Before Reading

BEFORE READING ACTIVITIES (PAGE 76)

ACTIVITY 1 BEFORE READING
Gulliver visits some very strange (extraordinary, surprising) places. In a country called Lilliput the human beings are much smaller than he is, and in another country they are much, much bigger. He meets ghosts from the past, visits a flying island and goes to a land where horses can talk. And during his travels he begins to change his opinions about human beings and the way they live.

ACTIVITY 2 BEFORE READING
Encourage students to speculate and to make guesses, but do not tell them the answers. They will find out as they read that the ‘yes’ answers are numbers 3, 4, 5 and 7.

While Reading

CHAPTERS 1 TO 3 WHILE READING
1 How . . .? He swam there, after his ship had gone down in a violent storm.
2 What . . .? When he woke up on the beach, he found himself tied down to the ground, and he felt, then saw, about forty Lilliputian men walking up his leg and body to his face.
3 How . . .? They built a special wooden platform with twenty-two wheels, and one thousand five hundred horses pulled Gulliver on the platform to the capital.
4 What . . .? Two pocket knives, a watch, a comb, a purse with several gold and silver coins, a gun and bullets.
5 How . . .? By making people jump and dance on a rope, and whoever jumped highest without falling got the best job.
6 What . . .? Gulliver’s hat.
7 What . . .? The Big-Endians broke their boiled eggs at the larger end; the Small-Endians broke their eggs at the smaller end.
8 How . . .? He walked and swam through the sea to Blefuscu, put hooks on fifty warships, and then pulled the ships back to Lilliput.
9 How . . .? By putting on an old pair of reading glasses.
10 What . . .? He wanted Gulliver to go back and steal all the Blefuscan’s ships, so that he could defeat them for ever.
11 How . . .? He made water over the flames.

BEFORE READING CHAPTER 4
Encourage students to speculate and to make guesses, but do not tell them the answers. They will find out as they read that the answers are:
1 That Gulliver should lose his sight, and be given a little less food every day, so that he would become ill and die.
2 Yes.
3 No.
4 He swims to Blefuscu, pulling one of Lilliput’s warships to carry his clothes.
5 England, taking some tiny live cattle and sheep.

CHAPTERS 5 AND 6 WHILE READING
1 F The sailors landed on Brobdingnag to look for fresh water.
2 T
3 F The giants were about twenty metres tall.
4 F The farmer soon realized that Gulliver was an intelligent being.
5 T
6 T
7 F The farmer took Gulliver all over the country to make money from showing him to people.

CHAPTERS 7 AND 8 WHILE READING
1 Because he received a good price, and he thought Gulliver would not live much longer.
2 A mechanical toy.
3 He was very rude to Gulliver and behaved very badly. Once he pushed his legs into a bone, he used to catch flies and let them out suddenly under his nose, and once he dropped him into a bowl of milk.
4 Because the sea around it is rough, and the beaches are so rocky that no large ships can land there.
5 Because the Queen ordered her workmen to make a tiny boat, and a wooden container about a hundred metres long, which was filled with water.
6 When a monkey carried him up on to the palace roof, three hundred metres above the ground.
7 The laws, the political life, and the customs of Gulliver’s country, England.
8 Because he did not want to know how to murder people.

BEFORE READING CHAPTER 9
Encourage students to speculate and to make guesses, but do not tell them the answers. They will find out as they read that the ‘yes’ answer is number 3.
CHAPTERS 10 AND 11 WHILE READING
1 The ship’s captain, on arrival in the Gulf of Tongking, suggesting that Gulliver sailed the ship around some of the local islands while he (the captain) did some business on land.
2 A man on Laputa, talking about the last falling star, which nearly destroyed the earth.
3 The second Laputan, talking about the thirty years of life left until the earth was destroyed.
4 A student at the School of Mathematics in Lagado, talking about the small island of Glubbdubdrib.
5 An official in Lagado, talking about the small island of Glubbdubdrib.
6 The President of Glubbdubdrib, talking about the ghosts of dead people he could ask to appear.
7 Alexander the Great, explaining the reason for his early death.
8 Julius Caesar, talking about his murderer, Brutus.
9 Gulliver, talking about the Struldbrugs.
10 Gulliver’s Luggnaggian friend, explaining how wrong Gulliver was to think that people who live for ever would also be healthy and happy for ever.

CHAPTER 12 WHILE READING
1 Because they wanted to take control of the ship and become pirates.
2 Horses called Houyhnhnms, or Houys.
3 Human-like animals called Yahoos.
4 Little cakes made of corn, cooked birds, plant leaves, bread and warm milk.
5 Because in the Houyhnhnm language there was no word for telling lies.
6 He didn’t understand the need for it, because they shared everything in his country.
7 Because the Houys were sensible, gentle creatures who never lied or stole, who had no disease, no crime, and no wars.
8 Because he was neither a Yahoo nor a Houy, and did not fit in with either group.
9 He was filled with horror, because they looked and smelt like Yahoos.
10 He realized that people could not learn from the Houys. They still lied, stole, and fought, just as they had always done, and probably would always do.

After Reading

ACTIVITY 1 AFTER READING
1 Gulliver’s wife. Gulliver was in England, having returned home from his voyage to the country of the Houyhnhnms.
2 The King of Brobdingnag. Gulliver was in Brobdingnag, and had just told the King about life in England and recent European history.
3 Flimnap. Gulliver was in Lilliput, receiving visitors (who included Flimnap’s wife) at his house, when they used to drive their coaches and horses round his table.
4 Glumdalclitch. Gulliver was in Brobdingnag, and was being held in the monkey’s arms, on the roof of the palace.
5 The ship’s captain. This was the English ship that had picked Gulliver up near Blefuscu, somewhere in the Indian Ocean, and was taking him home to England. Gulliver had shown the captain the Lilliputian cattle and sheep.

ACTIVITY 2 AFTER READING
Suggested answers:
HOUY 1: What shall we do about the Yahoo-like animal? You know, the one who calls himself Gulliver.
HOUY 2: Does he speak our language now?
HOUY 1: Oh yes, he speaks it quite well. Sometimes he can’t explain things clearly, but he’s very interesting to listen to.
HOUY 2: Where’s he living at the moment?
HOUY 1: In my house, in a separate room well away from the Yahoos. He refuses to eat or sleep with them, you see.
HOUY 2: Why is that?
HOUY 1: Because his habits are very different from theirs, he says. He keeps telling me he isn’t a Yahoo at all.
HOUY 2: Well, he looks just like one!
HOUY 1: I know he does, but looks aren’t the most important thing, are they? I must say, he’s more intelligent than most of my Yahoos. But that’s the problem, isn’t it?
HOUY 2: What do you mean?
HOUY 1: Well, he isn’t really a Yahoo, but he isn’t one of us, either. So what shall we do with him?
HOUY 2: I think you’ll have to send him away.
HOUY 1: Back to his own country, you mean? But it sounds a very unpleasant place!
HOUY 2: It’s where he belongs. He’ll be happier there.
HOUY 1: Yes, perhaps you’re right. At least he’ll be with his own people again. He’ll certainly be miserable if he stays here, because he’ll never really be accepted, will he?

ACTIVITY 3 AFTER READING
4+7+9 11+5+1 8+3 10+2+6
Mr Gulliver has just returned from an exciting voyage, which took him to the island of Lilliput, where the people, he says, are only fifteen centimetres tall. At first these tiny Lilliputians kept Mr Gulliver in chains, but they gave him his freedom when he promised not to hurt them in any way. Later, however, Mr Gulliver was warned by a friend that he was no longer welcome in the country. After hearing this, Mr Gulliver escaped
from the island and came home, bringing some tiny cows and sheep to prove that his strange stories about Lilliput are true.

**ACTIVITY 4 AFTER READING**
Mr Gulliver has once again returned from his travels. This time, he tells us, he was in Brobdingnag, a land of giants, where the people were twenty metres tall. He was attacked by rats which were as big as dogs, and he almost drowned in a bowl of milk! The King and Queen became so fond of him that he stayed with them at their palace. The greatest danger to him came when a huge monkey picked him up and ran on to the palace roof, at least three hundred metres above the ground! Luckily, he survived this and other dangerous (difficult) situations, and has promised his wife he will never go to sea again.

**ACTIVITY 5 AFTER READING**
• Headlines most suitable for the Lilliput report:
  ENGLISHMAN IN TINY CHAINS, IT’S A SMALL WORLD!  
  (The second one is also a saying which means ‘one is likely to meet or hear about somebody one knows wherever one goes’, and this double meaning might suggest disbelief in the story.)
• Headlines most suitable for the Brobdingnag report:
  MR GULLIVER’S GIANT STORY, TALL STORIES FROM ABROAD! (A ‘tall story’ can also mean a story that is difficult to believe and unlikely to be true. In this sense, the headline could fit either of the newspaper reports.)
• Headlines suitable for either report:
  A LUCKY ESCAPE, A TRAVELLER RETURNS

**ACTIVITY 6 AFTER READING**
Open answers. These statements can be discussed in pairs, small groups, or as a whole class. Students could be asked to think about some of the statements in advance, and come to class ready to give their views.

**ACTIVITY 7 AFTER READING**
Open answers.