

LEVEL B1

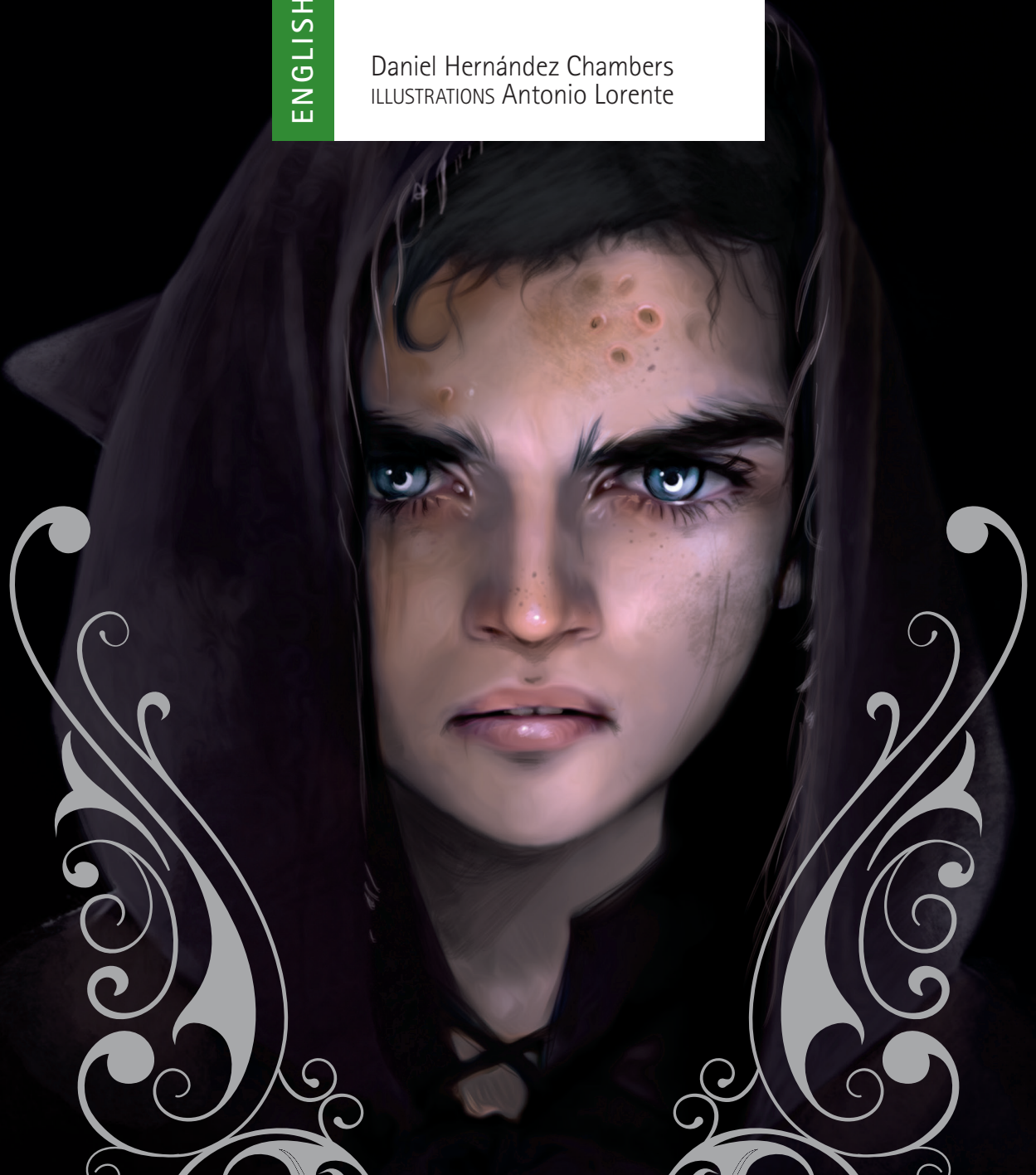
ENGLISH READERS EDELVIVES



EYES OF MIDNIGHT

The Land of Giants

Daniel Hernández Chambers
ILLUSTRATIONS Antonio Lorente



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before reading

- 1 The title of the story is *The Land of Giants*. **Match** the titles of these stories to the authors.

<i>BFG</i>	Gray
<i>The Selfish Giant</i>	Roger Hargreaves
<i>Mr. Noisy and the Giant</i>	Roald Dahl
<i>Daisy and the Trouble with Giants</i>	Caitlyn Friedman
<i>How Do You Feed a Hungry Giant?</i>	Oscar Wilde

- 2 Defense, religion and work were very important during the Middle Ages. **Categorise** these words from this time period.

armour cathedral archery crop stone
labour serf knight monastery jousting
pilgrim faith lord enemy Roman Catholic

work	defense	religion

3 **Fill in** the missing words about serfs in the Middle Ages.

hard serfs allowed mill
force tithe work

On the manor, the people who worked were called _____.
They paid to use the lord's _____ to grind their grain. Serfs
also had to pay a tenth of their crops, called a _____ to the
Church. The serfs were not _____ to leave the land. But, in
return, the lord of the manor could not _____ them to lea-
ve the land either. Serfs generally had a very _____ life and
their children began _____ at an early age.

4 **Find** ten examples in the word search related to the Middle Ages
when the story takes place.

MONARCH FEUDAL CURFEW
PEASANT MONK SQUIRE TOURNAMENT
LADY CHIVALRY JESTER

J	J	E	S	T	E	R	A	F	M
F	A	D	Y	K	T	F	O	C	O
P	E	A	S	A	N	T	E	U	N
E	R	U	Q	Q	S	M	L	R	A
D	I	V	D	U	E	O	A	F	R
M	O	N	K	A	I	N	D	E	C
C	H	I	V	A	L	R	Y	W	H
T	O	S	Q	U	I	R	E	N	T
U	E	T	S	E	J	L	A	F	M
T	O	U	R	N	A	M	E	N	T

before reading

- 5 **Decide** if these sentences about the Middle Ages are true (T) or false (F).

The Middle Ages also overlaps with the beginning of the Renaissance Period.

Ordinary people built their own houses and made their own food.

Farmers were more important than merchants.

The most famous wars of the Middle Ages were called the Crusades.

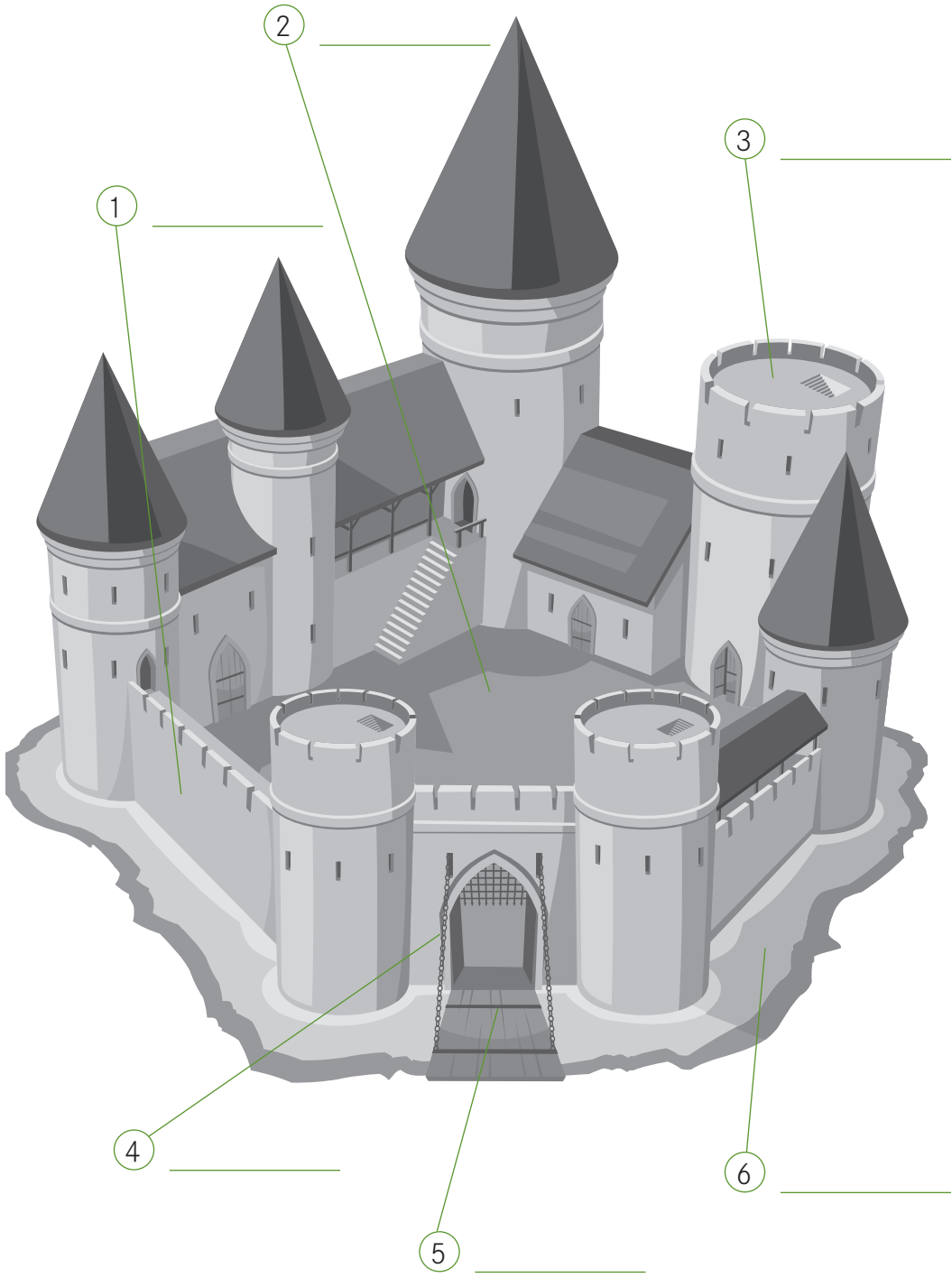
A lord is a military servant of a king.

- 6 **Unjumble** the words in the definitions to discover important technological inventions in the Middle Ages.

1. An instrument for finding direction with a needle that always points north is called a PASM COS _____.
2. Explosive powder used especially in bombs or fireworks is called GOPUWENR _____.
3. The process which converts fibrous material into paper is MPRAEKGPAIN _____.
4. Producing letters, pictures or patterns by pressing a surface covered with ink is called GRIPNTIN _____.
5. A structure with parts that turn round, used to change the power of the wind into electricity is a LINWMDLI _____.
6. A circular device used for measuring the position of stars, and on ships for calculating its position is a ALOBRESTA _____.
7. A space usually filled with glass in the wall of a building to allow light and air in is a OWDINW _____.

7 Label the parts of a medieval castle.

moat bailey drawbridge curtain wall tower walkway



3

Combine these words to describe the amazing object Astok gives Crey.

<input type="text" value="sea-"/>	<input type="text" value="heart"/>
<input type="text" value="glass"/>	<input type="text" value="petals"/>
<input type="text" value="black"/>	<input type="text" value="brooch"/>
<input type="text" value="pointed"/>	<input type="text" value="liquid"/>
<input type="text" value="precious"/>	<input type="text" value="gold"/>
<input type="text" value="small"/>	<input type="text" value="metal"/>

4

Read the next questions about the actions that take place in the first chapters of the book. **Tick** the correct answer.

Who asks Crey to go to Tanmok and give an object to Broelam, the Dreamcatcher?

Ribel Astok Bodessa

Who gives an object to Broelam so that he will free Hroak?

Crey Astok the travellers

Who tries to attack Crey on his journey to Tanmok?

Broelam the travellers the Spirits of Darkness

Who gives Crey a magical sword?

Bodessa Hroak Broelam

Who gives Crey a dagger with a crystal blade?

Hroak Astok a strange figure in a black cape

during reading

- 5 **Rewrite** these sentences. Make them negative where they are positive and positive where they are negative.

No giant can travel alone outside the frontiers of the Heights of Plaxora.

Astok never told me that, he only talked about freeing him.

As soon as his chains come off, he is your responsibility.

Take off the chains!

- 6 **Choose** the correct answer to each question about the story.

Why does Broelam give Crey the silver compass?

- Because Crey loves compasses.
- Because Hroak does not know the way.
- Because he wants to show him the way to the Heights of Plaxora.

How does Hroak get Zafar back from the nomads?

- He offers them entrance into his land so they can buy and sell.
- He threatens to kill them.
- He offers them Crey's crystal dagger.

Why does Ribel say she wants to go to the Heights of Plaxora with Crey and Hroak?

- Because Broelam needs her to go.
- Because she can get the seeds of the Flower of Winter that will cure her brother's sickness.
- Because she has been exiled from Tanmok and has nowhere to go.

Why are the Spirits of Darkness following Crey?

- Because he has the brooch that contains the powerful, black blood of the Storm Lord.
- Because they are Broelam's spies.
- Because they want to murder the giant.

7

Match the sentences about what happened next.

Ribel explains that her brother has dead-fish fever and is covered in scales.

Hroak explains that the woman he loved is in love with her brother.

Crey asks Hroak why he left the Heights of Plaxora.

The earth opens, and the Palace of the Wasted Steps suddenly appears.

Hroak explains that he most powerful magic is made with blood, and the intensity of the blood depends where it comes from.

Crey agrees to take her on the journey to get the seeds of the Flower of Winter.

The compass needle begins to spin round and round.

Crey shows Hroak and Ribel the crystal dagger that Astok had given him for delivering the brooch to Broelam.

8

In your own words, **explain** how the Palace of the Wasted Steps appears suddenly in the forest.

during reading

- 9 **Circle** the correct words in the quotes from these chapters.

'Thunder / Lightning, this is your name!'

'Very well. The girl can take the seeds / swords she needs. Then the two must go.'

'Don't use it unless you really need me. But if you do need my help, blow / step on it three times.'

'Those two little giants / people have come to spy on us!'

'But Broelam always wants more – so that is how he has his little army of helpers / robbers, like me.'

- 10 **Find** words related to the Pagan elf and the mysterious Palace of the Wasted Steps which match these definitions.

coat of arms passage
exasperation arch enigmatically
roar trespass

- In a mysterious way that is difficult to understand _____.
- The feeling of being extremely annoyed, especially because you cannot do anything to improve a situation _____.
- To enter land that you do not have permission to enter _____.
- To make a very loud, deep sound _____.
- A curved structure that supports the weight of something above it, such as a bridge _____.
- An emblem belonging to a noble family _____.
- A usually long and narrow part of a building with rooms on one or both sides, or a covered path that connects places _____.

11

Do you **remember** why Ribel hits Crey with a stick, robs him and steals his horse Zafar?

12

Fill in the spaces with the correct verb in the correct form.

From time to time we (find) _____ small rivers running down to the valley filled with cool fresh water that we drank thankfully.

There were no more green trees and the ones that still grew were small and twisted by the winds and the terrible winters that (inflict) _____ the region.

Suddenly, Astok (trip) _____ over a rock and fell to the ground.

He wasn't smiling, but he quickly (wink) _____ at us.

I asked him why the other men had attacked him and he said that they had simply chosen him because he looked easy to (intimidate) _____ and rob.

One of the Elders (cough) _____ to get our attention, and spoke in a serious voice.

The water (shine) _____ as if there was a white fire at the bottom of the lake.

I was an ant and he was going to (squash) _____ me with his massive foot.

Motan (relax) _____ his hold a little and turned to face the new arrival.

during reading

13 **Order** the events describing how Crey retrieves the brooch and the crystal dagger.

- Broelam enters with his servant and Ribel who is crying.
- The third spirit injures Broelam and takes the brooch from him.
- Broelam proclaims he wants to make Maitrep his slave and rule the world.
- Broelam gives Crey the dagger and dies.
- The Spirits of Darkness fly in, kill Broelam's servant and demand the brooch.
- Crey enters Broelam's house through the window Ribel leaves open for him.
- Ribel and Tikel say goodbye to Crey.
- Crey rides away on his horse.
- Two spirits begin to attack Crey and he fights them with Lightning one at a time, making them disappear.
- The third spirit almost kills Crey, but he is saved by Ribel's torch.

14 **Finish** the sentences.

Crey has a plan to _____.

Crey takes back the dagger by _____.

He needs Ribel to help him enter by _____.

He believes she can help him defeat _____.

Broelam tells Crey that Maitrep will guide him to his tomb so that _____.

Ribel has enough medicine to cure her brother and for this tells Crey that _____.

15

Correct the seven mistakes about Crey's fight with the Spirits of Darkness.

my sword balance
 attack counterattacks feet
 strength swords

Our **bodies** _____ clashed again and again. Sparks flew from **the brooch** _____ and smoke came from the Spirit's sword. Sometimes I had the initiative and attacked with all my **heart** _____, and at other times the Spirit was in control and pushed me back with its **smoke** _____. At one moment, when I was being pushed backwards and couldn't see where I was putting my feet, I fell over Broelam's body and lost my **speed** _____. Lightning only just saved me from the next attack, and I ended up on the floor at the Dreamcatcher's **heart** _____. The Spirit, standing over me, lifted its sword, ready to end my life with one final **kiss** _____.

16

Underline the correct form of the verb.

- Ribel *has left / left* the window open for Crey so he could enter Broelam's house.
- Broelam *want / wanted* to bring the Storm Lord back to life and rule the world.
- The slaves of the Storm Lord, the Spirits of Darkness, believed they *owns / owned* the world.
- Crey *protected / had protected* the dagger and defeated the Spirits of Darkness.
- Tikel's body *was / has been* half covered in grey fish scales.

after reading

- 1 There were many special instruments in the Middle Ages. **Match** each instrument with its picture.

recorder bagpipe dulcimer mandolin harp



- 2 There is an unusual forest elf in the story. **Match** these famous creatures with their stories.

Banshees

Vampires

Satyrs and fauns

Phoenix

Minotaur

Cyclops

The Banshee: The Irish Death Messenger

The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe

Twilight

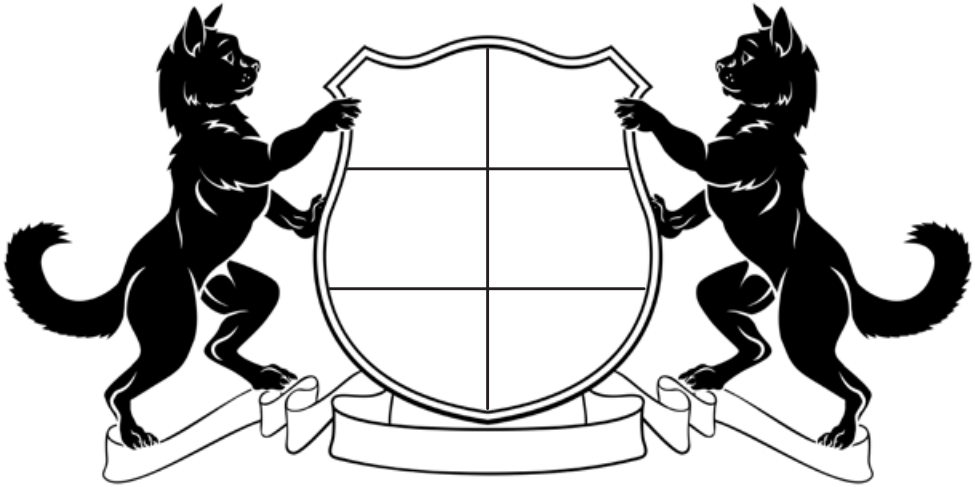
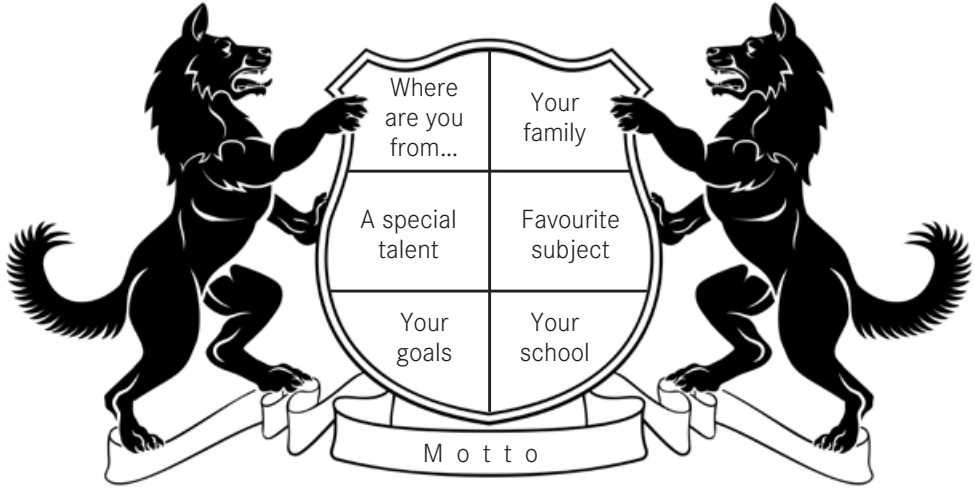
Inferno

The Odyssey

Carpe Jugulum

3

Coats of arms were used for public showing and tracing family heritage. **Draw** your own family coat of arms. Use the image as a model.



4

The Palace of the Wasted Steps contained beautiful portraits of the Crabaltean family. **Choose** the right word for each sentence about these famous portraits and artists.

Girl with a Pearl Earring was initially named *Girl with a Turban / Hat*.

Andy Warhol is famous for *impressionism / pop art*.

Gustav Klimt's *The Kiss* is a type of *oil painting / fresco*.

American Gothic by Grant Wood is inspired by a 19th-century *farmhouse / castle*.

after reading

- 5 **Draw** a picture of your favourite character or scene from the story.



- 6 **Unjumble** these places with stories about giants.

A lion-faced giant guards the Cedar forest in the Epic of Gilgamesh. AMSOTAMOPEI _____.

Jack and the Beanstalk is a very popular folktale about a giant. DALGENN _____.

Stonehenge was originally brought to England by giants from this country. CAFRIA _____.

Atlas is the giant who holds up the sky in this mythology. RECEGE _____.

The biblical giant Goliath and his opponent David are from this Country. REASLI _____.