## Extensive reading: School

1 Look at the picture. How do you think the people feel?

## First Term at Malory Towers

First Term at Malory Towers is the first book in the Malory Towers series. Enid Blyton wrote the series between 1946 and 1952. Malory Towers is a boarding school for girls. The girls live there during the school term. There are six books in the Malory Towers series. Each book is about one year at the school.

The main character in the Malory Towers stories is Darrell Rivers. In First Term At Malory Towers, Darrell leaves her home to travel to her new school. Darrell is very excited when the taxi arrives to take her and her mother to London. When they arrive at the station, they see lots of other girls in Malory Towers uniforms on the platform. Darrell feels nervous when she sees all the girls, because she doesn't know any of them. A friendly girl called Alicia Johns shows Darrell what to do. They get onto a special train for Malory Towers students. Darrell feels lonely when her mother leaves the station, but Alicia makes Darrell feel better. Darrell meets two other new

students on the train. Their names are Sally and Gwendoline. By the time the train arrives at Malory Towers, Darrell has three new friends and she is very happy.

Darrell likes Malory Towers. The school looks like a castle. There are four boarding houses at the school. Their names are 'North Tower', 'South Tower', 'West Tower' and 'East Tower'.

Darrell's boarding house is North Tower and her house mistress is called Miss Potts. The head mistress is called Miss Grayling. Miss Grayling tells the girls that it is very important to become good, strong women and to help others. Darrell tries hard to be good, but she sometimes makes mistakes.

story with interesting characters. The story is full of great adventures, and it has a happy ending. It made me want to read more about Darrell and her friends in the other Malory Towers books.

Natalie, aged 9



2	Listen and read. 例 147	3	Match the sentence halves.
	1 Darrell is excited when		<b>a</b> her mother leaves the station.
	2 Darrell is nervous when		<b>b</b> she arrives at her new school.
	3 Darrell is lonely when		<b>c</b> she sees the other girls.
	4 Darrell is happy when		<b>d</b> the taxi arrives.

### 4 Look at the pictures. What school event do the pictures show?

to watch Sports Day. Sometimes there are races for mums and dads, too. Everyone has a great time.





Hi. I'm Takumi. I love Sports Day, too. In Japan, we have Sports Day in the autumn or spring, because the weather is cooler then. It's too hot to run races in the summer in Japan. We don't have any lessons for a week before Sports Day. We practise our races and events on the school field every day. The teachers always make sure that we drink lots of water, because we get hot from all the exercise. There is a big rehearsal on the day before Sports Day, to make sure that everything will go well on the actual day. We usually have Sports Day on a Sunday. The school band plays music and we all run races and take part in competitions. It's a wonderful day and we all enjoy it.

- 5 Listen and read. 6 Answer the questions.
  - 1 Why do Japanese schools have Sports Days in autumn?
  - 2 Why do British schools have Sports Days in summer?
  - 3 What do Japanese children do the week before the Sports Day?
  - 4 Do you have Sports Day at your school?
  - 5 Who is your favourite teacher? Why?



## Extensive reading: Fiction

### Look at the picture. What are the boys doing?



Tom Canty was a boy from a very poor family. His clothes were old and dirty and he never had enough food. However, Tom believed that he could have a better life one day. He was clever and he knew how to read and write. He wanted to get a good job and earn enough money to have a house, clothes and good food.

One day, Tom was outside the palace gates when he saw Prince Edward. Tom stood and watched the prince for a while. The guards tried to send Tom away, but the prince stopped them. The two boys were very surprised when they saw each other. They had very different lives, but they looked just the same. They had the same eyes, the same hair and the same faces. The only thing that was different was their clothes. Prince Edward invited Tom into the palace and the two boys talked about their lives. Edward had lots of money, fine clothes, jewels and plenty of food, but he had to stay in the palace and be quiet and good all the time. Tom had nothing, but he could play in the street with other boys and meet lots of interesting people.

"I want to be like you," Tom said to Edward. "You are rich and you can have everything you want." "I want to be like you," Edward said to Tom. "You are free and you can do everything you want." "Well, you look just like me, and we are the same age," said Edward. "Let's swap clothes. You can stay here and I can live with your family for a while." Tom thought this was a wonderful idea. The two boys swapped clothes and looked at each other. "We are like twins," Tom laughed.

Before Edward left the palace, he hid a wax disc in a suit of armour. Then he left the palace quickly, before the guards found the two boys together. Soon Edward was with Tom's family, but it was not much fun. Tom's father was unkind. He was often angry and he shouted at Edward all the time. Edward wanted to leave. He ran away and met a soldier called Miles Hendon.

He was a kind man and he looked after Edward. They had lots of adventures together. Edward didn't really like life outside the palace. He saw that life was very difficult for poor people. He decided to be a good king and help the people of England.

Meanwhile, Tom was pretending to be the prince. It wasn't easy. He didn't know how to act, or what to say to people. At first, people thought the prince was ill, because he seemed so different. But Tom was a clever boy and he learned quickly. He had lots of good ideas and he was good at making important decisions. Soon everyone was sure that the prince was well again.

Sadly, the King died while Edward was away. Prince Edward was now the King of England. Tom was very worried. He didn't want to be king. Luckily, Edward heard the news and came back to the palace. He arrived just in time. Tom was about to become the King of England. Edward and Tom tried to tell people the truth.

"I'm not Prince Edward," said Tom. "I'm Tom Canty."

"I'm the real prince," said Edward. "We're sorry we lied. It was only a game."

Edward looked poor and dirty and people didn't believe that he was the

real prince. But Edward took the wax disc from the suit of armour and showed it to everyone. The wax disc was the Great Seal of England. Only the true King of England has the Great Seal. So Edward became king, but he remembered his adventures and the lessons he learned when he was with Miles. He was a good king and he helped the people of England. He made sure that life was better for poor people. Edward and Tom were very good friends, and Tom became a very important man. He was never poor or hungry again.

# 2 Listen and read. 6 149 3 Write short answers. 1 Was Tom Canty from a rich family? \_\_\_\_\_\_ 2 Was Tom clever? \_\_\_\_\_ 3 Did Edward want to be like Tom? \_\_\_\_\_ 4 Was Tom's father kind? \_\_\_\_\_

5 Did Edward like life outside the palace?
6 Did Tom become King?

#### 4 Ask and answer.

- 1 Who do you think has a better life: Edward or Tom? Why?
- 2 Why do you think the boys wanted to swap places?
- 3 Do you want to swap places with anyone? Who and why?

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