



The Last of the Mohicans

James Fenimore Cooper



MACMILLAN READERS

with audio CD

MACMILLAN READERS

BEGINNER LEVEL

JAMES FENIMORE COOPER

The Last of the Mohicans

Retold by John Escott



MACMILLAN

Founding Editor: John Milne

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:

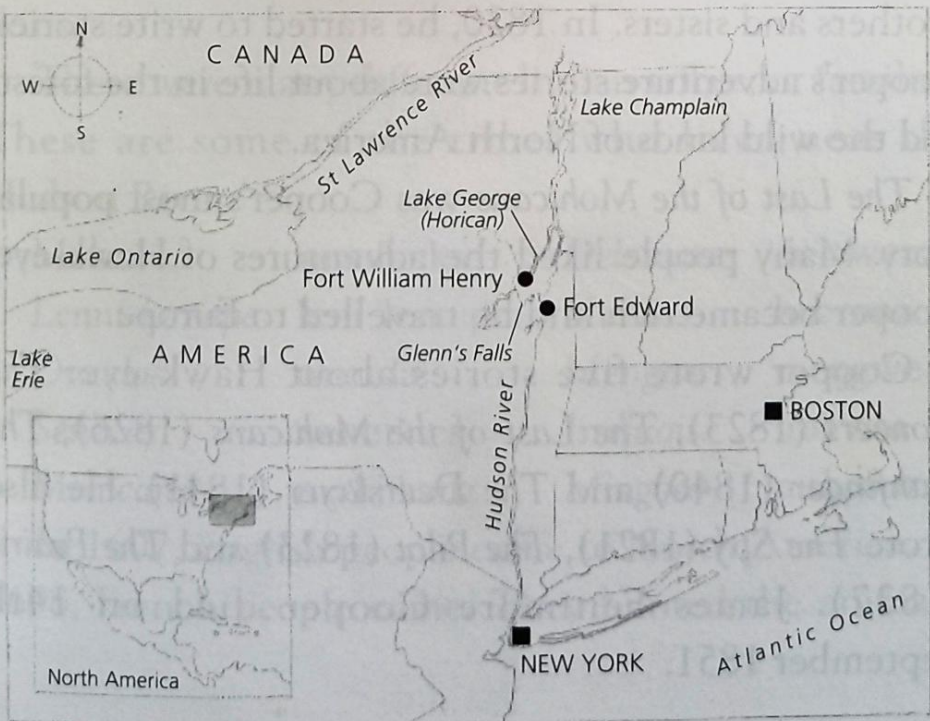
Starter	about 300 basic words
Beginner	about 600 basic words
Elementary	about 1100 basic words
Pre-intermediate	about 1400 basic words
Intermediate	about 1600 basic words
Upper	about 2200 basic words

Vocabulary

Some difficult words and phrases in this book are important for understanding the story. Some of these words are explained in the story and some are shown in the pictures. From Pre-intermediate level upwards, words are marked with a number like this: ...³. These words are explained in the Glossary at the end of the book.

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A Note About the Author



James Fenimore Cooper was born in New Jersey, North America on 15th September 1789. His family lived on a farm in Cooperstown, in the north of New York State.

Cooper had five brothers and seven sisters. He went to school at Yale. But he did not behave well and he had to leave. In 1805, Cooper became a sailor. He was in the US Navy until 1810. In 1811 Cooper's father died. Cooper married Susan De Lancey and they lived on the farm. From 1812 to 1821 Cooper worked very hard. But he was poor. He gave a lot of money to his brothers and sisters. In 1820, he started to write stories. Cooper's adventure stories were about life in the forests and the wild lands of North America.

The Last of the Mohicans was Cooper's most popular story. Many people liked the adventures of Hawk-eye. Cooper became rich and he travelled to Europe.

Cooper wrote five stories about Hawk-eye: *The Pioneers* (1823), *The Last of the Mohicans* (1826), *The Pathfinder* (1840) and *The Deerslayer* (1841). He also wrote *The Spy* (1821), *The Pilot* (1823) and *The Prairie* (1827). James Fenimore Cooper died on 14th September 1851.

A Note About This Story

Place: Lake Horican on the Hudson River. The author gave this name to Lake George. (Look at the map.) It is in the east of North America. Today, the area is called New York State. At the time of this story, North America was not independent. North America became independent from Europe in 1787.

Time: 1757. Armies from England and France are fighting in North America. Both countries want the land.

The Indian people had lived in the land for thousands of years. They got their food from the land. They caught fish in the rivers and lakes. They hunted deer, bears and birds in the forests. They ate the meat from these animals. They made clothes from the animals' skins.

There were many different Indian tribes, or families. These are some of the tribes who lived near the Hudson River:

<i>Mohawks</i>	'məʊhɔ:ks	<i>Delawares</i>	'deləweəz
<i>Lenni-Lenape</i>	leni 'lenɑ:peɪ	<i>Hurons</i>	'hʊərɒnz
<i>Oneidas</i>	ɒ'naɪdəs	<i>Mengwe</i>	'menɡweɪ
<i>Senecas</i>	'seneɪkəs	<i>Iroquois</i>	'ɪrəkwɔɪ
<i>Mohicans</i>	mə'hi:kənz	<i>Mingoes</i>	'mɪŋɡəʊz

In 1607, English people came to North America. In 1608, French people came. They hunted the animals.

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