



## THE PORTRAIT OF A LADY HENRY JAMES

STAGE 3  
B1  
YOUNG ADULT READERS

### ACTIVITIES

Choose the correct form of the verb in each case.

As the three men **1 were speaking / spoke** they heard a noise. It was one of Ralph's dogs. He suddenly started running up the garden towards the house. They looked at where the dog **2 was going / went**, and in front of the house they **3 were seeing / saw** a woman. When the dog **4 was reaching / reached** the woman, she picked him up, and **5 was starting / started** playing with him.

'Maybe that's her,' said Ralph. 'I'll go and introduce myself.'

'Good afternoon,' said Ralph when he reached the woman. She was tall, and pretty, and wore a black dress. She **6 wasn't wearing / didn't wear** a hat which meant she **7 hadn't just arrived / didn't just arrive** at the house. She **8 had been there / was there** for some time. The woman **9 was playing / played** with the dog but when she saw Ralph she **10 was looking / looked** straight at him. She smiled. It was the smile of a woman who was not afraid of anything.

ANSWERS: 1 were speaking; 2 was going; 3 saw; 4 reached; 5 started; 6 wasn't wearing; 7 hadn't just arrived; 8 had been there; 9 was playing; 10 looked



## THE PORTRAIT OF A LADY HENRY JAMES

STAGE 3  
B1  
YOUNG ADULT READERS

### TEST YOURSELF

Can you fill in the names?

(You will have to use some of the names more than once)

Isabel Archer  
Caspar Goodwood  
Gilbert Osmond  
Ralph  
~~Mr Touchett~~  
Mrs Touchett  
Lord Warburton

0 *Mr Touchett* lives in an old house in England with his son, called 1 \_\_\_\_\_. The old man's wife, 2 \_\_\_\_\_, is in America and meets her niece, 3 \_\_\_\_\_ whose father has just died. 4 \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ travel together back to England to stay with 5 \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. The Touchett's neighbour 6 \_\_\_\_\_ meets and falls in love with 7 \_\_\_\_\_ Isabel, but she says no to him when he asks her to marry him. She also says no to 8 \_\_\_\_\_, who travels from America to ask her to marry him. When 9 \_\_\_\_\_ dies, he leaves 10 \_\_\_\_\_ a lot of money. She is now an independent woman. 11 \_\_\_\_\_ travels to Europe where she meets and falls in love with 12 \_\_\_\_\_, another American. Her marriage is unhappy and at the end of the book we do not know if she will leave him or not.

1 Ralph; 2 Mrs Touchett; 3 Isabel Archer; 4 Mrs Touchett and Isabel; 5 Mr Touchett and Ralph; 6 Lord Warburton; 7 Isabel; 8 Caspar Goodwood; 9 Mr Touchett; 10 Isabel; 11 Isabel; 12 Gilbert Osmond

ANSWERS:



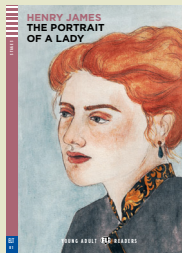
# THE PORTRAIT OF A LADY HENRY JAMES

STAGE 3  
B1  
YOUNG ADULT READERS

## PET - Speaking

Work in pairs. Ask and answer questions about traveling. Use the prompts to help you.

- like travelling?
- prefer family / friends
- why?
- where been?
- where want to go?
- prefer / go / where speak language?



## THE PORTRAIT OF A LADY HENRY JAMES

STAGE 3  
B1  
YOUNG ADULT READERS

### FOCUS ON...



## ENGLAND AND AMERICA: THE MOST INTERESTING CULTURAL DIFFERENCES

The main protagonist of the novel travels from America to England and sees many cultural differences between these two countries. And today? What are these evident distinctions? Although some people can't distinguish the differences between these two "similar" English-speaking countries, the linguistic factor is the first reason to oppose this opinion. First of all, British English and American English differentiate for some words, like autumn and fall, biscuit and cookie and for the pronunciation. What about holidays, social life and values? American people are very patriotic, so almost everyday could be an opportunity to celebrate something: Columbus Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving, 4<sup>th</sup> of July... Americans are far more at ease with being overtly in love with their country than us Brits. The 2012 Olympics, Great British Bake Off and Harry Potter have improved British sense of national pride, but only as far as bunting – without flag waving. Besides, the sense of humour differs from one side of the Atlantic to the other. Americans tend to be less dry or sarcastic than British people who like to make fun of everything; in UK there are many playful TV shows. Finally, Americans are much more open than English people. Friends and even acquaintances discuss personal thoughts and opinions that might seem private or intrusive in the UK.