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# Preface

This anthology of non-fiction texts is intended for students of English at all levels of the Danish gymnasium and HF and Handelsskolen from level III. In difficulty the texts range from medium to difficult, however as most of the texts are short, and as all of them have been thoroughly glossed, the anthology can be used after the first term of HF faellesfag and 1.9. We have chosen a wide variety of texts - newspaper articles, editorials, political cartoons, photos, interviews, selections from official government publications, and excerpts from magazine articles and books.

Each text is glossed on the page and followed by "Working Suggestions". These suggestions focus attention on specific points of the texts, and are meant to encourage a critical approach to the reading of non-fiction. Each chapter has one or more translation passages relevant to its subject. Some of them have been specially constructed, others are excerpts from authentic Danish texts. At the end of the book there is a list of "Suggestions for Discussion and Written Work", which covers all the chapters.

The Mushroom Cloud and the Downwinders provides a chronological summary of events from the first nuclear detonation at the Nevada Test Site in 1951 to the present. First-hand accounts of downwinders and soldiers describe the awesome power of the blasts. Texts deal with the government's disregard of the dangers of radioactive fallout, the endorsement of the testing program by the press, the support of the American public during the cold war years, and with current legislation and court cases involving downwinders and atomic veterans.

Radiation is a topic which concerns all of us. Since the beginning of the nuclear age there have been more than 1,400 nuclear detonations by six countries around the world. We are all downwinders.

Vejby and Las Vegas  
October 1987  
Gurli Pendergrass  
Lorelle Nelson

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