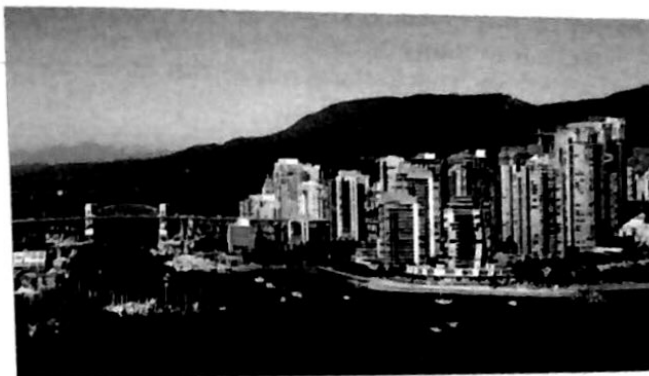


Leseverstehen

This article is from the travel section of a US newspaper.

Vancouver

BETWEEN SKY AND SEA



Recently my girlfriend Amber and I were talking about places to go for our spring holiday. She suggested Vancouver. "Vancouver?" I said. "But that's ... in Canada!"

- 5 Let me just say that I have nothing against Canada or Canadians. But we live in St. Louis, in the American Midwest, so when I think of taking a vacation my mind usually goes south (= warm), not north (= cold). But Amber often
10 gets her way, so when the day came, we packed our stuff and off we went – to Vancouver, British Columbia.

- After landing at Vancouver International Airport we rode the smooth Skytrain into the
15 city center. Through the window we could see dark grey clouds over the skyscrapers. From our guidebook I learned that it rains in Vancouver about 165 days a year – about twice as much as London. I looked over at
20 Amber with a disapproving¹ I-knew-this-was-a-bad-idea look. She didn't seem bothered².

- We set off on foot from the Burrard Skytrain Station to find our hotel. To our delight we
25 quickly discovered that Vancouver was awash



with³ beautiful cherry blossoms. A friendly woman told us that the city has some 40,000 cherry trees that explode with pink and white blossoms in April. She said we had timed our visit perfectly. Amber looked at me with a
30 knowing smile. The sun slowly peeked through the clouds.

The people caught our attention. Canada is a country of immigrants and Vancouver is proudly multicultural. The airport
35 immigration officer was Punjabi⁴, the man selling train tickets was Jamaican, and the Asian hotel receptionist was probably Hong Kong Chinese with his distinct British accent. The Asian influence is particularly strong in
40 this Pacific seaport. The city's cherry trees were a present from Japan. And the notably large Chinese community makes up nearly 20% of Vancouver's population. This explains the many bilingual street signs – and the
45 excellent Chinese restaurants we enjoyed during our stay. It's a diverse city. Of the 2.4 million people in the Greater Vancouver area, 35% of them are foreign-born. That's the highest percentage of any city in the world.
50 Day by day Vancouver revealed⁵ itself to us. We explored Stanley Park, shopped at the Granville Island Public Market, took a whale-watching cruise, rented mountain bikes, walked the amazing Capilano Suspension
55 Bridge, and of course there was the Cherry Blossom Festival. Our winter jackets stayed in the hotel and it rained only once. My doubts about having gone north disappeared.

One of Vancouver's greatest selling points
60 is its unique⁶ scenery. Situated on the coast with the snow-capped North Shore

Mountains a short drive away, where else can you snowboard, play golf and swim on the same day? Each year 15 million tourists visit here, and many of them come for the outdoor activities. This setting made Vancouver the perfect host for the Winter Olympics in 2010.

One day our hotel receptionist casually mentioned that a certain famous actor was staying in the hotel. Our guidebook reminded us that Vancouver was also known as "Hollywood North". It's the biggest production center for film and TV in North America after LA and New York. Cheaper costs and the fact that it's only three hours away by plane from Los Angeles (in the same time zone) make Vancouver an attractive place for Hollywood productions.

By the end of our visit Amber had fallen in love with Vancouver, and I could see her point. OK, it can be wet, and downtown it sometimes

feels very crowded, but a short way away there's all that space. Vancouver is often ranked one of the top five most liveable cities in the world. We had begun to understand why. Not many places can beat its quality of life.

So Amber was right. You can go north and enjoy a nice holiday. Still, I've made a deal with her for next year: It's my turn to choose where we go. I just hope she'll like Miami Beach.

- 1 **disapproving** showing that you think something is not good
- 2 **bothered** worried or annoyed
- 3 **awash with** having something in large quantities
- 4 **Punjabi** an ethnic group from the Punjab region in India and Pakistan
- 5 **to reveal** to show something (that previously could not be seen)
- 6 **unique** very special or unusual
- 7 **to rank** to give a position

- First read the text. Then do the tasks 1–9.
- For tasks 1, 3, 5 and 7 tick (✓) the correct box. Tick only one box for each task.
- For tasks 2, 4 and 9 decide if the statements are true or false and tick the correct box. Then finish these sentences. You can quote from the text.
- For tasks 6 and 8 fill in the information.

- 1 Vancouver is
 - A ☐ in the USA.
 - B ☐ north of St Louis.
 - C ☐ in the heart of the Midwest.
- 2 Vancouver has a dry climate.
This statement is
 - ☐ true
 - ☐ false

because the text says _____
- 3 If you go to Vancouver in April
 - A ☐ you won't have good weather.
 - B ☐ you'll miss the cherry blossoms.
 - C ☐ you'll see the cherry blossoms.

- 4 Vancouver has an ethnically mixed population.
This statement is

☐ true

☐ false

because the text says

- 5 The excellent Chinese restaurants in Vancouver are one sign that

A ☐ you can find Chinese food anywhere.

B ☐ a lot of Chinese people live here.

C ☐ lots of people like to eat Chinese food.

- 6 The writer talks about a number of activities you can do in Vancouver. List two of them.

A

B

- 7 Vancouver's location is quite special because

A ☐ it's near an airport.

B ☐ it's close to the sea and the mountains.

C ☐ it's in the north.

- 8 The writer explains why film and TV producers in LA often bring their productions to Vancouver.
Give two reasons.

A

B

- 9 Vancouver is a nice place to visit, but it's not a very attractive place to live.
This statement is

☐ true

☐ false

because the text says

ZWEITER PRÜFUNGSTEIL: WORTSCHATZ – SCHREIBEN

Wortschatz

Halloween and Dublin's Gothic literary tradition

You are on holiday in Ireland and you are taking a tour of Dublin. This is what your guidebook says about the city's Gothic tradition.

- Sentences 1, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12: fill in suitable words.
- Sentences 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 13: tick (✓) the correct box (there is only one correct answer).

- 1 Halloween is a festival enjoyed by millions of people _____ the world each year.

- 2 According to some historians, Halloween goes back to the Celtic festival of Samhain, ... in Old Irish means "summer's end".
 - A ☐ which
 - B ☐ who
 - C ☐ what
 - D ☐ when

- 3 This Celtic connection is perhaps one reason why the Irish ... Halloween.
 - A ☐ miss
 - B ☐ avoid
 - C ☐ love
 - D ☐ trust

- 4 The Irish also have a ... tradition of storytelling that is often inspired by the dark, horrible events of Irish history.
 - A ☐ easy
 - B ☐ strong
 - C ☐ soft
 - D ☐ full

- 5 This is perhaps the ... to Ireland's 19th-century Gothic literary tradition, which produced Bram Stoker's famous novel Dracula.
 - A ☐ make-up
 - B ☐ back door
 - C ☐ argument
 - D ☐ background

- 6 Three important Gothic fiction writers – Charles Maturin, Joseph Sheridan Le Fanu and Bram Stoker – lived in Dublin and _____ about themes such as ghosts, vampires and the devil.

- 7 The name "Gothic" comes from the old Gothic buildings where many of these dark, scary stories often take _____.
- 8 Gothic themes like ghosts and vampires are still ... topics in fiction today.
- A ☐ popular
- B ☐ unknown
- C ☐ awesome
- D ☐ unusual
- 9 If you're a Gothic horror fan, then you'll _____ plenty of attractions in Dublin.
- 10 At Halloween, Dublin's tradition of Gothic storytelling really comes alive with cultural ... across the city.
- A ☐ eating
- B ☐ events
- C ☐ dangers
- D ☐ services
- 11 In the days before Halloween, the Bram Stoker Festival celebrates the life and work of the _____ who created Count Dracula.
- 12 The Hallowe'en Festival of Gothic Horrors is another fun event and a great _____ to learn about Dublin and the Gothic horror genre.
- 13 The story of the Hell Fire Club fits nicely into Dublin's tradition of Gothic horror, but it's not ... The club really existed!
- A ☐ scary
- B ☐ drama
- C ☐ fiction
- D ☐ interesting



Schreiben

The class trip

From the window of the tour bus Liam could barely see the outline of Dublin far down the mountain. Grey clouds were moving in. From the seat behind him he heard Laura.

- 5 "Mr Croft, are we spending the night up there at ... what's it called again?"

In class Laura seemed nice enough to Liam, but on this trip she hadn't stopped talking since they left Tipperary.

- 10 "Mount Pelier Hill," their teacher called out. "As I said, we're only visiting the Hell Fire ruins there. The lodge where we're staying is in Glencullen."

- "Geez, Laura," Bram said, leaning across the aisle. "First time on a class overnight? Or are you nervous because it's Halloween? Oooh – Mwa-ha-ha-ha!"

"Oh, shut up," Laura said. "You'll probably be the first one to scream when we get up there."

- 20 Everyone laughed including Liam. They enjoyed seeing someone give it back to Bram. At the Hell Fire Club car park the kids stretched their legs in the fading light.

"So the ruins are up that hill," Mr Croft said.

- 25 "Now where's our tour guide? I told him 5 pm."

"The ghosts must've got him," Liam said. The group laughed.

"Actually he is a ghost," Bram said to Liam.

"... Wait, what's that behind you?"

Liam nearly turned round. Bram gripped his shoulders and gave him a shake. Some of the kids giggled. Liam was glad he hadn't flinched¹.

"Really funny, Bram," he said.

"Good evening," a small voice behind them said.

Liam and the others turned to see a girl perhaps a year or two older. She smiled.

"I'm afraid my dad can't be here today, so I'll be showing you the Hell Fire ruins. I'm Sarah."

Liam noticed how her wide eyes and windswept red hair didn't match her calm voice.

"Oh, well that's fine, erm, Sarah," Mr Croft said.

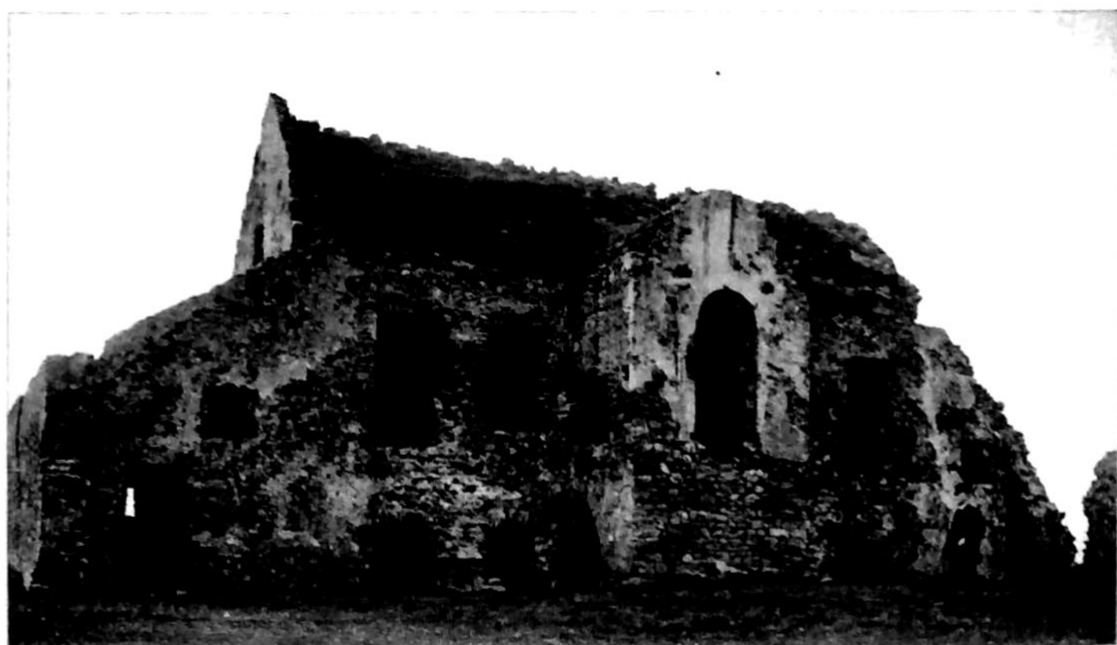
"OK everyone, can you come closer?"

The girl waited, then began: "You're at a special place here. The stone ruins at the top of Mount Pelier Hill were once a house that William Connolly, a wealthy politician, built in 1725. It was originally a hunting lodge, but after Connolly died the infamous² Hell Fire Club bought the property."

"Hell Fire Club? Was it really called that?"

Laura interrupted. "Sounds like something out of Hollywood."

Bram rolled his eyes. Liam tried to ignore Laura. He wanted to hear more.



The girl quietly continued. A small group of wealthy men would meet regularly there. They drank large amounts of a drink called Scaltheen, which was made of whisky and butter, and did crazy and sometimes shocking things. The president of the club was called "The King of Hell" and was dressed like Satan. They honoured³ the devil and indulged in⁴ rituals and other strange activities.

"Let's walk up to the ruins before it gets dark and I'll tell you more up there," she said.

Along the way the kids joked and tried to scare each other. Liam noticed Sarah smiling patiently.

"I bet you've heard all the jokes before ... These hills are lovely – do you live here?" he said.

"My father's farm is down the road. It's pretty but not everyone likes it here," she said.

Liam wasn't sure what she meant. Bram suddenly appeared at her other side.

"You know, you remind me of someone. Have you seen that film ...," he said.

Embarrassed, Liam slowed and let them go ahead. He didn't want to witness Bram's foolishness.

The weathered stone walls of the house were speckled with moss. There were gaping⁵ holes where the windows and doors had been.

In the dim light of a doorway Sarah told them of a farmer's daughter who, as the story goes, was kidnapped, murdered and eaten by the Hell Fire Club. The kids shuddered. Liam saw Bram smile oddly. He imagined Bram as an 18th-century Hell Fire member leading a satanic ritual. Meanwhile the group had gone inside. Sarah stood alone in the doorway holding a torch at her side.

"Stay close. It's very dark," she said.

Her face was empty, and she seemed to look through him, as if to some hidden place. For the first time Liam felt a cold shiver.

1 *to flinch* to make a sudden movement with your face or your body as a result of pain, fear, surprise, etc

2 *infamous* well known for being bad or evil

3 *to honour* to show respect for somebody

4 *to indulge in* to satisfy a particular interest or enjoy

5 *gaping* wide open

■ Read the tasks carefully. Write complete sentences. Make sure you write about all the aspects in each task.

- 1 **Describe** what Liam thinks of Laura and Bram. Give examples from the text.
Write at least 100 words.
- 2 **Explain** what, in your view, makes Sarah an interesting character. Consider the setting, her appearance and what she says and does.
Write at least 100 words.
- 3 You have a **choice** here. Choose **one** of the following tasks.
 - A Tell the story from Laura's or Bram's point of view.
Write at least 120 words.

or:

 - B What do you think happens when they enter the house? Finish the story.
Write at least 120 words.

Leseverstehen

Buy Nothing Day – Your chance to stop shopping

The text below is a brochure.

BUY NOTHING DAY

YOUR CHANCE TO STOP SHOPPING

What is Buy Nothing Day?

BND is a day when people can show what they think about our modern consumer society by buying nothing for 24 hours. It is both a day of outward protest and an exercise in inward change. But it is not just about changing your habits for one day – it is an opportunity to start
5 consuming less and wasting less.

Why Buy Nothing Day?

FACT: 20 per cent of the world's population consume over 80 per cent of the world's natural resources¹. That leaves less than 20 per cent for the four or five billion² people in the world's poorer countries. Here in the richer countries, we have to ask ourselves: Do we need all the stuff
10 we buy? When is "enough enough"?

Did you know ...?

What we spend every year

- In Europe: \$11 billion on ice cream
- In Europe and the USA: \$17 billion on pet food
- Worldwide: \$33 billion on make-up and perfume

What money would buy in poorer countries

- \$10 billion: clean drinking water for everyone in the world
- \$1.3 billion: immunizing³ all children in the Third World
- \$5 billion: universal literacy⁴

When is it?

In Canada and the USA, BND takes place every year the day after the American holiday called 'Thanksgiving', near the end of November. It is the biggest shopping day of the year
15 in the USA. In Europe and some other countries, BND comes on the last weekend in November, the time when lots of people are thinking about their Christmas shopping.

Where does it happen?

While Buy Nothing Day started in Canada, it now takes
20 place in about 65 countries around the world, from the USA to the UK, from Norway to Israel, and from Japan to New Zealand, to name just a few countries where people are active. One of the places where BND is most popular is Europe.

How can I take part?

There is no single central organization for Buy Nothing Day. It is organized in different countries by different people – consumer groups, environmentalists and others. To take part, find out about what happens in your country – you will find details on the Internet.
25 You can just stay at home on the day and not shop. Or some people go further and keep their TVs, computers, phones, etc. turned off and their cars parked all day long.

How it all began

Buy Nothing Day was first started by a Canadian, Ted Dave. That was back in 1992. He worked in advertising, and it was his idea to protest against the message that the advertising industry always gives us: Buy more! In 1995, another organization took up Dave's ideas. They are called 'Adbusters' and you can find out more about them on the Internet too.

There are also lots of activities, from public gatherings⁵ to bike rides and nature hikes.

Here are some more creative ways to protest that have been used on Buy Nothing Day:

- Credit card cut-up: In shopping malls and stores, people wait for customers with a pair of scissors and encourage them to end their debt⁶ problems: just cut your credit card in half! 35
- Zombie walk: "Zombies" walk around shopping areas with empty, wide-eyed faces. When people ask what they are doing they talk about Buy Nothing Day.
- Whirl-mart: Participants quietly push their shopping carts around a shopping mall or store without buying anything.

Whatever form it takes, Buy Nothing Day should get people's attention and provoke serious debate. Find out what form of participation you like best! 40

1 **natural resources** things that exist in nature, e.g. coal, oil, minerals, forests, water

2 **billion** one thousand million (= 1 Milliarde)

3 **to immunize** to protect a person from a disease

4 **literacy** the ability to read and write

5 **gathering** a meeting of people

6 **debt** problems with money that you owe (a person or the bank) and cannot pay back

- First read the text. Then do the tasks 1–9.
- For tasks 1, 2, 3 and 6 tick the correct box. Tick only one box for each task.
- For tasks 4, 5 and 7 decide if the statements are or true or false and tick the correct box. Then finish these sentences. You can quote from the text.
- For tasks 8 and 9 fill in the information.

- 1 One of the main aims of Buy Nothing Day is to
 - A ☐ ask people for money.
 - B ☐ stop people buying products from poorer countries.
 - C ☐ protest against the consumer society.
- 2 With \$5 billion, poorer countries could
 - A ☐ buy enough ice cream for everyone.
 - B ☐ immunize all children.
 - C ☐ teach everyone to read and write.
- 3 Buy Nothing Day takes place on the same day
 - A ☐ everywhere.
 - B ☐ in Canada and the US.
 - C ☐ in Europe and the US.
- 4 People take part in BND mostly in Canada.
This statement is
 - ☐ true
 - ☐ false

because the text says _____

- 5 Buy Nothing Day was started in 1992.
This statement is

☐ true
☐ false

because the text says _____

- 6 Buy Nothing Day is organized worldwide by

A ☐ different people.
B ☐ Adbusters.
C ☐ consumers.

- 7 If you want to take part in BND, you have to join a public event.
This statement is

☐ true
☐ false

because the text says _____

- 8 The text lists some creative ways in which people have protested in the past on BND.
Name two of them.

A _____

B _____

- 9 What do the following numbers refer to in the text?

20 _____

65 _____

1995 _____

33 _____

1.3 _____

ZWEITER PRÜFUNGSTEIL: WORTSCHATZ – SCHREIBEN

Wortschatz

The American frontier

The following text from a history book is about the early days of the United States of America.

- Sentences 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 9, 12: tick (✓) the correct box (there is only one correct answer).
 ■ Sentences 4, 6, 8, 10, 11, 13: fill in suitable words.

- 1 From the 1600s through the 1800s white settlers in North America moved ... westward and southward.
 - A ☐ secretly
 - B ☐ gradually
 - C ☐ immediately
 - D ☐ bitterly
- 2 The furthest line of settlement was ... the "frontier".
 - A ☐ kept as
 - B ☐ opposite
 - C ☐ known as
 - D ☐ a bit like
- 3 The goal of most settlers was to reach the frontier, to find a good piece of land and to ... it their own.
 - A ☐ hold
 - B ☐ make
 - C ☐ dream of
 - D ☐ accept
- 4 On the frontier, land was either free or very _____, so even the poorest settlers could become land owners.
- 5 Once they found a place to settle, they cleared the land, built a shelter and planted ...
 - A ☐ flowers.
 - B ☐ cattle.
 - C ☐ sticks.
 - D ☐ crops.
- 6 Frontier history is full of stories of people _____ struggled to make a new home in the wild, open country.

- 7 Settlers were usually tough people who could deal with ... conditions.
- A ☐ comfortable
 - B ☐ extreme
 - C ☐ quiet
 - D ☐ extensive
- 8 On the frontier there were often conflicts _____ white settlers and Native Americans.
- 9 The Native Americans fought hard to defend their way of ...
- A ☐ working.
 - B ☐ dress.
 - C ☐ travel.
 - D ☐ life.
- 10 There were few cases in which settlers and Native Americans learned to respect _____ other and live peacefully.
- 11 As the settlers grew in numbers, Native American tribes had to make a choice: live like the white settlers, fight, or _____ their homelands and go somewhere else.
- 12 In 1830 Native American tribes in the South were forced to walk hundreds of miles to new lands. During the difficult journey called the "Trail of Tears" the people ... and a large number of them died.
- A ☐ felt free
 - B ☐ grew strong
 - C ☐ suffered
 - D ☐ ate well
- 13 While white settlers gained land and wealth with the expanding frontier, most Native American peoples _____ nearly everything.

Schreiben



TOBIAS AND THE INDIANS

Tobias was at the edge of the swamp early the next morning, cutting wood to build a fence with. Suddenly he noticed someone standing behind him. When he turned around he

5 looked into the faces of two men and a woman. He saw that they were Indians and realized that they looked tired.

These were the first Seminoles Tobias had seen, one man called Keith Tiger, the other

10 Bird Jumper. The woman's name was not mentioned. They were hungry and needed a place to rest.

"There's nothing here," Tobias said. "We have pig meat back in the house. We can feed you

15 something if you go back there with me."

"There's not much time," Keith Tiger said.

"There's a group of white men with horses and dogs following us, and they will be here soon."

20 Suddenly they heard barking dogs. Soon the white men came into the clearing. Tobias saw the guns on their saddles and shouted, "What the hell is going on here? You're on my private property!"

25 One of the men said, "It is against the law for an Indian to be in Florida now. They should be in Oklahoma."

Two of the men took their whips¹ and started hitting the Indians.

Tobias shouted, "Stop, dammit! I say stop!" 30 But the two men continued hitting the Indians.

Tobias took his shotgun quickly and fired, blowing one of the dogs in half².

"What the hell? That dog was worth as much 35 as a horse!" one of them said.

"I told you to stop!" Tobias said angrily. "Now get the hell away from here, and don't come back!"

"You are taking up for the Indians? This ain't 40 the end of this! We'll be back for sure!"

Tobias pointed the shotgun directly in the man's face. "You do, and it'll be the worst mistake you'll ever make!"

The three men left, and Tobias pointed his 45 gun at them until they disappeared into the woods.

Later that afternoon Tobias and Zech sat on the ground outside the kitchen, watching the Indians eating hungrily, even breaking the 50 pig bones with their teeth.

Keith Tiger drank the last drop of water from his bowl and said, "We thank you for this, Tobias MacIvey. I know no other white man

55 who would have risked what you did for an Indian."

"We can't offer you much for your journey. I don't have a dog or a horse to round up cows," Tobias said.

60 "What you need is a marshtackie," Tiger said. "It is a small horse, but very strong and with a big heart. It can run all day and can take you in the swamps where no other horse can go. Perhaps you can catch one yourself. But now
65 we have to leave, it is getting dark."

"It is no use leaving now. Stay the night and get a good rest in the kitchen," Tobias suggested.

"Thank you for the offer," Tiger replied. "We will not forget you for this. But we will sleep 70 in the shed³. We are not used to a house."

From Patrick D. Smith, Florida – A land remembered, Cornelsen, Berlin, 2011, pp. 8–9

1 **whip** a long thin piece of rope or leather, attached to a handle, used for making animals move or punishing people

2 **to blow (the dog) in half** to kill (the dog) by shooting it

3 **shed** here: a farm building where animals are kept

■ Read the tasks carefully. Write complete sentences. Make sure you write about all the aspects in each task.

1 **Describe** the character of Tobias based on what you learn from the extract. Give two examples from the text. Write at least 100 words.

2 **Compare** and **explain** how Tobias and the white men on horses behave towards the Indians. Give examples from the text. Write at least 100 words.

3 You have a **choice** here. Choose **one** of the following tasks.

A Keith Tiger says to Tobias: "I know no other white man who would have risked what you did for an Indian." What does he mean by this? What does it say about the relationship at this time between the Indians and the white settlers? Give examples from the text. Write at least 120 words.

or:

B In the story Tobias helps some strangers although the situation is very dangerous for him. How often do you think it happens that people put their own lives in danger to help others (especially people they don't know)? Do you know of any examples? Could you imagine doing it yourself? **Discuss.** Write at least 120 words.

