

**Tales of Ten Worlds by Arthur C. Clarke**

**SUMMERTIME ON ICARUS** 1 It was the nearest asteroid to the sun. It was the hottest place in the solar system apart from the sun itself. 2 There was a loud explosion. The pod shot off the asteroid in the wrong direction. It began to spin out of control. 3 (a) The rays of the sun would kill him. (b) By using the long metal arms of the space pod. They pulled the pod over the rough ground. (c) He was still able to use them to move the pod into the shadow of a rock. 4 (a) The pod would explode and Sherrard would die immediately. (b) Nothing. 5 His friends from the spaceship 'Prometheus' came to rescue him in another space pod.

**WHO'S THERE?** 1 (a) An old satellite. (b) A spacesuit. 2 Tommy, the cat. 3 (a) It was like a tiny spaceship, big enough for one man. (b) It was going to be a very short trip. 4 He heard something scraping on the metal of his spacesuit. 5 Bernie had died in space. His spacesuit had broken open. And the Supervisor had heard strange stories about ghosts in space. 6 'Tommy' was not a tom-cat, she was female. She had had babies and had put them in the locker in the spacesuit. Her kittens had made the scraping noises. One of the kittens had patted the Supervisor's neck.

**INTO THE COMET** 1 His spaceship was trapped in the middle of Randall's Comet. It would be 2 million years before the comet took the spaceship back to Earth. 2 The comet was like a sea of ice. There were great, grey icebergs moving slowly in it. Sometimes there was a brilliant light as gas exploded. 3 Its computer had broken. 4 An abacus is made of beads which slide along wires. Used for doing calculations. So is a computer. 5 Planned to make 20 abacuses. Everyone in the ship would work together like a human computer and calculate the direction to go. When they were close to Earth they would use their radio. Then the computers on earth could guide them back. The plan worked.

**LET THERE BE LIGHT** 1 (a) 20 years. (b) He spent all his days making telescopes. And spent the nights watching the stars. (c) She had nothing to do. Her life was very dull. 2 (a) That she could not get a ticket for the cinema. (b) He had seen her coming out of the cinema with Rupert. (c) He decided that Mary was in love with Rupert. 3 He was watching the stars, and the headlights shone into his telescope. 4 (a) He made a big mirror. He was going to shine a powerful light onto it when Mary was driving home. The reflection would shine onto the bend in the road. Mary would not be able to see, and the car would fall over the cliff. (b) Rupert was in the car, not Mary. He was killed instead. (c) The shock made him mad. He was put into a hospital. (d) She moved to a pretty house near a Naval College. Many of the young sailors came to visit her.

**DEATH AND THE SENATOR** 1 He was dying. He wanted to spend his last months with his family. 2 (a) He had not believed Dr Harkness' ideas. And he had refused to give him any Government money for his work. (b) He told the Senator that the Russians wanted to cure his disease in space. 3 They were so young and one of them was dying. 4 (a) He wanted to show the American people that space medicine was important. (b) He wanted the whole world to praise Russia. He wanted the whole world to know about the success of Russian scientific research. 5 He thought about the young couple in the waiting room. He knew that one of them was going to die if he went to the Satellite Hospital. 6 He died watching the River Potomac. He died feeling at peace, without pain or fear.

**BEFORE EDEN** 1 Near the South Pole on the planet Venus. 2 (a) It meant that there were rivers on Venus. (b) It would be cold enough for rain to fall there. If there was water, there might be something living in it. 3 It meant that there were plants there. Plants make oxygen and so there was life on Venus. 4 (a) It looked like a rock. (b) It stopped. Then it moved back. (c) That it was not a dead planet. It had life on it – like Earth and Mars. 5 They put their rubbish in a hole in the ground. There were bacteria and viruses in the rubbish which cause diseases. The plant sucked up the rubbish and it took the diseases back to the lake. The only living things on Venus were in the lake. Now the disease would kill this life. It would become a dead planet once more.

**DOG STAR** 1 On the Moon. 2 She was dead. 3 There was an earthquake. Just before it happened, Laika had woken him up by barking. He was able to get out of the house before it fell down. The other people in the house were killed. 4 He knew there was an earthquake on the Moon. The wall of his cabin broke open and the air rushed out. But he was able to put on his space helmet quickly. 5 She had saved his life twice. She had saved him from two earthquakes, one on Earth and one on the Moon.

**SATURN RISING** 1 (a) 28. (b) Saturn. 2 (a) The rings round Saturn. (b) He had no money to buy one. (c) Morris Perlman's father broke it. 3 The owner of the hotel and the most important hotel-owner in the United States. 4 (a) Morris Perlman. (b) They were great bright rings made of floating pieces of ice. (c) Which of Saturn's moons was the best one to build a hotel on? (d) That Titan was the best. 5 The speaker is now the manager of Perlman's hotel on Titan. He's been there for many years. He is telling the guests his story.

**TROUBLE WITH TIME** 1 (a) On the tiny moon of Mars. (b) There was not much crime on Mars. 2 He was an art dealer. 3 It was a very old statue, about eight inches high and made of sandstone. It was kept in the Museum of Meridian City. 4 He stayed at a hotel in Meridian West. The Museum was in Meridian East. He went to the Museum on a Saturday and hid in a small room. He knew that the Museum did not open on Sunday. He planned to take the statue and put a copy in its place. He was going to hide until Monday morning then he would leave with the crowds of visitors. 5 He did not know that the dateline went through the city. So when he thought it was Sunday and the Museum was closed, it was only Saturday. The Museum opened in the morning and Danny was caught. 6 Student's own answers. (a) Student should suggest that Mr Maccar was the person who was paying Danny Weaver to steal the statue. (b) Student should suggest that the Inspector knew that.

**A SLIGHT CASE OF SUNSTROKE** 1 They had bribed him. They had paid him more money than the Perivians. 2 (a) It was called the Special Victory Souvenir Issue. This meant that the Perivians knew they were going to win. (b) 50000. 3 He was wearing a bullet-proof vest. 4 (a) He blew the whistle. He did not allow the goal. (b) They went mad. 5 The referee. 6 (a) A blinding light. (b) He disappeared. (c) They had given the soldiers the silver programmes. They used them to reflect the rays of the sun at the referee. He was burnt to ashes. A new referee did his job properly, and he let the Perivians win.