

CHAPTER 1

Serena and Nadal were on a plane to London. Nadal was very excited. He had a guidebook with lots of **facts** about the United Kingdom (UK) in it. He enjoyed reading it on the plane.

“Which countries are in the UK?” he asked Serena.

Serena did not answer. She was tired, and she wanted to sleep.

“They are England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland,” said Nadal. “What is the **capital** of England?”

Serena did not answer.

“It is London,” said Nadal. “How many languages are there in London?”

Serena did not answer because she was tired and wanted to sleep.

“There are 300,” said Nadal. “It has the most. No other city has more!”

fact (noun) a true piece of information

capital (noun) an important city where the government of a country is



Serena and Nadal were on a plane to London.

“Do you know how to say ‘Please be **quiet**. I am trying to sleep’ in English?” Serena said to Nadal.

“Yes,” said Nadal. “I do.”

Then he read her another fact.

After the plane **landed**, everybody got up. Serena and Nadal got their bags to leave the plane. There was a **queue**, so they waited.

“I am very excited because we are in the UK,” said Nadal.

Serena was less excited.

“I am tired because of the travelling,” said Serena. “I am excited about the hotel.”

They **got off** the plane. There was rain.

“How exciting!” said Nadal. “It is raining!”

Serena was less excited because she was wet.

quiet (adjective) making a little noise

land (verb) to return to ground after a flight (by plane or helicopter)

queue (noun) a line of people who are waiting for something

get off (phrasal verb) to leave a bus, train or plane

“But it is summer,” she said. “Summer is hot.”

“The guidebook says it often rains in the UK,” said Nadal.
“In summer too.”

Serena was wet and tired. She did not want to hear any more facts.

They went inside the airport. After they showed their passports, they got a taxi. The taxis were outside the airport. They got a taxi to their hotel because it was far away. Their hotel was in London. London is a very big city.



They got a taxi to their hotel.

They **arrived** at their hotel. It was in the centre of the city. Their room was on the top floor so it had a good view. Nadal looked out of the window. He was very excited.

“I can see the River Thames!” he said. “I can see Big Ben and the Tower of London! I can see big red buses!”

Serena was less excited. She sat down and took off her shoes. Her feet hurt because they travelled a long way today.

On the table, there was some tea and coffee.

“The guidebook says everybody in the UK drinks tea,” said Nadal. “Would you like a cup of tea?”

“Do they have coffee?” asked Serena.

“Yes, but we are in the UK so we should drink tea,” said Nadal.

After Nadal made some tea, he read the guidebook again.

“What will we do in London?” he said.

arrive (verb) to reach a place; to get to a place

He started to make a list of things to do in London. He wanted to go to Big Ben and the Tower of London. He wanted to go on a big red bus. He wanted to walk by the River Thames.

Serena was tired, so she wanted a cup of coffee and a nice hot bath. Serena took her tea and went to have a bath.

When Serena came back, Nadal was very excited. He had a surprise for her. Serena loved tennis so this was a good surprise.

“What is this?” she said.

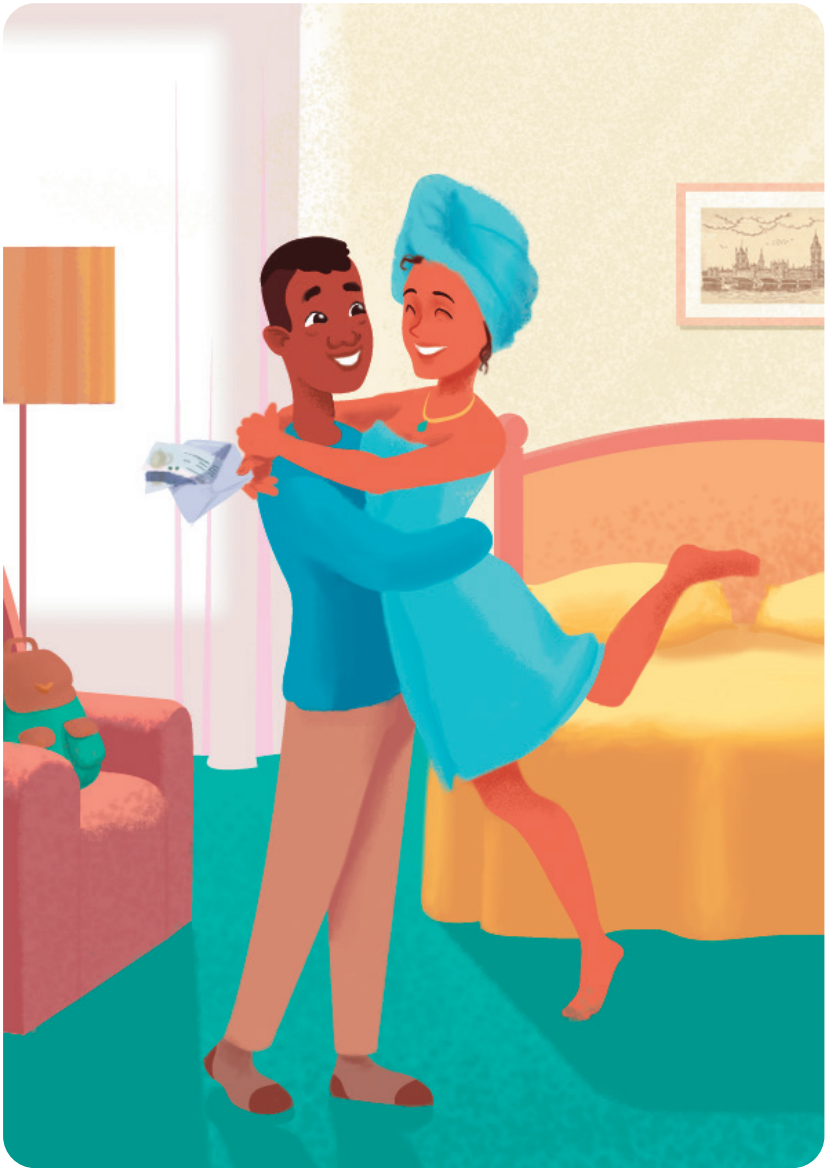
“It is a surprise!” said Nadal. “Open it!”

Serena opened the surprise. It was two tickets to Wimbledon. She **squealed** with **joy** before jumping into Nadal’s arms. After she jumped into his arms, she gave him a big kiss!

“The guidebook says Wimbledon is a famous tennis competition,” said Nadal. “It happens every year in London and is the oldest tennis competition in the world.”

But Serena did not listen. She was too excited!

squeal (verb) to say something in a high and excited voice
joy (noun) great happiness



She squealed with joy before jumping into Nadal's arms.

VOCABULARY QUIZZES

Quiz-1

Complete the sentences with the words below.

arrive special royal ahead lost
sad souvenir famous queue order

1. Go straight, and you will see the post office on your right.
2. Our plane will in London at 5 p.m. Can you pick us up then, please?
3. The palace looks wonderful!
4. There was a long in front of the burger van.
5. Pete felt when his dog died.
6. She bought me a model of London Bridge as a of London.
7. "Are you ready to?" asked the waitress.
8. "We are We need to ask someone for directions," she said.
9. Switzerland is for its milk chocolate.
10. Nadal bought some tickets for Centre Court.