



# OUT OF THE WOODS

*written by James Burke & Pickles Prod.*



## CLASSROOM PACK

1. Vocabulary exercises
2. Multiple choice
3. Oral expression
4. Written expression
5. Culture



## Vocabulary exercises

**PART A:** Complete the sentences with the missing words

**upside down / naive / empathy / lucky break / renowned / terrified**

1. When Jenny saw the spider she screamed. She was absolutely \_\_\_\_.
2. "You're so \_\_\_\_ Luke! You'll believe anything!"
3. This is it! Everything is falling into place. This must be my \_\_\_\_.
4. She's a very \_\_\_\_ artist. Everyone knows her work.
5. You're holding the poster the wrong way around. It's \_\_\_\_.
6. Chris, you really understand me and how I'm feeling. You have a lot of \_\_\_\_.

**PART B:** Complete the crossword using the clues for help

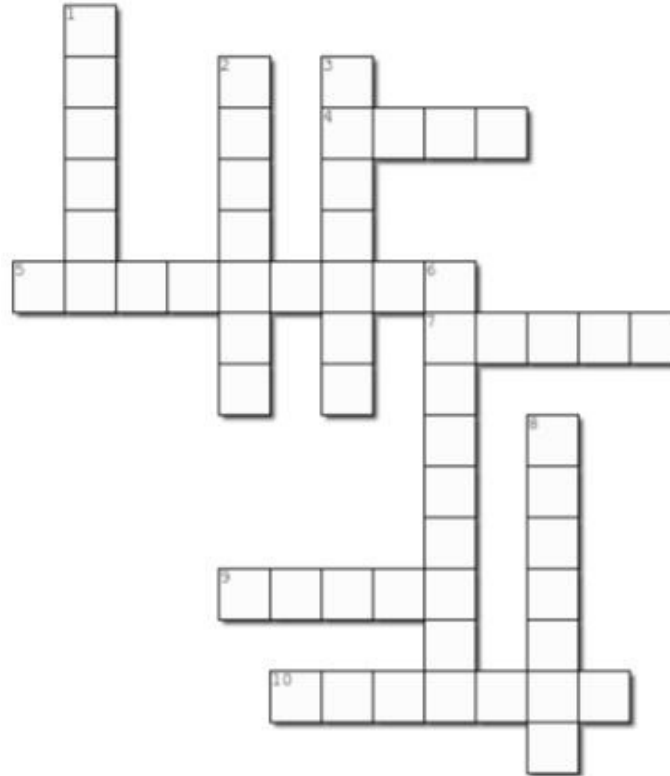
### Crossword

#### ACROSS

- 4 The specific term for a small prison room.
- 5 Less common word meaning believable or reasonable. Likely.
- 7 Compassion or forgiveness shown toward someone whom it is within one's power to punish or harm.
- 9 A royal symbol of power. A headpiece that Kings and Queens wear.
- 10 A place giving temporary protection from bad weather or danger.

#### DOWN

- 1 A thing that represents or stands for something else, especially a material object representing something abstract.
- 2 Reasons for why someone did or didn't do something.
- 3 Specific term for a performer that does acrobatics/trapeze.
- 6 The feelings someone has.
- 8 Breaking out of a place.



**PART C**  
**Kahoot!**



**symbol / shelter / emotional / crown / plausible / excuses / cell / mercy / acrobat / excuses**



**OUT OF THE WOODS - Classroom Pack**

## Multiple choice

You have now discovered the plot of the play "Out of the Woods" and its different protagonists. Let's see what you can remember.

**Task:** Read the sentences and mark the correct answer.

**1. Who is the ruler of Stonewall?**

- a) Flick
- b) Gudishews
- c) The Lady Protectoress
- d) King Adam

**2. What does the crown represent in the play?**

- a) Love, courage, and friendship
- b) Power and authority
- c) Wealth and riches
- d) Protection from the Dark Dog

**3. Why does Flick end up in prison?**

- a) For stealing an apple
- b) For trying to escape Stonewall
- c) For challenging the Lady Protectoress
- d) For helping the circus troupe

**4. Who helps Flick escape from prison?**

- a) Gudishews
- b) She does it by herself
- c) Nike Strongman
- d) King Adam

**5. What is the main attraction of Typhus' circus troupe?**

- a) Flick's acrobatic skills
- b) Nike's strength
- c) Nike's dancing
- d) Typhus' magic tricks

**6. Who is revealed to be alive and living in a cave?**

- a) Flick
- b) Gudishews
- c) The Lady Protectoress
- d) King Adam

**7. What is the new symbol that Flick proposes at the end of the play?**

- a) The crown
- b) The Dark Dog
- c) Unity and fighting for each other
- d) The circus troupe

**8. What is the Dark Dog?**

- a) A mythical creature that terrorizes Stonewall
- b) The Lady Protectoress' pet
- c) A symbol of fear and oppression
- d) King Adam's secret weapon

**9. How does Flick convince the Lady Protectoress to change her ways?**

- a) By defeating the Dark Dog
- b) By exposing King Adam's deception
- c) By appealing to her sense of fear
- d) By showing her the power of friendship

**10. Who becomes the new ruler of Stonewall?**

- a) Flick
- b) Gudishews
- c) The Lady Protectoress
- d) King Adam



# Oral Expression

## COME ONE! COME ALL! Create your own circus!

What are the main attractions? Who is part of your circus? Are they incredibly strong? Or unbelievably flexible? Maybe they have the longest beard in the world!?

Create a ringleader speech attracting audiences of all kinds to your particular circus!



### Ringleader Circus Speech Template

#### [Greeting]

Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, welcome to \_\_\_\_\_ (*name of the circus*)!

#### [Introduction]

Prepare to be \_\_\_\_\_ (*adjective*) as we present the greatest show on Earth, where \_\_\_\_\_ (*something amazing happens*) and \_\_\_\_\_ (*another amazing thing happens*)!

#### [Acrobats]

Watch in awe as our incredible acrobats \_\_\_\_\_ (*description of acrobatic act*), defying \_\_\_\_\_ (*noun*).

#### [Aerialists]

Look to the skies as our elegant aerialists \_\_\_\_\_ (*description of aerial act*), performing \_\_\_\_\_ (*adjective*) feats high above your heads.

#### [Daredevils]

Hold your breath for our fearless daredevils in the \_\_\_\_\_ (*name of act*), racing at \_\_\_\_\_ (*adjective*) speeds and defying \_\_\_\_\_ (*noun*).

#### [Clowns]

Get ready to laugh with our hilarious clowns, who will \_\_\_\_\_ (*description of clown antics*) and bring smiles to \_\_\_\_\_ (*everyone's faces/your faces*).

#### [Animal Performers]

Be amazed by our talented animal stars, including \_\_\_\_\_ (*type of animals*), showcasing their \_\_\_\_\_ (*adjective*) skills in \_\_\_\_\_ (*description of animal acts*).

#### [Closing Invitation]

So, grab your \_\_\_\_\_ (*favorite circus snack*) and join us for an evening of \_\_\_\_\_ (*noun*), \_\_\_\_\_ (*noun*), and pure \_\_\_\_\_ (*emotion*).

Welcome to the magic of \_\_\_\_\_ (*name of the circus*)!



# Oral Expression

## Example

Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, welcome to *the Amazing Adventure Circus!*

Prepare to be *astonished* as we present the greatest show on Earth, where *dreams come alive* and *the impossible becomes possible!*

Watch in awe as our incredible acrobats *flip and twist through the air*, defying gravity.

Look to the skies as our elegant aerialists *swing and spin*, performing *breathhtaking feats* high above your heads.

Hold your breath for our fearless daredevils in the *Wheel of Wonder*, racing at *dizzying* speeds and defying *danger*.

Get ready to laugh with our hilarious clowns, who will *tumble and joke*, bringing smiles to *everyone's faces*.

Be amazed by our talented animal stars, including *majestic horses and clever dogs*, showcasing their *extraordinary skills* in *thrilling performances*.

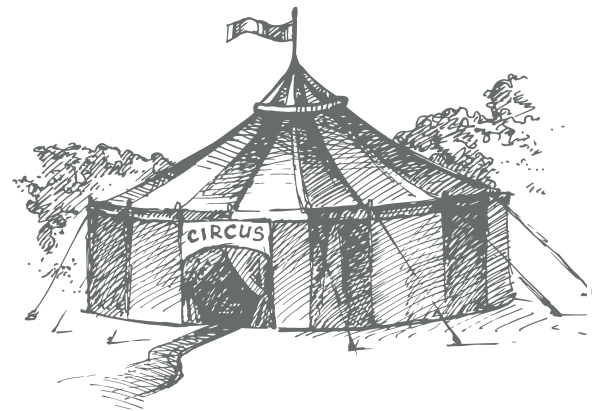
So, grab your *popcorn and cotton candy* and join us for an evening of *excitement, wonder, and pure joy*.

Welcome to the magic of *the Amazing Adventure Circus!*

## Extension

### Create a poster for your circus including:

- The name of your circus
- The main attractions
- Images of the attractions
- The cost, where and when



# Written Expression

## Dear Diary!

Imagine you are Flick. You have just escaped from Stonewall, where everything feels strict and controlled and everyone lives in fear. Now, you find yourself alone in a big, mysterious forest. The trees are tall, the air is fresh, and you can hear the sounds of birds and animals all around you.

Write a diary entry about your first night in the forest. How do you feel being away from Stonewall? Are you scared, excited, or maybe a little of both? What do you see, hear, and smell in the forest? What are you thinking about as you try to find a safe place to sleep? Do you think about where you've come from? The prison you've escaped?

Remember, this is your chance to express Flick's feelings and thoughts as she faces the unknown in the forest. How will she survive? What does she hope for the future?



**Start your diary entry with:**

"Dear Diary,  
Today was the first day I've ever been truly alone..."

**Extension:**

Create a podcast recording your journey through the forest. Use your diary entries as a base.



# Culture

## Interview with the author James Burke

So the play to begin with is inspired I guess by the birth of my niece. I was kind of like "if I had one lesson to impart on someone who was maybe 10yo, just starting to form their opinions on what's right and wrong, what would it be?" I eventually settled on empathy. Being sensitive to other people's feelings isn't a weakness. It's a strength, basically.

A number of sources of inspiration fed into this. First of all, the experiences of HEPs (highly empathic persons) and also the book Parable of the Sower, which features a person whose empathy later turns out to be a strange source of strength.

The overall setting and aesthetic of the piece was inspired partly by Studio Ghibli films and also Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind. My own love for nature and belief in the healing power of the outdoors played a big role in determining the setting of the forest. In this regard, and in the separation of Stonewall (civilization) from the forest (wilderness), I was inspired in part by Shakespeare's As You Like It, one of the first plays I performed professionally.

On top of this, the creative team also drew inspiration from the anti-war protest movements of the 1970s and 80s, with a quote, I think from Plato, coming to mind that those who contribute to a better world are not those who obey but those who question it. This is in a large part the contrast between Flick and Gudishews, both good people, but one who merely acts goodness (at the start) and another who questions it.

I was keen for Flick not to be too helpless, but also not too self-sufficient as I don't think "I don't need help from nobody" is a positive message to be sending to everyone. Her strength is thus in listening to those around her and learning what they want so she can find a solution that will help everyone. In this regard, I see her a little like Peter Quill from the Guardians of the Galaxy franchise, but whereas he is a man of action embodying a lot of stereotypically masculine traits, Flick is focused on the power of empathy and how this can overcome problems without the need for physical strength.



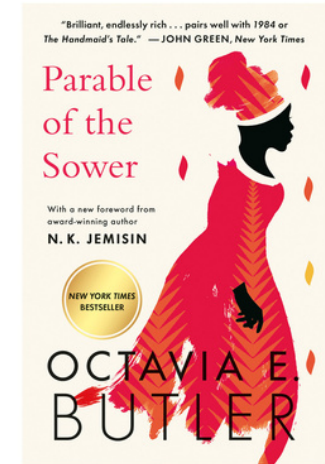
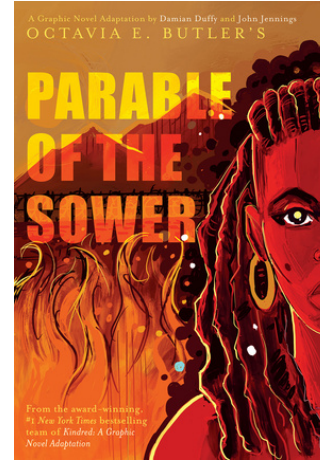
## Parable of the Sower by Octavia E. Butler

"Parable of the Sower" is a science fiction novel written by American author Octavia E. Butler in 1993. The story takes place in a future world where Earth is ruined by climate change and social inequality. The main character, Lauren Olamina, is a young woman who can feel other people's pain - she has hypersensitivity. After losing her home, she starts a journey north with other people from different backgrounds and walks of life. Along the way, she shares her idea of a new religion called Earthseed. The main ideas of Earthseed are that "God is Change" and that people can "shape God" by controlling the changes around them. Earthseed also teaches that humans are meant to live on other planets and spread life there.

"Parable of the Sower" won several awards, including the 1994 New York Times Notable Book of the Year. It has been turned into an opera and a graphic novel. The book has inspired music and essays about social justice and climate change. In 2021, New York Times readers chose it as the best science fiction book of the past 125 years.

"Parable of the Sower" is the first book in a series. The second book, "Parable of the Talents," was published in 1998. The series is not finished.

More information on Octavia E. Butler





# Culture

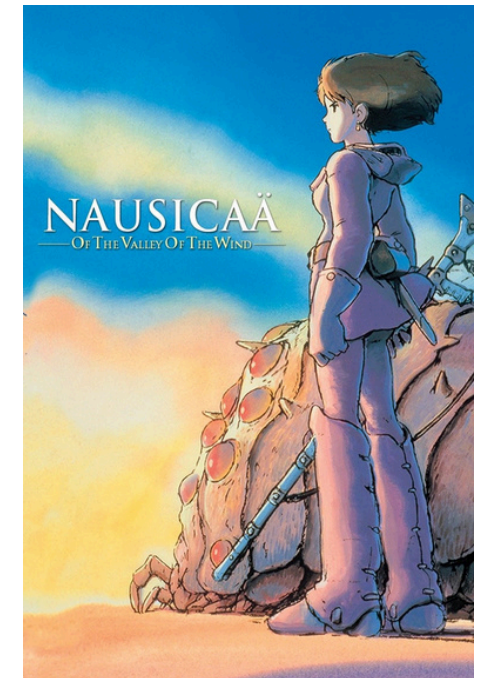
## Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind

"Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind" is a Japanese animated post-apocalyptic fantasy movie from 1984. It was written and directed by Hayao Miyazaki and is based on his manga (comic) series. The story is set in a future world after a nuclear disaster. It follows Nausicaä, a young princess from the Valley of the Wind, who gets involved in a conflict with a kingdom called Tolmekia. Tolmekia wants to destroy a jungle full of giant mutant insects by using an ancient weapon.

The movie was released in Japan on March 11, 1984, and was highly praised for its story, characters, themes, and animation. It is one of the most highly regarded Japanese anime films. Even though it was made before Studio Ghibli was officially created, it is often included in Studio Ghibli collections.

In the mid-to-late 1980s, a heavily edited version of the movie called "Warriors of the Wind" was released in the United States and other countries. Miyazaki did not like this version. In 2005, Walt Disney Pictures released an uncut and re-dubbed version that replaced the earlier edited version.

Watch the trailer



## Culture



As You Like It



"As You Like It" is a comedy play by William Shakespeare, written around 1599 and first published in 1623. The exact date of its first performance is not known, but it might have been performed at Wilton House in 1603, a place known for its literary activities during the late 1500s. The play tells the story of Rosalind, who escapes from her uncle's court with her cousin Celia. They go to the Forest of Arden to find safety and eventually fall in love. In the forest, they meet many interesting characters, including Jaques, a thoughtful traveler who delivers one of Shakespeare's most famous lines, "All the world's a stage." Jaques often talks about the difficulties of life, providing a contrast to the other characters.

Over time, people have had different opinions about the play. Some think it's one of Shakespeare's best works, while others believe it's not as good as his other plays.

"As You Like It" has been adapted into radio shows, movies, and musicals.

Here are some videos/trailers of different adaptations



Want to read more about the play?



## Guardians of the Galaxy

"Guardians of the Galaxy" is a superhero movie from 2014 based on a Marvel Comics team with the same name. The movie was made by Marvel Studios and released by Walt Disney Studios. It's the 10th movie in the Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU). The movie was directed by James Gunn, who also helped write the script. The main characters are played by Chris Pratt, Zoe Saldana, Dave Bautista, Vin Diesel, and Bradley Cooper.

The story is about Peter Quill (played by Pratt) and a group of alien criminals who team up after stealing a powerful object.

"Guardians of the Galaxy" premiered in Hollywood on July 21, 2014, and was released in U.S. theaters on August 1, 2014, as part of Marvel's Phase Two. The movie was a big hit, earning \$773.3 million worldwide, making it the third-highest-grossing movie of 2014. It was praised for its story, direction, acting, humor, music, visual effects, and action scenes.

The movie was nominated for two Oscars and won many other awards. Two sequels have been released: "Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2" in 2017 and "Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3" in 2023.

Watch the trailer



## Culture Quiz

**What inspired James Burke to create his play?**

- A) The birth of his niece      C) A conversation with a friend  
B) A famous historical event    D) A dream he had

**In the play James Burke wrote, what is the main lesson he wants to teach?**

- A) Courage      C) Honesty  
B) Empathy      D) Independence

**Which of these works inspired James Burke's play?**

- A) The Lord of the Rings      C) Harry Potter  
B) Parable of the Sower      D) The Hunger Games

**In "Parable of the Sower," what is the main character's special ability?**

- A) She can fly      C) She can feel other people's pain  
B) She can read minds    D) She can see the future

**What is the main idea of the religion Earthseed in "Parable of the Sower"?**

- A) God is Change      C) God is Power  
B) God is Love      D) God is Light

**Which movie inspired the setting of the forest in James Burke's play?**

- A) Spirited Away      C) My Neighbor Totoro  
B) Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind    D) The Lion King

**What year was "Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind" released?**

- A) 1994      C) 2004  
B) 1984      D) 1974

**Who is the main character in "Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind"?**

- A) Princess Mononoke      C) Chihiro  
B) Nausicaä      D) Sophie

**What type of play is "As You Like It" by William Shakespeare?**

- A) Tragedy      C) History  
B) Comedy      D) Romance

**Which famous quote is from "As You Like It"?**

- A) "To be, or not to be"      C) "Et tu, Brute?"  
B) "All the world's a stage"    D) "A horse! A horse! My kingdom for a horse!"

**Which movie from the quiz is part of the Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU)?**

- A) Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind      C) Spirited Away  
B) Guardians of the Galaxy      D) Harry Potter

**Who directed "Guardians of the Galaxy"?**

- A) Steven Spielberg      C) James Gunn  
B) Hayao Miyazaki      D) Christopher Nolan

