

SMALLVILLE – EXTRA ARRIVAL

Level 1

This level is suitable for students who have been learning English for at least a year and up to two years. It corresponds with the Common European Framework level A1. Suitable for users of CLICK magazine.

SYNOPSIS

This is the story of Clark Kent before he becomes Superman. He is three years old when he arrives on earth in a spaceship from the planet Krypton. He comes down in a meteor shower, landing in Smallville, a small town in Kansas in the USA. The year is 1989. A married couple with no children of their own, Jonathan and Martha Kent, find him. They call him Clark and bring him up as their son.

The story moves to 2001 and Clark is a teenager with problems. He wants to be like everyone else but he has special powers that he has to keep secret. He can't join the school football team because he's too strong and too fast. But the other kids think it's because he's no good at sport. And he's in love with a girl, Lana Lang, who's not in love with him.

Clark saves someone's life, gets in trouble with the popular kids at school, temporarily loses his powers and prevents a boy from the past killing his schoolmates at the homecoming dance.

We also meet Lex Luthor in this story, who will become Superman's no 1 enemy in the future.

THE BACK STORY

Arrival is the first episode in the hit Warner Bros TV series, *Smallville*, which tells the early Superman story based on the DC comic book character. The pilot programme broke records in 2001, when it was watched by 8.4 million viewers. The actor finally chosen to play Clark Kent was Tom Welling, originally a

construction worker who had become a model!

The *Smallville* stories are set in a time of economic change in the USA, when big, powerful companies are taking over small, family businesses. They chart Clark Kent's life as a teenage boy in a small town in Kansas, dealing with all the awkward things that all teenagers go through. They show him coping with adolescence and coming to terms with being different, as he learns about his origins and superpowers (he is super strong, super fast and nothing can hurt him), and as he struggles to find his destiny in life.

The series also deals with the other people in Clark's life and his relationships with them: his adoptive parents, his school friends, his love interest, his adversaries and the young Lex Luthor. Issues of revenge, loyalty, bullying and belonging are all here.

MEDIA LINKS

DVD: The first five series of *Smallville* are available on DVD produced by Warner Bros Home Video.

CD: A recording of *Arrival* is available to accompany the Scholastic ELT reader.

Internet: For more information, go to

www.channel4.com/smallville, www.smallvilleledger.co.uk and smallville.warnerbros.com.

Book: Michael Teitelbaum's novelization of *Smallville: Arrival* is published by Atom, an imprint of Time Warner Books UK.

HOW TO USE YOUR SCHOLASTIC MEDIA READER

Choosing and motivating

Is this the right story for your class? Do the students watch *Smallville* on TV? Motivate them with background information and by reading aloud the first page of the story with dramatic atmosphere.

Organising

Plan a class reading schedule. Decide how many pages to set for reading each week. Select exercises from the Self Study section at the back of the reader and extra activities from this resource sheet to go with each chunk of reading. (All answers on page 4 of this resource sheet.)

Using the CD

Students can listen and follow in their books. They can listen and then read. They can read and then listen. All these activities will improve their reading speeds and skills.

Using the DVD

Select the English language option on the DVD. The programme lasts about 40 minutes. You could show it in chunks of, say, 10 minutes in parallel with the class reading schedule. Alternatively, show it when the class have finished the book as a reward.

Glossary

Go to New Words! at the back of the reader. Translate the words with the class or get students to find meanings at home. The Vocabulary Builder on page 3 of this resource sheet practises the new words in a variety of contexts.

Casual language

Introduce the informal expressions used in *Arrival* (see Vocabulary Builder on page 3 of this resource sheet). These are used in both British and American English. Put them into context. Tell students to look out for them as they read.

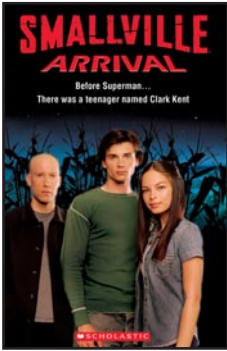
Fact Files

Set these as self-study or use for whole class work. These provide background information about the making of the *Smallville* series, about the main characters in the stories and about end-of-year homecoming traditions in US high schools.

What did they think?

Get everyone to do a written or spoken review of *Arrival*. Compare opinions. Will they go and see the film? Did you like it? Let us know at readers@link2English.com.

RESOURCE SHEET STUDENT ACTIVITIES



SMALLVILLE ARRIVAL - EXTRA

People and places

1 Answer these questions.

Who ...

- a) is Lex Luthor's father? *Lionel Luthor*
- b) are Clark's best friends?
- c) comes from another world?
- d) is Whitney's girlfriend?
- e) does Clark live with?

2 Match the places and the definitions.

- a) Smallville i) a school for teenagers
- b) Metropolis ii) a town
- c) Smallville High iii) Lionel Luthor's factories are part of this
- d) LuthorCorp iv) a city

3 Whitney is good at sports. Pete isn't good at sports.

What things are you good at? What things aren't you good at? Talk to other students.

Chapters 1-2

1 Who says or thinks these things? Choose from these names.

Jonathan Kent Lana Lang Pete Ross Clark Kent Lex Luthor

- a) 'I'm going to die.' *Lex Luthor*
- b) 'I don't want to be different.'
- c) 'Are you man or superman?'
- d) 'We both want a child.'
- e) 'Are you going to the dance with anyone?'

2 Work with a partner. In what ways is Clark 'special and different'? How do we know? Write down some ideas.

.....

.....

3 Why does Clark shout at his father? Tick (✓) the answer. Because ...

- a) he can't go to the homecoming dance.
- b) he's late for school.
- c) a milk can hit his head.
- d) he wants to be different.
- e) he can't play for the football team.

4 Do you ever shout at your mum or dad? Give an example.

.....

.....

Chapters 3-4

1 Work with a partner. Three people have a 'terrible shock' in Chapter 3. Who are they? What happens?

2 Number these sentences in the correct order.

- a) He takes him in his arms and starts to swim.
- b) He drives onto the bridge and sees Clark.
- c) Under the water Clark opens his eyes.
- d) Lex's car crashes into Clark.
- e) He finds the car and pulls Lex out.
- f) He doesn't look at the road for a minute.
- g) Clark goes over the bridge and into the water.
- h) Lex drives down a small country road.
- i) He answers his mobile phone.

3 What does Lana give Whitney and why? What's the most interesting thing someone gave you? Ask other students.

Chapters 5-6

1 Correct these sentences.

- a) Tony Carozza was one of the ~~two~~ football players in the photo. *three*
- b) Clark saved Lana's life.
- c) All the students said, 'Nice walk, Clark!'
- d) When Clark saw his spaceship, he was very excited.
- e) Lana's mum and dad died in 1991, when she was five.
- f) Whitney was very happy when he saw Lana kiss Clark.

2 Who says these things? Who to?

- a) 'You were that scarecrow years ago!' *Tony Carozza, to the boy.*
- b) 'Nice work, Clark!'
- c) 'Thank you, Clark.'
- d) 'You must tell him now.'
- e) 'Mom, Dad, this is Clark Kent.'
- f) 'I'm sorry I can't keep it.'

3 What does Lex give Clark? What would you like? Ask other students.

RESOURCE SHEET STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Chapters 7-8

1 Who ...

- a) gives electric shocks to Tony Carozza and Freddie Post? *Jeremy Creek*
- b) learns the true story about Jeremy?
- c) is this year's scarecrow?
- d) helps the scarecrow down from the pole?
- e) wants to give an electric shock to everyone at the dance?

What ...

- f) four things do Pete and Chloe use to find information?
.....
.....
- g) does Whitney put on Clark?
- h) is on the front of Clark's body?
- i) does Whitney find on his car after the dance?

2 Work with a partner. Imagine you are Pete and Chloe. Write Jeremy's story from 1989 to 2001 for the school newspaper. What do you think has happened to Jeremy since the night of the homecoming dance in 2001? Write down some ideas.

Epilogue

1 Use these words to finish the sentences.

~~a small box~~ front door feel well Lana's necklace
Whitney OK

- a) Lex gave Clark *a small box*
- b) In the box was
- c) When Clark opened the box, he didn't
- d) When he closed the box, he was
- e) Clark put the necklace on Lana's
- f) She thought it was from

2 What happens in Clark's daydream? What do you daydream about? Ask other students.

FINAL TASK

Finish the names of the chapters.

- Chapter 1: A child
- Chapter 2: Special and
- Chapter 3: Two terrible
- Chapter 4: The green
- Chapter 5: The true
- Chapter 6: A quick
- Chapter 7: This year's
- Chapter 8: A big red
- Epilogue: Thanks for the

Check your answers on the Contents page.

VOCABULARY BUILDER

1 Look at the list of New Words at the back of Arrival. Choose the right word to finish these sentences.

1. Clark doesn't want to be special. He wants to be
2. Don't walk across the busy road. Walk over the
3. He gave her a big of chocolates.
4. They make lots of cars at that
5. Her hair-dryer was very old and it gave her an
6. He into the wall on his bicycle, but he wasn't
7. 'I love you,' she said, and she him.
8. Holland is famous for its beautiful
9. Clark Lex Luthor's life.
10. You can see it rained all night: there's lots of water on the

2 There are wrong words in each of these sentences. Find the right New Word.

1. Superman arrived in Smallville in a helicopter.
.....
2. Jonathan and Martha Kent live on a barn.
.....
3. Lana's mum and dad died when a tulip hit their car.
.....
4. When he was nine, Lex found a 'scarecrow' in a cinema.
.....
5. Lana had a green wooden pole around her neck.
.....

Casual language

- Clark says '**See you later,**' to Pete and Chloe (p.13). He means, 'Goodbye. I'm going to see you later today.'
- Jeremy Creek thinks '**I'm gonna get you!**' (p.14). This means 'I'm going to do something bad to you'.
- All the students at Smallville High say '**Nice work!**' to Clark (p.19). This means 'You did something great. Well done!'
- Lex says '**I get it,**' to Clark (p.23). He means, 'I suddenly understand.'

Put these words in the right places below.

I'm gonna get her! Nice work! I get it. See you later.

1. 'Bye''
2. 'Your sister took your bicycle and crashed it!'
3. 'I just came first in my class!'
4. 'Do you want me to tell you again?' 'No,

SMALLVILLE ON TV (pages 32-3)

Roleplay a scene

Students work in groups of 4 (3 actors and a director, plus props) to act out a TV scene from the book, for example, the scene on page 13 where Clark approaches Lana and drops his books just as Whitney arrives (it's short, allows the actors to express themselves and students can have some fun with it). When they're ready, groups perform their scene and the class votes for the best one. Finally, you could show the scene from the TV programme – students can compare it with their version.

Create a scene

Students work in pairs to write and act an extra scene for *Smallville: Arrival* – the meeting between Jeremy Creek and Freddie Post (see page 24). They can look again at Jeremy's encounters with the teacher (page 14) and Tony Carozza (page 19) before they write. Help with vocabulary and expressions while they're writing and rehearsing. Invite pairs to act their scene for the class. Invite the class to vote for the best performance.

SMALLVILLE: THE PEOPLE (pages 34-5)

Create a new character

Students work in pairs to create a new character to add to the *Smallville* cast. (It could be a new student or teacher at the school, a relative of one of the existing characters, a villain.) They decide on these facts about their character: sex, age, physical appearance, clothes, family, job, friends, background, presenting the information on a sheet of paper. Display all the new characters on a wall or the board or hand them round the class. Students decide which character they like best.

Discussion

Which character in *Arrival* would you most like to be and why? Extend the discussion to other famous characters that students would or would not like to be, for example, Harry Potter, Hermione Granger, Batman, Catwoman, Frodo, Gandalf, Lara Croft, Buffy. If you have time, extend into a mini survey: '15% of the students in the class would like to be ... !'

HOMECOMING (pages 36-7)

Poster presentation

Elicit festivals/celebrations from students' own country/ies. In pairs or small groups students choose a festival or celebration to make a poster about. They research the background, find pictures and create a poster. Display the finished posters on the wall.

Plan your own celebration!

In threes, students think of a way to celebrate the end of the school year with, for example, a party, a picnic, a visit, a show. They plan their event, listing things they will need, allocating jobs, working out costs and deciding how to fund it.

FILM/CD FOLLOW-UP

Freeze frame

Play the programme before class and pause the DVD randomly. Show the class the frozen frame. Discuss what has just happened, what is happening now and what is going to happen.

Reviewing

Students write a review of the TV programme, commenting on and giving marks out of ten for the acting, directing, storyline and special effects. Compare marks across the class.

Predicting

Choose a scene that students have just read. Play a short section and pause the CD halfway through a character's speech. Students predict the rest of the speech. Play the CD to check.

ANSWER KEY

Self-Study Activities (pages 38-40)

- 1 farm: scarecrow, cornfield, barn, wooden pole
sky: helicopter, meteor, spaceship
- 2 a) Smallville > another world b) factories > farms
c) Clark > Whitney d) Pete > Chloe e) and > but isn't
- 4 a) Lana Lang b) Jonathan and Martha Kent c) Clark Kent
d) Whitney Fordman e) Chloe Sullivan
- 5 a) Clark Kent arrives, in a spaceship, in 1989, in Smallville.
He finds Jonathan and Martha Kent.
b) A meteor crashes near him.
c) He's very strong and he can move very fast. Nothing hurts him.
d) He's very strong and fast.
e) A teenage boy on a wooden pole.
- 7 a) electric shock b) bridge c) necklace
- 8 a) hit b) arrived c) met d) crashed/didn't hurt e) saved
f) kissed
- 9 a) wrong: four sad basketball players > three happy football players
b), c) and d) are right.
e) wrong: happy > angry
f) wrong: He gave the car back to Lex Luthor.
- 10 a) He's the scarecrow from 1989. b) It's part of a meteor and it can hurt Clark. c) He hates Tony. Tony and his friends took him to the cornfield in 1989 and put him on a wooden pole.
d) He feels very angry.
- 13 a) He learns that her mom and dad died when he arrived.
b) He feels bad. c) Jeremy Creek d) Lex
e) He has an electric shock. f) He puts two cars on top of it.
g) A box. It's special to Lex because his mother gave it to him.
h) No – he daydreams the dance.

Resource Sheet Activities

People and places

- 1 b) Pete and Chloe c) Clark Kent d) Lana Lang
e) Jonathan and Martha Kent
- 2 b) iv c) i d) iii

Chapters 1-2

- 1 b) Clark Kent c) Lana Lang d) Jonathan Kent e) Pete Ross
3 e)

Chapters 3-4

- 2 The correct order is: h, i, f, b, d, g, c, e, a.
- 3 Her green necklace – she's hopes it's going to be lucky.

Chapters 5-6

- 1 b) Lana > Lex c) walk > work d) excited > angry
e) 1991 > 1989, five > three f) happy > angry
- 2 b) The students at Clark's school, to Clark c) Lex, to Clark
d) Martha, to Jonathan e) Lana, to her dead parents
f) Clark, to Lex
- 3 A new red car.

Chapters 7-8

- 1 b) Pete and Chloe c) Clark d) Lex e) Jeremy
f) the school yearbook, the Internet, emails, old newspapers
g) Lana's necklace h) a big red S i) two other cars

Epilogue

- 1 b) Lana's necklace c) feel well d) OK e) front door
f) Whitney
- 2 He dances with Lana.

Vocabulary Builder

1. normal 2. bridge 3. box 4. factory 5. electric shock
6. crashed/hurt 7. kissed 8. tulips 9. saves 10. ground
1. helicopter > spaceship 2. barn > farm 3. tulip > meteor
4. cinema > cornfield 5. wooden pole > necklace

Casual language

1. 'See you later.' 2. 'I'm going to get her.' 3. 'Nice work!'
4. 'I get it'