

# CHAPTER 1

My name is Yuri. I am in a **race**.

I am a student at Manchester University. I am studying mathematics. My best friend at university is Sara. Sara is studying English.

We meet outside the university. There are also other people.

“Yuri,” says Sara, “will you race with me?”

“Okay,” I say. I am faster than Sara.

“Why do you want to race me?” I ask Sara.

“No, it isn’t a race against you. We are a team. We must race other teams to Paris.”

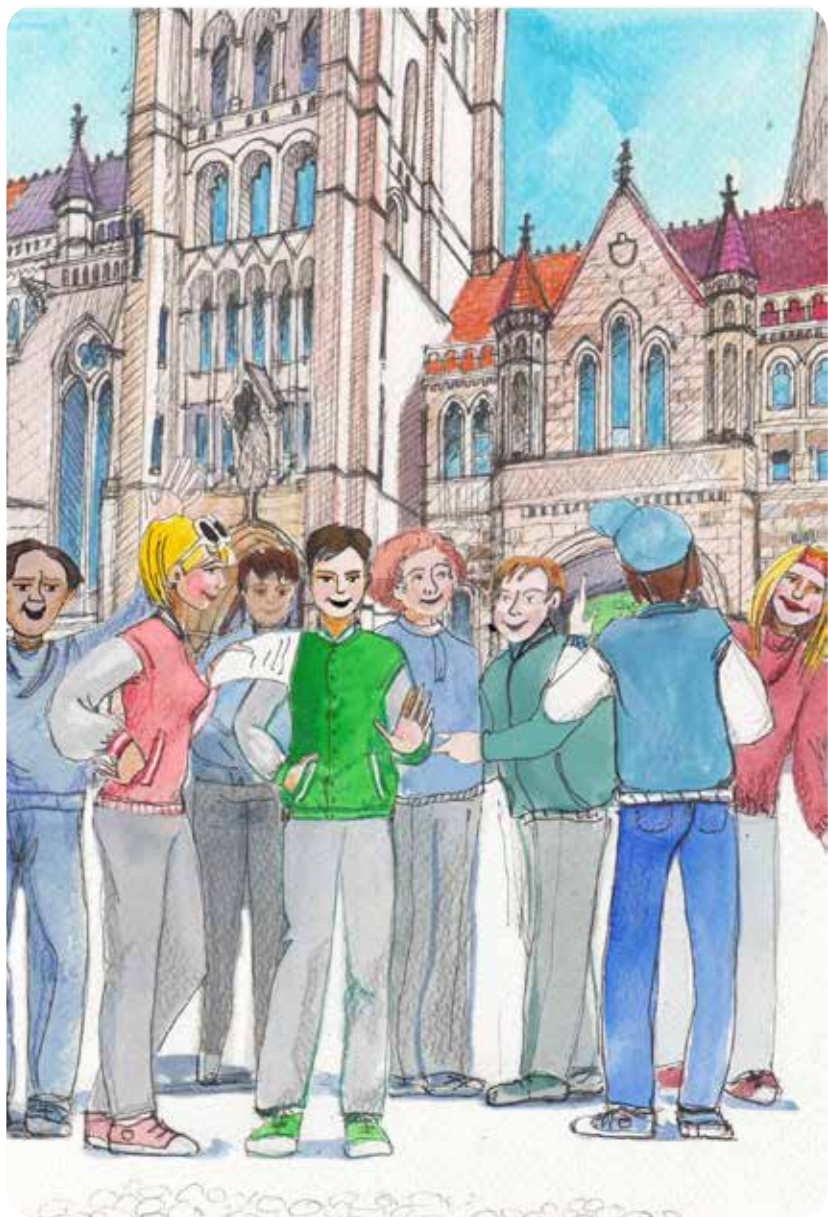
“Why?” I say.

“It is Rag Week. We are **raising** money for charity,” says Sara.

“How are we raising money?” says Yuri.

“My friends are sponsoring me,” says Sara, “I will sponsor you.”

**race** (n) a competition between people to see who is the fastest  
**raise** (v) to collect money



*We meet outside the university.*

“It is too far. We cannot run there,” I say.

Sara laughs. “It is not a running race,” she says, “Many teams are **taking part**.”

Sara shows me the rules.

1. Each team must have two people.
2. You cannot drive a car.
3. You can only use public transport.
4. You cannot fly.
5. The finish is the Eiffel Tower.
6. There are two prizes.
7. There is a **prize** for the fastest team.
8. Spend the least money and get a prize.
9. The race starts at 12 o’clock on Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> April.

Today is Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April.

I look at my watch. It is **nearly** 12 o’clock.

I don’t have much money and I don’t have my passport.

“I have your passport,” says Sara. She is holding it in her hand. She is smiling.

“How far is it to Paris?” I say.

**take part** (idiom) to do something together with others

**prize** (n) something that you win in a competition

**nearly** (adv) almost



*“I have your passport,” says Sara.  
She is holding it in her hand. She is smiling.*

“About eight hundred kilometres,” says Sara.

“How will we get there?”

“I have a plan,” says Sara, “Bus, train, ferry.”

“We have to cross **the English Channel**,” I say.

“I know,” says Sara.

She is still smiling at me. “It will be fun,” she says.

It is very difficult to say no to Sara.

“Okay,” I say.

“Good,” she says. She gives me a hug.

“What about bags?” I say.

“You don’t need a bag.”

She gives me my passport.

“Do you have any money?” she says.

I have some money. It is not a lot.

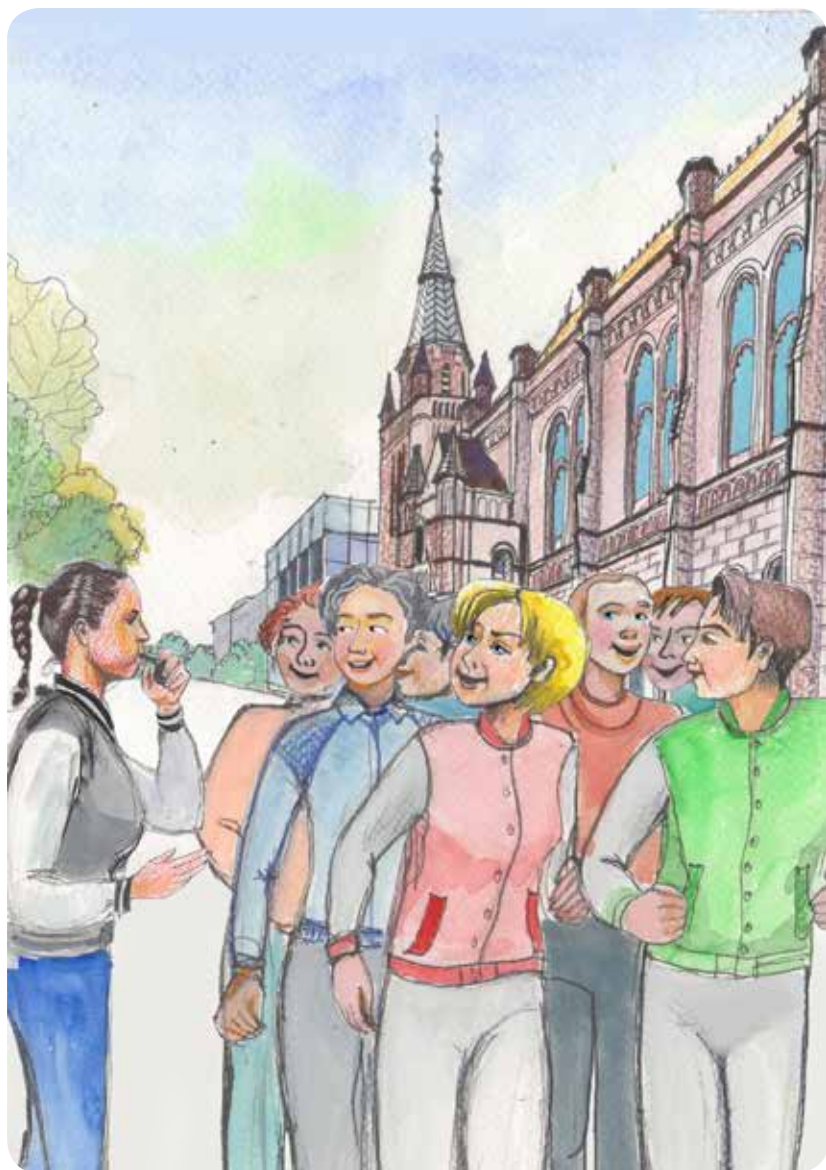
“I have money,” she says.

Behind us, somebody blows a whistle.

“Now run,” she says.

**the English Channel** (n) the narrow area of sea between England and France

**whistle** (n) a small object that you put in your mouth to make a high sound



*Behind us, somebody blows a whistle..*

# COMPREHENSION CHECK

## Test 1

Are the following sentences TRUE (T) or FALSE (F)?

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1. Yuri and Sara are in a race to Paris. T / F
2. The race is for raising money for the university. T / F
3. The race will finish at the Eiffel Tower. T / F
4. Dover is a town in France. T / F
5. Yuri and Sara travel to London by bus. T / F
6. Sam travels to Dover by train. T / F
7. The ferry leaves Dover at six o'clock. T / F
8. Yuri and Sara travel to France by Eurostar. T / F
9. Matt travels to France by Eurostar. T / F
10. The ferry takes half an hour to reach France. T / F
11. Yuri and Sara arrive in Paris at half past five o'clock in the morning. T / F
12. Yuri and Sara win the race. T / F

## Test 2

**Who said this in the story?** *Yuri, Sara, Matt, Sam*

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1. "We are raising money for charity."  
.....
2. "I have your passport."  
.....
3. "Where are we running to?"  
.....
4. "We should travel by Eurostar."  
.....
5. "Sam is in the race as well."  
.....
6. "You stand by a road. You hold your thumb out."  
.....
7. "It does not cost anything, but it is dangerous."  
.....
8. "Come with me."  
.....
9. "Eurostar is cancelled."  
.....
10. "Run."  
.....



# GRAMMAR CHECK

## Test 1

### Circle the correct form of the verb.

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1. We **arrive/arrives** in Paris at half past five o'clock
2. The ferry **take/takes** two and a half hours to reach France.
3. Sara **phone/phones** Matt.
4. Yuri **speaks/speak** French.
5. Emma **points/point** at two people.
6. Sam **come/comes** third in the race.
7. Yuri and Sara **runs/run** to the nearest tram station.
8. Yuri and Sara **want/wants** to save money.
9. Some of the students **get/gets** off with us the tram station.
10. Hitchhiking **cost/costs** nothing.

## Test 2

**Complete the sentences with an appropriate preposition.  
Some sentences don't need a preposition.**

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1. She travels ..... train to her work every day.
2. The train arrives ..... Lille Train Station at one o'clock.
3. Sara and I are walking ..... the Eiffel Tower. We are only hundred metres away.
4. It is six o'clock ..... the morning.
5. I look ..... the departure board.
6. They will reach ..... London in five hours.
7. We will arrive ..... Paris at half past five.
8. She is pointing ..... two people.
9. I buy the tickets ..... the internet.
10. They do not help ..... us.
11. Yuri is a student ..... Manchester University.
12. She is smiling ..... me.
13. In Manchester, the trams run ..... the city streets.
14. They are waiting to get ..... the ferry.

We buy two tickets for the tram.

Getting to the city centre doesn't take long.

Some of the students **get off** with us. Others stay on the tram.

“Where are they going?” I ask.

“They are getting the train,” says Sara. “We are getting the coach.”

We run to the **coach station**.

Sara **grabs** my hand. She **drags** me to a coach.

“This is the one,” she says.

“What about tickets?” I ask.

“I have them,” says Sara.

It takes five hours to get to London. Sara has maps and timetables for buses, trains and ferries.

Sara has her tablet computer. I have my smartphone. We check the **fares** of trains, buses and ferries.

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

**coach station** (n) a place where coaches leave and arrive; bus station

**grab** (v) to hold something/someone with your hand suddenly and firmly

**drag** (v) to pull

**fare** (n) the money you pay to travel on a bus, train, ferry, etc.

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# VOCABULARY CHECK

## Test-1

**Find and correct the word that is misspelt in each sentence below.**

1. We meet outside the universty.           *university*
2. We run trough the finishing line together. \_\_\_\_\_
3. She looks at her watche. \_\_\_\_\_
4. They win a pryze. \_\_\_\_\_
5. This question is very dificult. \_\_\_\_\_
6. Hitchhiking is dangerus. \_\_\_\_\_
7. Somebody blows a whistel. \_\_\_\_\_
8. Some students reech there before us. \_\_\_\_\_
9. The train is more expensiv. \_\_\_\_\_
10. She hurts her tumb. \_\_\_\_\_
11. There is a long queu in front of the bank. \_\_\_\_\_
12. He drives fiftey kilometres every day. \_\_\_\_\_
13. The journy takes only twenty minutes. \_\_\_\_\_
14. Sam is right behynd us. \_\_\_\_\_
15. The streets are quite in the morning. \_\_\_\_\_

## Test 2

Complete the sentences with these words.

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**whistle**      **dangerous**      **quietly**      **arrive**      **prize**  
**route**      **ahead**      **excited**      **nearly**      **queue**

1. There are three people ..... of me in the queue.
2. The plane will ..... in Berlin at 10 o'clock.
3. This road is ..... because it is icy.
4. I am so ..... because we are going on a holiday tomorrow.
5. How many people are there in the .....?
6. "The baby is sleeping," she says .....
7. The referee blows the ..... and the match starts.
8. He wins a ..... in the writing competition.
9. This is the best ..... to Paris.
10. It's ..... twelve o'clock. I need to go to bed.