

## CHAPTER 3

We got to the capital safely. I had my gun and sword.  
A group of men came with us.

“Marshal Strakencz and the Chancellor of the kingdom,”  
**whispered** the colonel.

We rode to the cathedral through the city. Some part of the city was old. The houses had red flags on them. People lined the streets. Some sat on the side of the road. Others stood on balconies. They waved their handkerchiefs. Some threw red roses. Antoinette de Mauban was on one of the balconies.

We left the king’s **quarter** of the city and rode into the duke’s quarter. I rode fifty yards ahead of the group. I rode down a dark street.

**whisper** (v) to speak softly so others cannot hear you  
**quarter** (n) part of a city



*Antoinette de Mauban was on one of the balconies.*

An old cook shouted, “His hair is red. He’s the Prince!”

I laughed and took off my helmet. My red hair shone. The people cheered. We got to the cathedral. The cardinal sat on his throne.

Black Michael stood next to the princess. Michael was surprised to see me. They crowned me King Rudolf V of Ruritania. The cardinal gave me a letter from the Pope. Princess Flavia **curtsied** to me.

Black Michael started shaking. Every noble in the kingdom bowed and curtsied to me. We went back through the city. I was in a carriage with Princess Flavia.

“And when’s the wedding?” a man in the crowd asked.

“Did you notice Michael?” the princess asked.

“Yes,” I said.

“Be careful! You need to watch him,” she said.

“I know,” I said.

“Yes. Hush!” she said.

**curtsy** (n) an act of respect and greeting made by women

**curtsy** (v) to make a curtsy

After the **feast** at the palace, Fritz and the colonel came to see me. We sat in the king's dressing room.

"Michael has some news from Zenda," Fritz said.

"Then we must go," I said.

The colonel wrote a **fake** order from the king.

"We can get out of the city with this order," said the colonel.

"The king is not well and is resting in his bed. No one should wake him until 9 o'clock in the morning, Fritz," the colonel said.

"I understand. I will lie to Michael," answered Fritz.

"That will make Michael angry," said the colonel.

We rode out of the city. We heard two horses behind us. We reached the forest of Zenda.

The colonel and I got off our horses and hid.

Black Michael and a man rode by.

"Which way?" asked Black Michael.

"To the castle, your Highness," replied the man.

We rode to the lodge. There were torn handkerchiefs outside. The old woman wasn't there. We went into the cellar. Josef, the Prince's servant, was dead and the Prince was gone.

**feast** (n) a large meal

**fake** (adj) not genuine, not real



*The colonel and I got off our horses and hid.  
Black Michael and a man rode by.*

# GRAMMAR CHECK

## Test-1

**Choose the best answer.**

---

- I left Paris ..... a train to Dresden.  
a) in                      b) on                      c) at
- He slipped ..... a banana skin yesterday.  
a) on                      b) in                      c) about
- They went to the castle ..... night.  
a) in                      b) on                      c) at
- Johann was scared ..... Black Michael.  
a) above                b) of                      c) with
- Everybody was there ..... Mike.  
a) except                b) on                      c) in
- She was in love ..... him.  
a) at                      b) with                    c) on
- He has information ..... us about a plot.  
a) for                      b) with                    c) about
- Fritz was worried ..... the king.  
a) in                      b) over                    c) about

## Test-2

**Put these words in the correct order so that the sentences make sense.**

---

1. save / king / wanted / I / to / the

.....

2. use / he / can / sword / a

.....

3. him / the / they / castle / took / to

.....

4. see / Johann / came / breakfast / to / me / at

.....

5. the / they / king / drugged

.....

6. throne / his / the / cardinal / sat / on

.....

7. about / the / colonel / duties / told / me / my

.....

8. tried / they / shoot / to / me

.....

9. forest / castle / behind / there / was / a / the

.....

10. telegram / send / I / will / her / a

.....

# VOCABULARY CHECK

## Test-1

### Choose the best answer.

---

1. My son passed the exam. I am so .....  
a. upset                      b. glad                      c. shy
2. The king gave the ..... to attack the enemy.  
a. news                      b. ladder                      c. order
3. Fighting with weapons between two people is called .....  
a. duelling                      b. rowing                      c. bowing
4. He studies abroad but he calls his mum ..... every day.  
a. suddenly                      b. nearly                      c. completely
5. She asked him to apologize but he .....  
a. refused                      b. accepted                      c. wanted
6. I don't ..... him because he doesn't keep his promise.  
a. fight                      b. hit                      c. trust
7. Their ..... to kill the president didn't work.  
a. gift                      b. plot                      c. relation
8. She likes this hotel so much and she ..... it on her own.  
a. runs                      b. stays                      c. escapes
9. The thieves ..... before the police arrived.  
a. chased                      b. confused                      c. escaped
10. The cat got stuck up the tree. I used a ..... to get her down.  
a. ladder                      b. latch                      c. crown

## Test-2

**Match the definitions (1-10) on the right with the words (a-j) on the left.**

---

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| a. ___ glad       | 1. a clever plan to catch somebody           |
| b. ___ outlaw     | 2. to speak softly so others cannot hear you |
| c. ___ coronation | 3. a high ranking officer in the army        |
| d. ___ trap       | 4. to answer                                 |
| e. ___ whisper    | 5. crowning event or ceremony                |
| f. ___ nearly     | 6. happy, pleased                            |
| g. ___ colonel    | 7. to follow                                 |
| h. ___ reply      | 8. to arrive at                              |
| i. ___ chase      | 9. to make something illegal or unlawful     |
| j. ___ reach      | 10. almost                                   |