

# Alone against the jungle

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## UNIT 7

**1** Now you are going to read and listen to a dramatic story. This story really happened some years ago in the jungles of Peru. To understand the story you have to start reading at TEXT 1.

Then you will find some questions. You will not be able to answer all of them, you will only be able to answer some.

If you want to answer all of them, you must listen to the cassette (LISTENING 1). You will be able to answer the rest of the questions after that. Then read the next piece of the text (TEXT 2) and so on ... it is like a puzzle: You will only be able to understand the story if you read and listen, step by step.

### TEXT 1

It was Christmas Eve and I was very happy. I was with my mother at Lima Airport.

I heard the voice from the loudspeaker. "Will passengers for flight number 318 to Pucalpa please go to Gate 5."

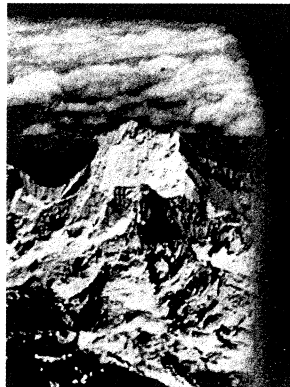
"Come on," said my mother. We picked up our cases and hurried to the plane. I found a seat next to a window. "You sit there," said my mother. "Then you can look out of the window at the jungle. You'll

like that. I'm going to read this book about birds."

The plane took off and started to climb up into the sky. It climbed up and up. Then it started to fly straight, so I looked out of the window. I could see the tops of the Andes mountains. "I'll see the jungle soon," I thought.

"All right?" asked my mother.

"Yes," I said. "I'm going to enjoy this flight. I haven't seen the jungle for three months."



### Questions 1

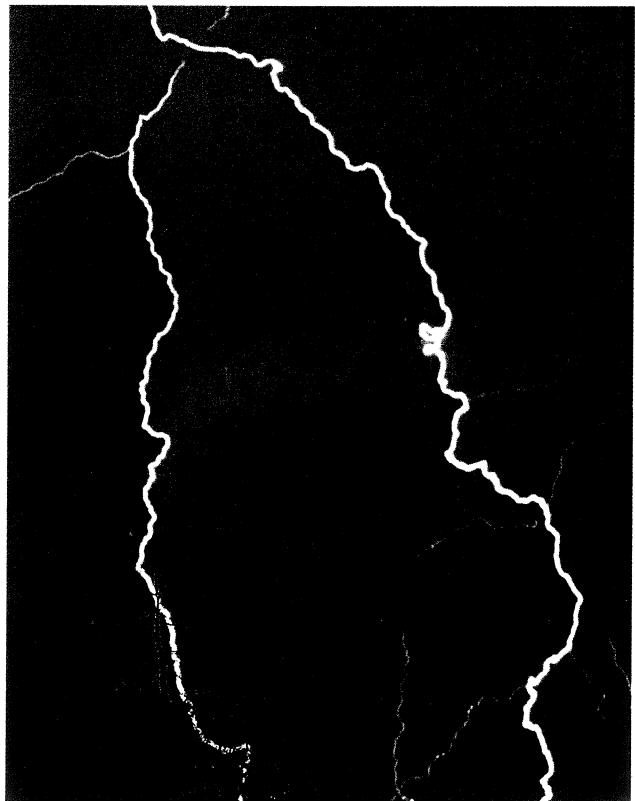
- Who tells the story? A boy or a girl?
- In which continent did the story take place?
- What happened at 11.30?
- What did they hear from the loudspeaker on the plane?
- What is the name of the mountains they could see from the

- window of the plane?
- What was the sky like?
- Why did the case fall on the floor?
- What did the passengers do after that?

For the questions you cannot answer listen to the cassette.

### Listening 1

Can you answer all the questions from 1 now?



## TEXT 2

"I must get up and find my mother," I thought. But I couldn't get up. The lump on my head and the cut on my foot didn't hurt but I was very tired. And I felt weak. I could see the thick trees of the jungle. Birds sang and insects buzzed. I was in the jungle and it was still day. I knew the jungle, so I was not afraid. I'm only afraid of large cities. I lay under the seat and tried to think. "Where is my mother? Where are the other passengers? Where is the plane?" But my head felt strange and I couldn't think clearly. I listened to the birds and the insects. Night came suddenly. It always does in the jungle. Then I heard the frogs. The birds go to sleep at night. I like that sound, so I soon fell asleep. I woke up early the next morning and got up, but I still felt strange. I couldn't see straight. I looked at the trees and they moved!

### Questions 2

- What kind of sounds could the girl hear?
- What was she afraid of?
- Did she find her mother?
- Why did she try to find a river?

*For the questions you cannot answer, listen to the cassette.*

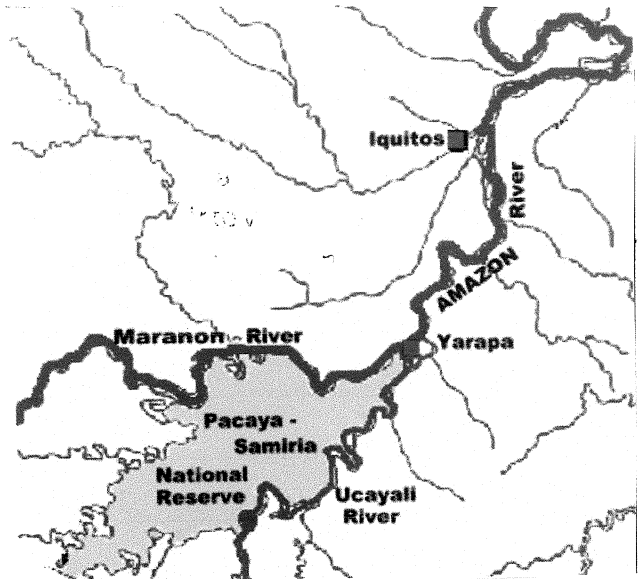


### Listening 2

*Can you answer all the questions from 2 now?*

## TEXT 3a

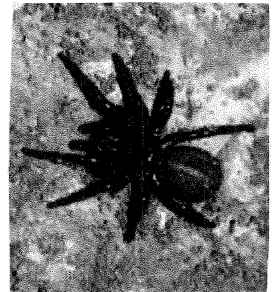
Suddenly I felt better. I got up and found a stick. You must always carry a stick in the jungle. Hold the stick in front of you. Poke it into the undergrowth – the tree roots and the creepers. Poke it into all the thick plants and low bushes in front of you. Then the snakes and insects will bite the stick and run away. They won't bite you. I knew the rules of the jungle well. My parents are clever scientists and they have lived in the jungle for many years. They taught me the rules of the jungle. "Don't be afraid of the large animals, Suzanne. They are afraid of you. But the small ones are dangerous, the snakes and the insects: the flies, mosquitoes, ants and spiders. They can kill you, but follow the rules and you



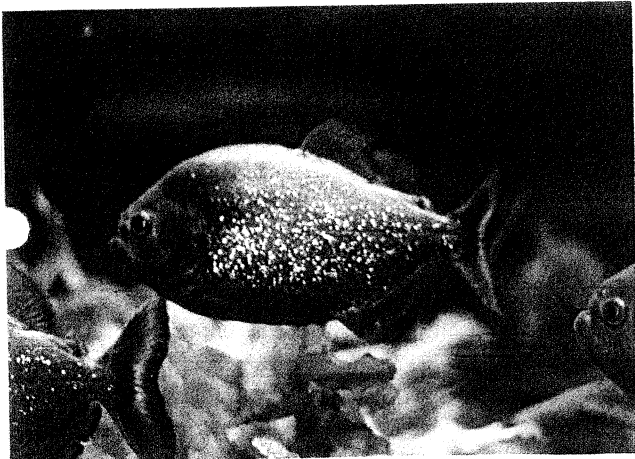
*the Amazon*



*boa*



*spider*



piranhas



will be safe. Carry a stick. Make a noise. Don't stop. Don't eat strange fruit. Find a river. Always follow a river. People live near rivers."

### TEXT 3b

I looked at my left foot. The cut was quite big (five cm deep and two cm wide). I tried to wash off the dry blood but new blood started to flow. I remembered the piranhas. Piranhas are little fish with very sharp teeth. They can always smell blood and they swim very fast. Hundreds of them attack you and bite off your flesh. They kill you very quickly... Alligators can smell blood too and they have a lot of sharp teeth. They lie on the banks of rivers and wait. They often look like old tree trunks so people don't see them. You step on an alligator and then its large cruel mouth shuts – snap. I didn't want to be an alligator's dinner or food for the piranhas. There was new blood on my foot, but I had to stay near the stream. I had to follow the little stream to a river. It was a dangerous road, but it was a road.

### TEXT 3c

"What are those strange noises in the bushes?" I thought. "Snakes? Or alligators? Or a hungry jaguar?" I felt an insect on my bare leg. It crawled up and up. I didn't move. Perhaps it was a poisonous spider. Then it crawled away, but I still couldn't sleep. Once I heard a terrible scream. Was it a person or a monkey? Jaguars hunt at night. They kill monkeys and eat them. Sometimes they kill people too. I tried to forget the dangers. I tried to think about nice things. I thought about my father. I thought about our safe little home in the jungle. Then the mosquitoes found me. Buzz – buzz – bite – buzz – bite – all night.

### Questions 3

What did the girl do to protect herself against snakes and insects?

What were the rules the girl thought of?

What did she know about piranhas and alligators?

What did Suzanne do when she heard planes in the sky?

How did she feel then?

*For the questions you cannot answer, listen to the cassette.*

### Listening 3

Take notes.

Can you answer all the questions from 3 now?

**2** An interview with Suzanne in hospital  
Find Suzanne's answers to the reporters' questions.



**Reporters' questions:**

"Where did your plane leave from?"

"What happened during the flight?"

"What did the passengers do?"

"What is the next thing you can remember?"

"Were you afraid after the crash?"

"What were the greatest dangers you met in the jungle?"

"Who taught you the rules of the jungle?"

"What can you remember about the men who saved you?"

"How did you feel when they found you?"



**Suzanne's answers:**

"At first everything was okay, but then a terrible thunderstorm broke out."

"We left from Lima Airport."

"They were young Indians. They were very friendly and they took me to hospital."

"They screamed and everybody was afraid."

"I woke up lying on the ground with a terrible headache."

"I felt weak and tired, but very happy."

"There were lots of dangerous situations, but I tried to forget the dangers. I thought about my father most of the time."

"Yes, I was. I wanted to find my mother and I was really frightened."

"My parents did."