

UPPER LEVEL

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The Macmillan Readers provide a choice of enjoyable reading materials for learners of English. The series is published at six levels – Starter, Beginner, Elementary, Pre-intermediate, Intermediate and Upper.

Level Control

Information, structure and vocabulary are controlled to suit the students' ability at each level.

The number of words at each level:

Starter	about 300 basic words
Beginner	about 600 basic words
Elementary	about 1100 basic words
Pre-intermediate	about 1400 basic words
Intermediate	about 1600 basic words
Upper	about 2200 basic words

Vocabulary

Some difficult words and phrases in this book are important for understanding the story. Some of these words are explained in the story, some are shown in the pictures and others are marked with a number like this: ...³. Phrases are marked with ^P. Words with a number are explained in the *Glossary* at the end of the book and phrases are explained on the *Useful Phrases* pages.

Answer Keys

Answer Keys for the *Points For Understanding* and *Exercises* sections can be found at www.macmillanenglish.com/readers.

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A Note About The Author

Ian Lancaster Fleming was born on 28th May 1908 in London. A newspaper journalist and a writer, Fleming created one of the most famous characters in twentieth-century fiction – James Bond.

Ian Fleming came from a wealthy family and was educated at Eton – a famous private school for boys. While at Eton he met another boy called George Scaramanga. Fleming named the main villain¹ of *The Man with the Golden Gun*, Francisco Scaramanga, after this boy, with whom he is said to have fought. After he left Eton, he trained to be a soldier at Sandhurst Military Academy. However, after less than a year there he left and went to Europe, where he studied languages at Munich and Geneva universities.

Fleming's first job was as a journalist in the Soviet Union. From 1929 to 1933, he worked in Moscow for a news agency called Reuters. While he was employed by this organization, he learnt about Soviet spies who were involved in selling intelligence – government secrets – to other countries. Fleming sent reports about these spies and the related court trials to Reuters in London. When he returned to London in 1933, he worked first as a banker and then as a broker – an agent who buys and sells goods for other people.

During the Second World War (1939–1945), Ian Fleming became an officer in the Department of Naval Intelligence, at the headquarters of the British Navy. He was the assistant to the Director of Naval Intelligence, who was responsible for employing spies and gathering intelligence for Britain. As part of this work, Fleming travelled to many countries and organized secret operations against Britain's enemies. It was his experience in this job that would later provide inspiration for many of the characters and incidents that he wrote about in his Bond books. Once the war had ended, Fleming then worked for *The Sunday Times* newspaper.

At the age of nearly 44, while staying in Jamaica, he began to write about spies and dangerous criminals. In 1952 he completed his first novel, *Casino Royale*. In the same year, he married Anne Charteris, and his only son, Caspar, was born.

Casino Royale was the first in a long line of adventure stories about a handsome British secret agent called James Bond. Bond was a spy who had a taste for danger, women, fast cars, gambling² and good food and drink. Each of the Bond books Fleming wrote detailed a different mission that the secret agent had been given to complete. James Bond had a 'licence to kill', which meant that sometimes he was told to kill his enemies.

Casino Royale was very successful and the adventures of James Bond, agent number 007, became very popular. By the time Fleming died on 12th August 1964, more than forty million copies of the James Bond books had already been sold. The books are: *Casino Royale* (1953), *Live and Let Die* (1954), *Moonraker* (1955), *Diamonds Are Forever* (1956), *From Russia with Love* (1957), *Dr No* (1958), *Goldfinger* (1959), *For Your Eyes Only* (1960), *Thunderball* (1961), *The Spy Who Loved Me* (1962), *On Her Majesty's Secret Service* (1963), *You Only Live Twice* (1964), *The Man with the Golden Gun* (1965) and *Octopussy and The Living Daylights* (1966).

The first Ian Fleming book to be made into a film was *Dr No*. The film was first shown in 1962 with Sean Connery starring as James Bond. The film *The Man with the Golden Gun* was released in 1974. It was only loosely based on the original plot and starred the actor Roger Moore. By 2012, seven different actors had played the part of Secret Agent 007. The Bond films continue to be huge international successes. Millions of people all over the world have seen and loved the films of Fleming's books.

A Note About The Story

The story of *The Man with the Golden Gun* takes place in the early 1960s. Since Fleming wrote the story, the names of some of the countries and their kinds of government have changed.

In October 1917 there was a revolution in Russia and a communist government came into power. These communists believed that everyone in their country had to share everything – money, power and land. Russia joined with the other countries it now controlled to form the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (the Soviet Union).

During the Second World War, France, Britain, the United States and the Soviet Union fought together – they were allies. But soon after the Second World War, nations around the world who believed in democracy³ became allies with the United States and Western Europe. Meanwhile nations who believed in communism became allied to the Soviet Union. The United States and the Soviet Union both began to build huge numbers of powerful weapons, including atomic bombs⁴. The Soviet Union had a special secret police force called the KGB. It was the role of KGB officers to protect the interests of the Soviet Union and collect intelligence about its enemies.

For forty years each group of countries watched the other. They did not fight each other, but each side looked for ways to make life difficult for their enemies. This period – 1945 to 1989 – was called the Cold War.

Ian Fleming's stories are set during the Cold War. It was a dangerous time and many people were frightened that the next war would involve atomic bombs. As a result they loved to read Ian Fleming's exciting adventures about secret missions, some of which involved spies trying to kill each other.

Most of the story's action takes place on the Caribbean island of Jamaica. During the last year of the Second World War, Ian

Fleming travelled to Jamaica for a Naval conference⁵ and fell in love with the place. Fleming decided that he would eventually go to live on the island and immediately started making plans to return. After the war he bought some land on the north coast of the island and built a house called Goldeneye there. It was in that house, between 1952 and 1964, that Fleming wrote all of the Bond novels.

Jamaica was officially under British rule until 1958, when it became a province of the British West Indies. It finally became fully independent in 1962, just two years before Fleming wrote this book. This context explains why Fleming draws attention to the pride that the Jamaican Police Commissioner takes in his official role in the penultimate⁶ chapter of this book.

The nearby island of Cuba is also mentioned in this story. At the time that Fleming was writing, Fidel Castro, who was a communist and had allied himself with the Soviet Union, had just led a revolution. He had replaced the corrupt Fulgencio Batista as leader of the country, becoming prime minister of Cuba in 1959. Following this, in 1962, the Soviet Union attempted to install medium-range missiles⁷ in Cuba because it was a good base from which it could attack the United States. This situation caused a political crisis. Eventually the Soviet Union agreed not to keep the missiles in Cuba as long as the United States promised never to attack the island. Fleming refers to this incident in the book.

Fleming was not in good health when he wrote this story during the early part of 1964. Just five months after completing the book, in August of the same year, Ian Fleming suffered a heart attack and died at the relatively early age of 56. *The Man with the Golden Gun*, which was the thirteenth book in the Bond series, was published in the spring following his death.

The People In The Story



James Bond



M



Scaramanga



Hendriks



Mary Goodnight



Tiffany



Felix Leiter



Nick Nicholson

'Can I Help You?'

Everyone thought that Commander James Bond, one of the best agents in the British Secret Intelligence Service, was dead. A year ago the Head of the Secret Service, who was a man known only by the initial 'M', had chosen Bond to go to Japan on a highly important mission. His task had been to gather secret information from the Japanese about the Soviet Union. But the job had gone badly wrong and Bond had become involved in a dangerous battle with a known criminal called Blofeld. It was thought that Bond had killed Blofeld, but no one knew what had happened to Bond himself after the fight. He had simply disappeared. Those who knew him at the Secret Service had now given up any hope that he could still be alive.

However, Bond was not dead; he had been captured by the Russians. They had taken him to a secret medical institute in Leningrad, where the KGB began trying to brainwash⁸ him. After many months of torture⁹, Bond had grown weaker and weaker and could take no more. The KGB had finally won their battle to control his mind.

A man called 'Colonel Boris' had then spent several more months carefully preparing Bond for his return to England. He had told Bond exactly how to behave, what to wear and even which hotel to stay in. He had also told him who to contact at the Secret Service Headquarters and precisely how to answer their many questions.

James Bond was sitting on his bed in The Ritz Hotel in London, holding the telephone to his ear. There was a moment of silence and then he heard a man's voice. 'This is Captain Walker speaking. Can I help you?'

Bond spoke slowly and clearly. 'This is Commander James Bond, agent number 007. Please would you put me through to M, or his secretary, Miss Money Penny?'

Captain Walker was very surprised to hear what sounded like Bond's voice. He quickly pressed two buttons on the side of his phone. The first button started a machine which would record the conversation. The second sent a message to the Special Branch of the police, who would listen to the conversation, trace the call¹⁰ and immediately arrange for the caller to be followed. Then Walker said, 'I'm afraid I don't know those two names. Who exactly are these people?'

'M is Admiral Sir Miles Messervy,' James Bond answered calmly. 'His office is on the eighth floor. He used to have a secretary called Miss Money Penny. I want to see him.'

'No, I'm sorry,' Walker responded apologetically. 'I don't know either of them. Can you give me any more information?'

'Well, let's see what else I can tell you then ...' said Bond, frowning. 'It's Wednesday today. That means meat pie will be the main dish on the menu in the canteen.' Due to the brainwashing Bond could not remember all these things himself. He was using the detailed information that Colonel Boris had given him over the last few months.

Captain Walker thought for a moment. Could this man really be James Bond? There was always something strange about 007's death. They had never found a body. There was no solid evidence for his death. Perhaps he *had* escaped alive ... Walker decided to send him to the Security section of the Secret Service for further questioning.

'I'm afraid I can't help you myself,' he told Bond. 'But try Major Townsend. His office is at 44 Kensington Cloisters. I'll call and make an appointment for you to see him today.'

A short while later James Bond left his hotel room, stepped out into a cold, clear November morning and got into a taxi. His

every move was now being carefully watched by Special Branch police officers and a black car followed close behind his taxi.

'I'm here to see Major Townsend,' Bond announced when he arrived at Kensington Cloisters.

'Yes, he's expecting you, sir,' confirmed the man who had opened the door. 'Please come in. Shall I take your raincoat?'

The doorman put the coat on a hook near the entrance. As soon as he was inside Major Townsend's office, Bond's raincoat would be taken quickly upstairs to a laboratory¹¹. There someone would test the material to find out where the coat had come from and if it really belonged to James Bond.

And now, as Bond followed the man down a long corridor, a hidden X-ray camera secretly took a picture of Bond and what he was carrying in his pockets. The man knocked on a door, opened it and asked Bond to go inside. It was a pleasant, very light room with expensive furniture.

A tall man with a friendly face stood up from a comfortable-looking chair, smiled and walked towards Bond. 'Come in and sit down,' he said warmly. 'Would you like a cigarette? I'm sorry, these aren't the ones I remember you prefer.' The man watched Bond carefully and noted his reaction.

Bond took a cigarette with a blank expression on his face and said nothing. Then both men sat down. Major Townsend crossed his legs comfortably. Bond sat up straight.

'Well, now. How can I help you?' enquired Townsend.

Bond looked at Major Townsend. Colonel Boris's description was very good – the big, friendly face, the brown eyes, the military moustache and the smart suit. But he had not mentioned how very cold and intelligent the eyes were.

'It's really quite simple,' Bond explained steadily. 'I am who I say I am. And I want to speak to M.'

'Yes,' replied Townsend, 'but you haven't been in contact with us for nearly a year. We all thought you were dead, so you'll understand that we must make sure that you really are 007.'

Major Townsend asked him several questions, which Bond answered fully and calmly. Then Townsend said, 'Now, please tell me where you've come from and where you've been all these months.'

'I'm sorry,' Bond apologized, 'but I can only tell that to M himself.'

'I see,' replied Major Townsend. He thought for a few seconds and then went on. 'Well, I'll make a telephone call and see what I can do. I'll only be a few minutes.' He stood up and picked up a newspaper from a nearby table. 'Would you like to see today's *Times*?' he asked, and held out the paper. Bond took it from him. His fingerprints were now on the specially treated newspaper, which would be carefully examined later.

Major Townsend went to the next room, closed the door, quickly telephoned the laboratory and then telephoned Bill Tanner, the Chief of Staff at the Secret Service Headquarters. 'Yes, sir,' he said a few moments later, 'I think it must be 007. He's wearing the same type of clothes he usually wears, although everything looks very new. The laboratory report says that his coat was bought yesterday in London. He answered all the questions correctly, but he's insisting that he'll only talk to M about what's happened. But I don't like it – he has a strange look in his eyes. I apologized for not being able to offer him his favourite type of cigarette, but he didn't know what I was talking about. And the X-ray camera showed that he's carrying a gun – a strange sort of weapon we haven't seen before. Personally, I don't think M should see him alone, although I think that's the only way we'll get him to talk to us.'

When Major Townsend went back into the other room a few minutes later, Bond was still sitting stiffly in the same chair. He was holding the newspaper but he had not opened it. Major Townsend smiled.

'Well, I've arranged everything,' he announced cheerfully. 'M is extremely pleased to hear that you are all right, and he'll be free

to see you in about half an hour. A car should be here to collect you in about ten minutes and drive you there.'

James Bond smiled for the first time. But it was a thin smile, which did not light up his eyes.

2

The Attack

Bill Tanner, the Chief of Staff at the Secret Service, stood in front of M's desk. 'I really don't think you should see him on your own, sir,' he repeated firmly. 'There's no doubt that it's James – we've matched the fingerprints. But I don't like the feel of this at all. Why has he got new clothes? And why did he check into The Ritz and phone our main reception desk? He could have just phoned me on my personal number or come straight here to see you. It seems like a typical KGB brainwashing job to me.'

M looked up at Bill Tanner's tired, worried face and smiled. 'Thank you,' he said quietly, 'but I need to talk to 007 myself. When I sent him to Japan I had no idea that what should have been a peaceful job was going to end so badly. Or that 007 would go missing for a year. He's quite right. It was I who sent him on the mission and he has every right to report back to me personally. I'll see him, but I want you to wait in the next room and listen in to the conversation. And don't worry about his gun – I can use the new safety device¹².' M pointed up at a thin line on the ceiling. 'Are you sure that the glass wall will come down quickly enough when I press the button?' he asked.

'Yes, sir,' said the Chief of Staff nervously. 'We've tested it and it works all right. But ...'

A light started to flash on M's intercom¹³. 'That must mean Bond is here,' said M. 'Tell him to come straight in, please.'