

Example text: Science fiction narrative

A Project in Time

“Bzz...bzzz...bzzz.”

“Whazzup?” mumbled Alpha.

“Good morning, Alpha.”

A holographic image appeared standing over Alpha’s desk. It was Alpha’s teacher, or at least he looked like Alpha’s teacher – the one he had on Earth before he was forced to go on an intergalactic fact finding mission with his father.

“Morning, Tech. What’s on for today?” asked Alpha, trying to smooth down his bad case of bed hair.

“Today you are starting your new history project. You are to research the primitive technology of the year 2010.”

“Hold on! They didn’t have particle re-entry or fission communications back then.”

“No, but they did have other, earlier forms of basic technology. After all, it is a HISTORY project. But don’t worry too much; your father has agreed to establish a mind-link with a boy named Nick. He is about your age, at school in the year 2010. He’ll guide you through the gadgetry of the past.”

“Great – just what I need,” moaned Alpha without much enthusiasm.

He loved computers and technology, but he hated history, especially really old history!

“Just be careful Alpha,” warned Tech. “We are using the new time-bender radiation lamp, so watch what you do, and don’t get personally involved. Observe and learn.”

“Yeah, yeah, yeah.”

There was a slight tingling feeling as Alpha hooked himself up to the time bender. He looked as if he had a rather ugly octopus attached to his head, as its multicoloured tentacles dangled over his face.

“The things I do for homework!”

ZAP!

“Come on Nick!” yelled Mum. “You’re going to be late – again.”

“Where are you going?” a disembodied voice sounded in Nick’s head.

“I’m supposed to be going to school,” replied Nick out loud.

“Well then get going!” urged Mum. “And please, remember to take your computer thingy this time. I am too busy today to take it up later.”

“That’s what I need!” yelled Alpha.

“No, that’s what I need,” replied Nick.

“I know you need it!” said Mum getting frustrated. “But you also need to get to school. So scram!”

Nick started to hesitate, but Alpha, ignoring Tech’s advice, gave him a thought push through the time bender. “GO!”