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Murder on Whale Island sample  
NOT FOR SALE

## **MURDER ON WHALE ISLAND**

Level 2 - A1/A2 Starter (2) Graded Reader from I Talk You Talk Press

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Murder on Whale Island  
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## Chapter One

George Watson is a policeman. He is 65 years old. It is time for him to stop work. It is time for him to retire.

“What will you do?” asks his friend, Peter Ridley. “You have a busy life. You like being a policeman. You will be bored.”

George laughs. “No. I don’t think so. I own a small house on Whale Island. I will live there. I will have a vegetable garden. I will go fishing. I will be very busy and very happy.”

Peter smiles. “I hope so. But you like mysteries. There won’t be any mysteries on Whale Island. It will be too quiet for you.”

George leaves the city and goes to Whale Island. In the beginning, he is happy. The island is very beautiful. It has a small village and a fishing harbour. There is an old castle and some old, empty buildings. George likes history. He reads books about the history of the island. He takes long walks and explores the castle and the ruins. The ruins are from Roman times, so they are more than 2000 years old. The castle is about 700 years old. It has no roof, but most of the walls are still there.

A long time ago, whaling ships came to Whale Island. The whale catchers sailed their ships to the north and caught whales. The ships carried the whales back to the island. The old factory and the whale catchers’ houses are gone now. But sometimes George finds part of a house, or an apple tree, or some old iron machinery. *This is where the whale catchers lived and worked*, he thinks.

George makes a vegetable garden. He goes fishing. He makes friends with the people in the village.

But after a few months, George is bored. *I like it here*, he thinks. *It is a nice place to live. But every day is the same. I don’t have enough to do. I would like a part-time job.*

One day in spring, George walks to the village. *I will buy food, and then I will go to the pub. I will have a nice cheese sandwich and a glass of beer for lunch*, he thinks.

George goes to the village shop. He buys bread, butter, milk, bacon, sausages and eggs. When he comes out of the shop, he sees some people standing outside the post office. They are pointing to a poster in the window of the post office. They seem very excited.

George walks over to look at the poster.

... **Sightseeing**

### ***Whale Island***

#### ***Day tours...***

A big tour company is planning to bring sightseeing tours to Whale Island. The tourists will come to Whale Island by boat in the morning. They will get on a bus and tour the island. They will leave the island in the late afternoon.

The people who live in the village are pleased.

"The tourists will want to buy souvenirs," says Oscar McKenzie. Oscar owns the local bookshop. He is George's friend. "I must find some souvenirs to sell in the shop."

"I think I will open a café," says Megan Holloway. "The tourists will like to have a cup of tea or coffee. I will make cakes and sandwiches to sell to the tourists."

The people in the village are very happy. They think that the tourists will bring money to the island.

George doesn't say anything. He is reading a small notice next to the poster. It says ... *Tour Guides wanted...*

The tour company wants to find local people to be tour guides. They want people who know a lot about the history of the island.

*I could do that!* thinks George. *I could be a tour guide!*

George takes a notebook and pencil from his pocket. The name of the tour company is Halifax Happy Holidays. George writes down the address and telephone number of the company. He forgets to go to the pub. He forgets to eat lunch. He goes back to his house and telephones the tour company.

## Chapter Two

The tour company is very interested in George. The manager wants to give him a job. The next two months are very busy. The tours will start in July. There will be tours on Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. George will be free on the other days. He will have time to work in his garden and go fishing. It is the perfect part-time job.

George goes to Glasgow to meet the manager of the company. George has training to become a tour guide. He learns everything about his new job. He helps the company to make a route for the tour bus. The roads on the island are very narrow. The company buys a special bus. It is small because the roads are bad.

The company builds a garage for the bus near the fishing harbour. There is a small office inside the garage. This will be George's office. Outside there is a sign. It says, **'Halifax Happy Holidays – Whale Island Tours'**.

-----END OF SAMPLE-----