



RAHNAMA

P R E S S

@RAHNAMAPRESS

WWW.RAHNAMAPRESS.COM

ENGUIN ACTIVE READING

LEVEL 2

Stories of Other Worlds

H.G. Wells



Contents

	Activities 1	iv
Story 1	The Country of the Blind (Part 1)	1
	Activities 2	10
	The Country of the Blind (Part 2)	12
	Activities 3	20
Story 2	The Door in the Wall (Part 1)	22
	Activities 4	28
	The Door in the Wall (Part 2)	30
	Activities 5	36
Story 3	The Young Ghost (Part 1)	38
	Activities 6	46
	The Young Ghost (Part 2)	48
	Talk about it	56
	Write about it	57
	Project: A New Life	58

1.1 What's the book about?

1 Discuss these questions.

- Think about the name of this book. What 'other worlds' can you think of?
- H.G. Wells was a very famous writer. Do you know any of his work? Find out about him. What are many of his stories about?

2 Look at these pictures of people from each story. Which words describe them best? Write the words under the pictures.



.....
.....

interested walking excited listening laughing unhappy

1.2 What happens first?

Read the name of the first story on page 1, and look at the picture. Then write the best words in these sentences.

- The people in the village are
(old / blind / stupid)
- Their clothes are
(expensive / dirty / strange)
- The village looks
(dangerous / clean / beautiful)
- The story begins
(in the future / now / in the past)

The Country of the Blind

*'Look!' said one of the men. 'Look at his path through the snow!
He walked here. And he fell there.'*

Our story begins in the Andes mountains of Ecuador, hundreds of years past. Between two great mountains there was a small, beautiful **valley**. It was a difficult, dangerous journey from the nearest town. One day, some people from Peru found the valley and they stayed there. The water was clean and there was fruit on the trees. Their animals gave them milk. There was no rain or snow, but the rivers from the mountains made the valley green. They could grow vegetables there. It was a wonderful place.

The people built a village in the valley, and their lives were happy. But then some of them were ill, and after this they couldn't see. New babies were born **blind** too. After many, many years, everybody in the valley was blind.



valley /'væli/ (n) A *valley* is the flat ground between mountains. A river usually runs through it.

blind /blaɪnd/ (adj/n) *Blind* people (*the blind*) cannot see.

But in the time before that happened, some of the men had an answer to the problem.

‘God is angry with us because there isn’t a church in the village,’ they said.

One man had a plan. ‘Let’s build a church,’ he said. ‘I’ll go away, to the town, and buy the best things for our church. And I’ll bring them back to our valley.’

The people gave him money. They did this happily because they didn’t use money in the village.

‘A new church will make God happy and then He will help us. We’ll have our **sight** again,’ they said.

So the young man made the difficult, dangerous journey over the mountains to the town. He told people in the town about his village and he visited many churches. Then he bought the things for the new church and he was ready for the journey home.

But one day when he was in the town, something very bad happened near his valley.



sight /sait/ (n) People without *sight* cannot see anything.

It was the middle of the day, but the sky suddenly went dark. The birds stopped singing. Animals put their heads up and listened. Then they started running away. There was a loud noise and the ground moved. The mountains moved and large **rocks** fell down into the valley. The people were very afraid. After some minutes it was quiet and everything stopped moving. Then the sun shone again and the birds sang.

But things were different. The country didn't look the same as before. The young man wanted to go back to his valley, but he couldn't find the way through the mountains. There were rocks across the mountain **paths** and there was no way past them. He couldn't get home to his wife and children in the valley. He had to stay in the town.

He told many people about his village, so more and more people heard the story of the Country of the Blind.



Hundreds of years later, another young man came into the story. His name was Nunez and he was a mountain climber from the Colombian city of Bogotá. He took some Englishmen on a journey, high in the Andes mountains.



rock /rɒk/ (n) You find large and small rocks on the ground. They often break off mountains.

path /pɑːθ/ (n) After a lot of people walk the same way for some time, their feet make a path.



H. G. Wells

British English
Classic

A mountain climber, high in the Andes, falls into a strange valley. In London, a man is looking for a green door. A third man tries to help an unhappy ghost. Each of these exciting stories shows us two very different worlds. But which is better? And can we really be happier in another world?

Number of words (excluding activities): 8,780

Series Editors: Jocelyn Potter and Andy Hopkins

For correlations to English Language Teaching exams, please visit www.penguinreaders.com

Penguin Active Reading provides reading and language learning at five levels, through full-colour, beautifully illustrated Readers. As well as enjoyable stories and texts, each book provides a range of integrated activities designed to develop reading skills and consolidate vocabulary, and offers personalised project work. Each book is supported by an interactive CD-ROM which contains additional activities and the complete audio recording.

Easystarts	200 headwords	
Level 1	300 headwords	<i>Beginner</i>
Level 2	600 headwords	Elementary
Level 3	1200 headwords	<i>Pre-intermediate</i>
Level 4	1700 headwords	<i>Intermediate</i>

Cover illustration by Adam Hunter Peck

