



Stories of Courage

Photocopiable

While reading

Story 1

- 1 **Discuss with another student. Are these sentences right (✓) or wrong (X)?**
 - a Ana went to a special government school because she was good at sports.
 - b Ana did not face any problems at school.
 - c Ana's best races are 100 meters and 200 meters.
 - d Ana met Cuba's leader, Fidel Castro, more than once.
 - e Ana was washing clothes when her terrible accident happened.
- 2 **Read the chapter again and find out what each wants.**
 - a The Cuban government:
 - b Ana when she was ten years old:
 - c Ana's school when she stopped growing and got heavier:
 - d Blas Beato when he met Ana:
 - e The doctors at Havana's Ameijeiros Hospital:

Story 2

- 3 **Read Matthew's story again. Put the events in order, 1-8.**
 - a Matthew is taken to an army prison. He lives in a small box for six months.
 - b Matthew gets on a ship and travels to Europe.
 - c Matthew jumps into the dirty river in his prison and escapes.
 - d Matthew walks across Sudan for three and a half months.
 - e Matthew floats in the Nile River for days.
 - f Matthew's father is shot by some soldiers.
 - g Matthew builds a new life in Bulgaria.
 - h Matthew meets his friends in Port Sudan, and they agree to help him.
- 4 **Imagine who said the following and under which circumstances.**

the guard at the army prison Matthew
Matthew's father the crocodile
soldiers by the Nile River

 - a "I'm so tired! But if I don't keep swimming they'll kill me."

- b "I can't believe my eyes. Fresh meat!"
- c "Oh, no! I hope nothing happens to my son. They should have me!"
- d "Where is this man. He can't have disappeared. He must have drowned."
- e "Does he think I'm stupid? I won't tell him how to escape!"

Story 3

- 5 **Finish these sentences about Odette's life story. Write the numbers, 1-7.**
 - a Odette married an English man, and ...
 - b Odette wanted to help her country, but ...
 - c The British Secret Service was interested in ...
 - d Odette told the Germans that ...
 - e Each time the guards came to Odette's prison room ...
 - f At Ravensbrück the prisoners worked ...
 - g Odette often thought about ...
 - 1 she was only a housewife.
 - 2 Winston Churchill was Peter's uncle.
 - 3 until they died.
 - 4 moved to England when she was nineteen.
 - 5 death was possible.
 - 6 her daughters and husband in England.
 - 7 Odette's photos of northern France.

6 Who said these words in Odette's story?

- When?**
- a "It is for all French Resistance workers in the war."
 - b "I have three young daughters and a loving husband. They need me."
 - c "Get every piece of information from them."
 - d "Return to your prison room and wait."
 - e "We are leaving today."

Story 4

- 7 **Answer these questions about Chico Mendez.**
 - a Where is the Amazon rainforest, and why is it important?
 - b What kind of work did Chico and his family do?
 - c Why did farmers clear large areas of the forest?



Stories of Courage

Photocopiable

- d Chico's work meant that poor people lost their jobs. Why?
- e Who did Chico talk to about the forest? Make a list.
- f What did the Brazilian government do in 1988, before Chico's death?
Now get together with another student and compare your answers.

8 Match the names and the descriptions.

- a ... were visited by Chico in the 1980s.
- b ... made Chico angry because they were destroying the forests and were only interested in money.
- c ... made programs about Chico Mendez.
- d ... only cared about power and didn't pay any attention to Chico's complaints.
- e ... couldn't go to school and started working at the age of nine.
 - 1 Chico Mendez
 - 2 businessmen and farmers near Xapuri
 - 3 local politicians
 - 4 television producers
 - 5 international companies

Stories 5-6

9 Finish these sentences about Suu in your own words.

- a Suu and Michael's life in England with their children was
- b In 1988 Suu decided to stay in Burma because
- c In her prison home Suu continued her work by
- d Suu did not collect her Nobel Peace Prize because
- e The army decided to let Suu go free in 1995 because
- f In 1999 Suu did not visit her sick husband because
- g After her husband's death Suu felt
- h Today, Suu is

10 Complete these sentences about Aron.

- carefully different fresh hard quickly
safe slowly strong weak
- a The air in the mountains was and cool.
 - b Aron could not escape enough from the falling rocks.

- c Aron thought about his problem.
- d Aron tried ways to cut his arm off.
- e His body was but his mind was
- f He cut his arm off
- g Aron's final walk was very But at last he was

Stories 7-8

11 Who did these things? Write (E) for Erin Brockovich or (O) for Kenzaburo Oe.

- a had a son who was close to death.
- b was fearless.
- c decided to fight against a big company.
- d learned a lot from a courageous doctor.
- e sent a large number of notices for lawsuits.

12 Compare Erin Brockovich and Kenzaburo Oe and fill out a chart on a) their place of birth b) the town where they lived and worked c) the people they are with d) the problems they had e) why they are brave.

	Erin Brockovich	Kenzaburo Oe
a		
b		
c		
d		
e		

After reading

- 13 **Discuss the following with your partner.**
Which character would you like to be friends with? Why? How does he or she make you feel?
- 14 **Work with another student.**
Choose two of the people in the stories and write down the conversation they had during a People's Rights dinner. Then act it out!
- 15 **Draw your favorite part in any of the stories the book.**
- 16 **Choose one of the following.**
 - a You are Odette. You are still working as a spy. Write a letter to your husband and daughters.
 - b You are Aron. Your arm had just been caught and you have a walkie-talkie. Who do you call? What do you say?
 - c You are Ana. You start teaching young runners. What do you tell them on their first class with you?



Stories of Courage

Photocopiable

Story 1

1 **Underline the mistakes and write correct sentences.**

- a Ana agreed to rest when the doctors told her to.
.....
- b After her accident, Ana could go out in the sun very easily.
.....
- c Ana won a gold medal in the same year as her accident.
.....

2 **Finish these sentences about Ana Quirot. Write the numbers, 1–5.**

- a When Ana woke up after her accident
- b Only a month after the accident
- c It was very difficult for Ana
- d Ana didn't think that
- e Ana's fight against pain and illness
 - 1 Fidel Castro was by her bedside.
 - 2 to walk without pain.
 - 3 is an example of courage.
 - 4 she could come back so strongly.
 - 5 Ana started walking inside the hospital.

Story 2

3 **Finish these sentences about Matthew.**

- float army crocodile power strength
- a Matthew was very frightened about the that was swimming towards him.
 - b Matthew for hours in the Nile River to escape the soldiers.
 - c Matthew's European friends admire him because of his

4 **Write right (✓) or wrong (X).**

- a Matthew had no bed when he was in prison.
- b Every day the soldiers in the army prison beat the prisoners.
- c When Matthew was moved to another place in the army prison he realized he would never escape.

Story 3

5 **Complete the sentences.**

- a When the Germans moved to France
- b When the British government asked for pictures of French beaches
- c When Odette started working as a spy she lied to her family telling them

6 **Circle the right words.**

- a When Odette and Peter were caught by the German police she told them that Peter was her *husband / brother*.
- b Odette and Peter's future was decided *at the police station / in the courtroom*.
- c When Odette was moved to Ravensbrück, she saw *hopelessness / tiredness* in the prisoners' eyes.

Story 4

7 **Choose the right answer. Circle 1 or 2.**

- a Chico Mendez was the first Brazilian man ...
 - 1 to speak against new businesses.
 - 2 to start working at an early age.
- b Chico started feeling hopeful ...
 - 1 when some parts of the Xapuri forest were saved.
 - 2 when the new businesses were stopped.
- c Not everybody believed Chico's words ...
 - 1 and it became very difficult for him to continue fighting.
 - 2 but scientists said that he was not lying at all.

Stories 5–6

8 **Underline the mistakes and write correct sentences.**

- a Suu's father did political work in India.
.....
- b Suu fell in love with an Englishman when they were both studying in Cambridge.
.....
- c Suu's family was killed in the fight for Burma's freedom.
.....

9 **Choose the right endings. Circle 1 or 2.**

- a After the large pieces of rock fell toward Aron, ...
 - 1 he couldn't move any more.
 - 2 he got very frightened.
- b Aron was hopeful because on Sundays ...
 - 1 many people go to the mountains.
 - 2 the rescue teams go over the area.
- c Aron used his knife to try to cut the rock ...
 - 1 and he set himself free.
 - 2 but it didn't have the effect that he expected.

Stories 7–8

10 **Circle the right words in Oe's story.**

- a Oe's son was born seriously *ill / disabled*.
- b After meeting Dr. Shigeto, Oe realized that he had enough *strength / fear* to fight for his son's life.
- c By the age of eighteen, Hikari was writing his own *books / music*.