Toy Story 3, the third and final film in the series that began with Toy Story in 1995 and continued in 1999 with Toy Story 2, recently arrived in cinemas in dozens of countries around the world. It has already been a success. In the United States, for example, it has already taken more money at the box office than any other film in 2010. Worldwide, Alice in Wonderland is the only film that more people have paid to watch at the cinema so far in 2010.

Like the first two films, Toy Story 3 is an animation from the Pixar studios, whose other films include Finding Nemo (2003), Wall-E (2008) and Up (2009). It is a typical Pixar animation because it is for adults as well as children, and has a lot of humour. Most of the main characters in the first two films were children’s toys that come to life when humans are not around, and in Toy Story 3 all of them are present again – such as Woody the cowboy, Jessie the cowgirl, Buzz Lightyear the astronaut, Slinky Dog, Hamm the piggy bank, and the dolls Ken and Barbie.

The voices of most of the toys are also mostly the same as before: Woody’s, for example, is again provided by the famous American actor Tom Hanks. The main human character in the Toy Story films is Andy, the owner of most of the toys. He was a small boy in the first film, but now he is 17 and about to leave home to go to university. In fact, the theme of growing up, and the end of childhood, provides a lot of the emotion in the film.

Andy decides to take Woody with him to university but to put all his other old toys in a bag, intending to keep them in the attic. Unfortunately, however, Andy’s mother mistakes the bag for rubbish and puts it out on the street to be collected – and that’s where the toys’ adventure begins. Soon they have a new home, where they have various problems, and later it seems they are going to be destroyed. This isn’t the place to say exactly what happens, but anyone worried about taking small children to the film in case they get upset should remember that Pixar stories don’t usually have unhappy endings.
**Toy Story 3**

**Exercise 1**
Here are some simple definitions for words that appear in the text on Worksheet A. Find the words they refer to and fill in the gaps.

1. ___ ___ h ___ d (noun): the time of your life when you are a child

2. Someone or something that is ___ ___ ica ___ (adjective) is like most people or things of the same type.

3. If you m ___ st ___ someone/thing f ___ someone/something (phrasal verb), you think, wrongly, that someone/something is someone/something else.

4. w ___ r ___ d ___ e (adjective/adverb): all over the world

5. o _ l (noun): a children’s toy in the shape of a small person

6. a _ o ___ d (adverb): in the same place or area; nearby

7. s ___ r ___ s (noun): a set of TV or radio programmes, or films, that are about the same subject, or the same characters

8. b ___ ff ___ e (noun): the place in a theatre or cinema where people buy tickets. The name of this place is also often used to say how many tickets a play or film has sold in total.

9. p ___ gg ___ k (noun): an object (sometimes in the shape of a pig) used by children for saving money in

10. pr ___ d ___ (verb): to give someone something that they want or need

11. When you n ___ nd (verb) to do something, you have decided to do it but have not done it yet.

12. c ___ o ___ l ___ e (phrase): to start to be alive

13. a _ t ___ (noun): a room at the top of a house, under the roof

14. If something is yours, you are the o ___ er (noun) of that thing.

15. ___ ___ our (noun): the quality that makes something (e.g. a situation, or a story) funny
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Exercise 2
Complete the crossword below. If all the words are correct, another type of toy in the Toy Story films will read from top to bottom. (Clue: this character is big and green, and its name is Rex.)

1. Most Pixar animations have happy ___________.
2. Tom Hanks provides the ___________ of Woody the cowboy.
3. It has recently been possible to see Toy Story 3 at the cinema in ___________ of countries.
4. The ___________ of most of the toys in the Toy Story films is Andy.
5. The toy Hamm is in the ___________ of a pig.
6. Like Woody the cowboy, Buzz Lightyear the astronaut is a ___________ in all three Toy Story films.
7. The text suggests that small children might become ___________ if they watch a film with an unhappy ending.
8. There are ___________ films in the Toy Story series.