

The new driver



Notes for tutors

Phonetic symbols: v as in van

Phonemes to teach

v as in Vincent, Victoria, vegetables, vegies, valley, variety, seven, David, seventeen, driving, very, vehicle, heavy, serviced, prevent, vibrate, vital, even, Volvo, visit, Devina, vegetarian, vibrated, involved

ve as in gave, have, believe, believed, sleeves, mauve, GIVE, live, lived, lovely, involved, drive, drove, jived

Talking points

- Growing vegetables and the need for water. Water restrictions.
- Being seventeen and the difficulties of living in a remote place that doesn't provide much social life for young people.
- Learning to drive. Road rules.
- Drinking and driving
- Car maintenance
- Vegetarians

Teaching notes

- In Level 2 Book 15 students were exposed to the word *would* and to the contraction *I'd* (I would). The word *would* is used again in this book. On page 2 we read *He wanted a girlfriend, and he believed that he would have to go to the city to find someone he really liked*. On Page 5 we read *...they knew that seatbelts would prevent injuries*. Tutors may like to give students practice in using *would* and contractions such as *I'd* and *he'd* or *she'd*. For example, say *I would like to go to that meeting with you but I'll be busy looking after grandchildren*. Or you could ask the student *Would you like a cup of coffee?*
- On page 11 we read *Now that he was eighteen David could legally drive and could legally drink alcohol*. Practise using the word *could* as you did with the word *would*.

Words tutors may need to tell or explain

market gardeners	valley	believed
Learner's Permit	P plates	vehicle
mauve Volvo	vibrated	release the hand brake
breaking down	vital	tilted outwards
tighten the nuts	spanner	tool kit
indicate	ute	legally
sensible boys	sober	position of the mirrors
serviced regularly	gripped	prevent them from wilting
vegetarian		

Continued inside back cover...



Vincent and Victoria were market gardeners who grew vegetables. They lived in a beautiful valley. A lovely river flowed through the valley and gave them enough water for their vegetables.

They grew a variety of different vegies: carrots, pumpkins, silverbeet and cabbages in winter, and beans, tomatoes and lettuces in summer.

Vincent and Victoria had seven children. Six were married and had moved away from the valley.

The youngest son was called David.

David loved the valley and his parents' vegetable garden. But he was lonely. He wanted a girlfriend, and he believed that he would have to go to the city to find someone he really liked.



David was seventeen. He had his Learners' Permit and looked forward to doing his driving licence test. When he had his P plates he would drive to the city and look for a girlfriend.



He talked to his parents. “Mum, Dad,” he said. “I need to practise driving so that I can pass my driving test. Can you take me for a driving lesson this morning?”

His father replied, “Sorry, David. I’m very busy this morning. But you can come with me if you like. I have to take a load of vegetables to the city. I’ll be driving the ute.”

“Can I drive the ute?” asked David. “Okay,” replied his father.



The ute was an old vehicle that had done many, many kilometres. It was a very useful vehicle because it could carry heavy loads.

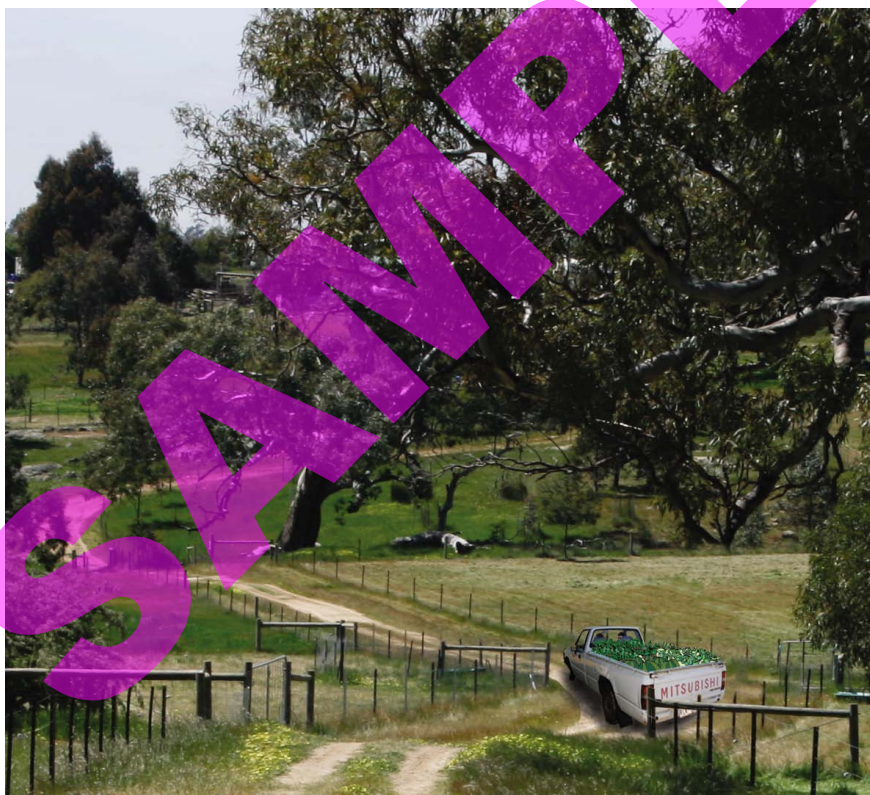
Vincent and Victoria made sure the ute was serviced regularly, to prevent it from breaking down on the way to town. They knew that fresh vegetables need to be transported quickly to prevent them from wilting in the heat.

Vincent climbed into the passenger's seat and David climbed into the driver's seat. David remembered to check the position of the mirrors and to release the hand brake.



He and Vincent wore their seatbelts because they knew that the seatbelts would prevent injuries if their vehicle was involved in an accident.

David drove the ute along the unmade road towards the highway. The road was bumpy and the ute started to vibrate as it went up and down over the bumps. David drove very slowly. He knew it was vital to drive carefully, especially with a very big load of vegetables in the back.



Suddenly the ute started to make a very loud noise. “Stop!” shouted Vincent. David put his foot on the brake and the ute stopped. Both men got out. They inspected the wheels. One wheel tilted outwards. “That’s the problem,” cried Vincent. “That wheel’s loose.”

“We’ll have to tighten the nuts,” he said. “Get the tools. They’re behind the seat.” David pushed the seat forward and found the tool kit. He gave it to Vincent.

Vincent opened it and took out a spanner. He gave it to David.

“Here. Roll up your sleeves. You’d better learn how to tighten the nuts on the wheel. Learning to drive is one thing, but learning to fix your vehicle is just as important.”

David took the spanner and knelt down beside the wheel. He gripped the spanner tightly and slowly turned the nuts.



When he had finished Vincent tested it to make sure the wheel was tightly in place.

“Good work, son,” he said. “Now we’d better get going. I don’t want to be late getting to the city.

These vegetables will start to wilt.”

The two men sat in silence as the ute made its way to the city. David drove well.



He remembered to stop at STOP signs and to give way at GIVE WAY signs.



He remembered to indicate when he was going to turn left or right.

He remembered to slow down to 40 km/h near schools.



At the market they sold all their vegetables. Then they drove home. The wheel stayed in place even when they drove along the bumpy unmade road.

When he was eighteen, David went for his full driver's licence. He passed easily.

That night he borrowed his mother's mauve Volvo and drove to the city. He turned up the volume on the radio and sang along with the music.

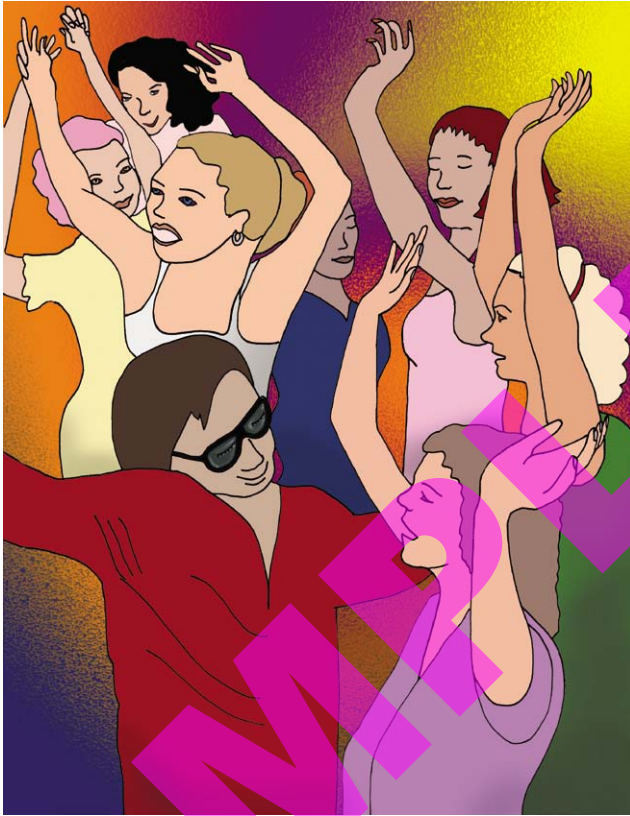
David was happy. He knew he would find himself a lovely girlfriend.



Now that he was eighteen, David could legally drive and could legally drink alcohol. It was exciting to think about these things. But David knew that it was stupid to drink and drive.

“I won’t drink if I’m going to drive,” he thought.

“Besides, girls prefer sensible boys. They don’t want to go out with a drunk. I’ll stay sober, find a lovely girl and who knows what might happen. I might even drive her home to meet mum and dad. That is, if she likes vegetables.”



David did meet a lovely girl in the city. In fact, he met seven lovely girls! He danced with them until the whole dance floor vibrated. He even jived like Vincent and Victoria did when they were seventeen. He told the girls about his family and his vegetable farm.

One girl seemed very interested. She wanted to visit his valley. Her name was Devina and she was a vegetarian.

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Links with other Sound English texts

This book includes many sounds and words introduced in previous Sound English books, for example *knew* and *knelt* (Level 2 Book 15) and *enough* in Level 2 Book 11.

Level 1 Book 3 is about people going to a party and breaking down on the way.

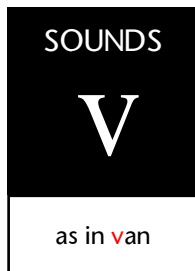
Level 1 Book 8 has a picture of a man dancing a jive.

Level 1 Book 16 is a story about a teenage boy who has two girlfriends.

Level 2 Books 1 and 13 are also about teenagers.

Level 2 Book 2 tells us about a man and a woman who meet and like each other.

SAMPLE



LEVEL
2
BOOK
16

Sound English® is a structured series of stories for people who are learning to read and spell in English.

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