

**Simple Solutions**  
Reading Comprehension 7  
**Table of Contents**

**Unit 1 The Reluctant Dragon\* Part I**

What's Up On the Downs.....	2
What the Shepherd Saw .....	4
Hullo, Dragon!.....	6
An Invitation and a Warning.....	8
Preparing for Saint George .....	10
It's All Up, Dragon!.....	12
A Misunderstanding.....	14

**Unit 2 The Reluctant Dragon\* Part II**

The Start of Negotiations .....	16
Getting Down to Business.....	18
What's in it for You?.....	20
The Moment You've Been Waiting For.....	22
Round One of the Battle .....	24
A Jolly Good Fight!.....	26
Goodbye Direful Scourge .....	28

**Unit 3 Genres**

What is Genre?.....	30
Fiction: The World of Imagination .....	32
Nonfiction: The Realm of Reality.....	34
Essay: A Word for Autumn by A. A. Milne*.....	36
Harriet Tubman: Heroine of Freedom* .....	38
Harriet Tubman: The Great Work of Her Life* .....	40
Coming to America: A Memoir by Elizabeth Sziebert.....	42

**Unit 4 Animal-World Adaptations for Self-Defense**

Staying Alive.....	44
Hiding in Plain Sight.....	46
Now You See Me, Now You Don't.....	48
A Leaf Like No Other.....	50
Red Means Danger.....	52
The Copy Cat Defense.....	54
The Stench Defense.....	56

\*From works in the Public Domain

# Table of Contents

## Unit 5 Mythology, Part I

Introduction to Mythology .....	58
Significant Characters in Mythology .....	60
Creation: Prometheus and Epimetheus* .....	62
Creation: The Troubles of Man* .....	64
Creation: Destruction of Earth* .....	66
Creation: Rebuilding the Golden Age* .....	68
The Myth of King Midas* .....	70

## Unit 6 Mythology, Part II

Allusions to Mythology .....	72
The Gift of Athena* .....	74
Pandora's Box: A New Companion* .....	76
Pandora's Box: Determined to Succeed* .....	78
Pandora's Box: The Family of Earthly Troubles* .....	80
Pandora's Box: A Ray of Hope* .....	82
Woden, God of the Northern Sky .....	84

## Unit 7 Rikki-Tikki-Tavi\* Part I

Story Elements in Kipling's "Rikki-Tikki-Tavi" .....	86
Washed Out .....	88
Exploring the Bungalow .....	90
Look, and Be Afraid! .....	92
A Matter of Quickness .....	94
Killing a Snake! .....	96
Whispers in the Moonlight .....	98

## Unit 8 Rikki-Tikki-Tavi\* Part II

Cart-Whipped! .....	100
Song of Triumph .....	102
A Clever Decoy .....	104
Nagaina's Revenge .....	106
The Battle .....	108
The Coppersmith's Announcement .....	110
Beast and Man in India .....	112

# Table of Contents

## Unit 9 Breaking Barriers in Sports

Breaking Barriers in Women’s Sports: Ora Washington .....	114
Breaking Barriers in Women’s Sports: Althea Gibson .....	116
Breaking Barriers in Women’s Sports: Babe Didrikson Zaharias .....	118
Breaking Barriers in Women’s Sports: Billie Jean King.....	120
Jim Abbott: Challenge as Opportunity.....	122
Texas Western College Versus University of Kentucky 1966 .....	124
Roberto Clemente: Baseball’s Humanitarian.....	126

## Unit 10 Running a Thousand Miles for Freedom\*

Our Condition as Slaves .....	128
Our Time in Macon, Georgia.....	130
The Almost Impossible Plan .....	132
A Desperate Leap for Liberty .....	134
The Train to Savannah .....	136
Unwanted Advice .....	138
Into Deep Waters.....	140

## Unit 11 The Bone Wars

Before the War .....	142
The <i>Hadrosaurus</i> Quarry .....	144
The <i>Elasmosaurus</i> Error .....	146
The Battle Continues in the West.....	148
Como Bluff, Wyoming .....	150
The Final Assault .....	152
The Aftermath.....	154

## Unit 12 All Things Three

First, Second, and Third .....	156
The Power of Three .....	158
Shakespeare, Macbeth, and the Three Witches.....	160
The Song of the Witches* .....	162
Three Questions: The King* .....	164
Three Questions: The Hermit* .....	166
Three Questions: The Bearded Enemy* .....	168

\*From works in the Public Domain

# Table of Contents

## Unit 13 Accidental Inventions

Finger Foods.....	170
Toys that Tinker .....	172
Highlighting the Household .....	174
Sticky Stuff .....	176
For Medicinal Purposes .....	178
Sweets and Treats.....	180
Lucrative Silver Linings.....	182

## Unit 14 Founding Fathers

The Founding Fathers .....	184
Thomas Jefferson’s Legacies.....	186
John Adams and His Rival .....	188
Benjamin Franklin, the Founding Inventor .....	190
Alexander Hamilton .....	192
Madison and Jay’s Federalist Papers .....	194
The Women Behind the Men .....	196

## Unit 15 Nonsense Verse

Nonsense Verse and Its Writers .....	198
Lewis Carroll’s Literary Antics .....	200
Jabberwocky * .....	202
The New Vestments * .....	204
Queens of Nonsense* .....	206
The Frog, The Platypus, and The Hen* .....	208
The Pelican Chorus* .....	210

## Unit 16 Up In the Air

Wright Brothers: A Design for Flight.....	212
Weather Balloons: Gathering Information Aloft .....	214
What is a Drone? .....	216
SR-71 Blackbird: Faster Than a Speeding Bullet .....	218
GPS—Don’t Leave Home Without It!.....	220
What Happens to Humans in Space? A Twin Study .....	222
Up and Away.....	224

# Table of Contents

## Unit 17 An International Menu

Let's Begin: Appetizers.....	226
Satisfying Soups.....	228
Scrumptious Salads .....	230
The Main Event: Entrées.....	232
On the Side: Mouthwatering Dishes .....	234
Beverages .....	236
Desserts: The Final Feature .....	238

## Unit 18 Volunteering Opportunities

Why Do People Volunteer? .....	240
Teens and Volunteering .....	242
Habitat for Humanity .....	244
Peace Corps: Promoting World Peace and Friendship.....	246
AmeriCorps: In Service to America .....	248
Big Brothers, Big Sisters.....	250
Volunteering with Animals .....	252

\*From works in the Public Domain



Simple Solutions is a Certified Lexile® Partner. Each unit and quiz in this book has been evaluated and assigned a Lexile measure, which is listed in the Teacher's Edition.