat with black buttons. It fitted Anni perfectly.

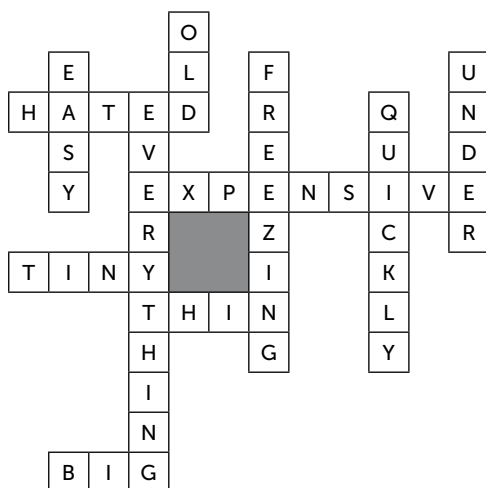
Anni was grateful for the coat, but she was jealous too. Sue had an import-export business and a big house. Anni wanted to start a business, but couldn't get a bank loan. She felt that life wasn't fair.

#### 3 What happened first? What happened next?

Chapter 1 — 4, 5, 1, 3, 2

Chapter 2 — 3, 5, 4, 2, 1

#### 4 Opposites



#### 5 True or false?

- |      |      |
|------|------|
| 1. T | 5. T |
| 2. F | 6. F |
| 3. T | 7. F |
| 4. F | 8. T |

#### 6 Not fair = unfair

- |            |           |
|------------|-----------|
| ungrateful | informal  |
| unhappy    | imperfect |
| untrue     | impolite  |
| unlucky    |           |
| unwell     |           |

#### 7 It's freezing here = it is freezing here

- I will ring you.
- He does not understand.
- I did not want a second-hand coat.
- I could not get a bank loan.
- It was not fair!

#### 8 Which word?

- |           |       |
|-----------|-------|
| 1. to     | 5. on |
| 2. for    | 6. up |
| 3. around | 7. in |
| 4. at     |       |

#### 9 Words that go together

- a thin jacket
- second-hand clothes
- black buttons
- a big house
- lovely children
- a bank loan
- a tiny flat

#### 10 Half and half sentences

- |      |      |
|------|------|
| 1. e | 4. b |
| 2. f | 5. c |
| 3. d | 6. a |