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Authors:  
Text: Philip Hewitt  
Annotations and activities: Laura Broadbent

Cover and layout: Andreas Drabarek, Stuttgart, Germany  
Illustrations: Heli J. Ardeias  
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## Abbreviations

sb someone  
sth something

## Before you start



“What should you never do if you’re holding onto a tiger’s tail?”

“I don’t know.”

“You should never let go!  
You have to go on.”

1. What do you think the characters from the story are talking about?
2. Which of these things do you expect to read about?

tigers zoos animal training jungle money tigers  
illegal activities relationships circus travelling  
working India the UK New Zealand kidnapping

3. Have you ever been in a difficult situation where you didn’t know how to get out of? What did you do?
4. After you’ve read the story, look back at your answers. Were you right?



Alan



Heather



Cathy

It wasn't my idea to keep the money. I wanted to take it to the police as soon as we found it. It was all Alan's idea. We – that's my brother Alan and me (my name's Heather, by the way, and we're students) – we come from New Zealand and we were on a hitch-hiking trip around the world at the time. It sounds wonderful, doesn't it? And it was – for the first couple of months.

We travelled from New Zealand to Australia, where we had relations in Perth on the west coast. From there we got a boat to India, across India and over the Indian Ocean to East Africa. We saw Kenya, Tanzania and one or two other countries I can't remember much about. Then we got a cheap flight to Morocco and a ferry from North Africa to the south of France. Hitch-hiking in Europe wasn't as easy as we had thought. We used up a lot of our money on buses and trains. When we finally got to Britain at the end of August, we were tired of travelling and staying in youth hostels. We were also running out of money. We only wanted to go home. The rest of the world could wait until next year.

After three days in London we decided to visit our Uncle Jeffrey in Oxford before flying back to New Zealand. We found his name in the Oxford phone book and rang the number. Luckily he was at home. He was surprised to know that we were in Britain and invited us to come and stay with him for the weekend. We were on our way there when it all started.

### Think about it...

Would you like to go on a hitch-hiking trip? Why? Why not?

4 to hitch-hike to travel by getting free rides in other people's cars or lorries –  
8 relations family