

Hard Times for the Time Trippers

时空旅者之艰难时世



Maria Jack
Ian Lister

Mc
Graw
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Intermediate

B2 Vantage



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Glossary with Vocabulary Activities



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Words

I Match the various sections of this book to the purpose that each part serves.

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| 1) Contents | a) information and activities about themes connected with the story |
| 2) Before reading | b) pictures of places in the story with connected activities |
| 3) After reading | c) where you can find the words you don't know with additional activities |
| 4) Settings | d) exercises that introduce a chapter |
| 5) About the Story | e) a list of the twelve chapters of the story and the extra activities |
| 6) Not only glossary | f) exercises about a chapter and the language used in it |

CHAPTER 1

A Desperate Decision

"I t isn't true! It can't be true!"
Matt Johnson woke up suddenly. It was that nightmare again: it's the last day at Newbridge Middle School before the holidays. He comes home. His parents aren't there. There's a note on the table.

"Dear Matt, We'll be home soon, with a surprise for you! Mom and Dad."
He remembers what the surprise was – a summer holiday in California. In the next scene in his dream the police arrive. They tell Matt about the car accident. His parents are dead. Matt feels ill. The room is spinning. He falls to the floor semi-conscious. The dream switches to the funeral, then the journey to Greenwood to live with his Grandma.

B ut this time, when he woke up, Matt remembered a strange detail in the nightmare. When he was semi-conscious, there was a face near him, a pretty girl's face, Linda's face. But surely that wasn't possible.

Pictures

2 Look at the picture of Matt and Linda, the two protagonists of the story, then use these words to complete the sentences.

He's His She's Her They're

- 1) _____ tall and dark.
- 2) _____ friends.
- 3) _____ favourite sport is swimming.
- 4) _____ fair and slim.
- 5) _____ favourite sport is soccer.



He didn't know Linda then. They became friends in Greenwood, after the accident. He smiles as he remembers their incredible adventures together, traveling back in time, first to the Middle Ages and then to the Wild West. After he met Linda he was happy and his nightmares stopped. But now they are back.

"I must do something!" Matt whispers to himself desperately.

"I 'm home!"

Linda Chapman came happily into the house after a Saturday afternoon at the swimming pool. Her mother was by the telephone. She *wasn't* happy.

"What's wrong, Mom?" asked Linda.

"That was your father on the phone. He wants to see you tomorrow, for your birthday. Why didn't he tell me before? Now I've got everything ready for your party, but if he wants to see you, I can't stop him."

"Oh, Mom!" said Linda unhappily. "I want to stay here with you, Matt and my friends. Dad's always tired and irritated."

"It's his work, Linda, you know how important *that* is for him." Linda's mother smiled sadly.

"Don't worry, dear, I'll think of a solution to please everybody. Oh, Linda, Matt's here. He's in your room working on your computer."

Linda smiled. She ran upstairs to see her best friend – but Matt wasn't there!

On the computer screen were the words "ERROR - VIRUS". Then she saw a note on her bed. It was Matt's writing.



Dear Linda, If you are reading this note, then there are two possibilities:

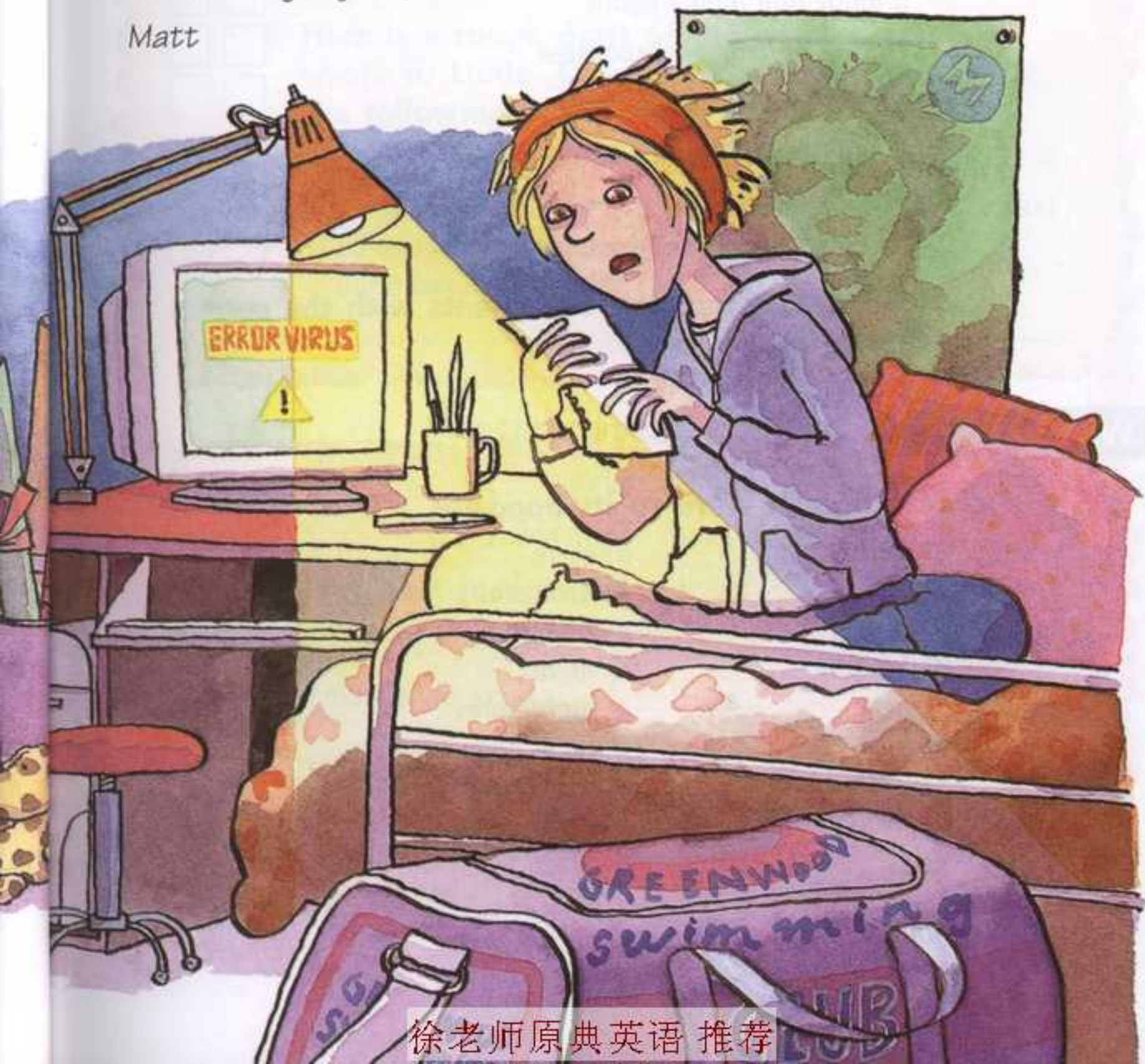
1 – something went wrong.

2 – my plan worked.

What plan, you're asking yourself? It's something I must do – I want to try to save my Mom and Dad, so I'm using the Time Trippers software to go back to Newbridge to the day before their accident. I know Mr Wells says we can't change the past, but we have this secret possibility to travel in time using the computer and I must discover if I can change my parents' destiny. I miss them so much, Linda. If it works, or if something goes wrong, I don't know if you and I will see each other again. But I think we will, because before I met you in Greenwood I'm sure I already knew you – your face was already in my dreams.

I'll never forget you, Linda.

Matt





A Desperate Decision

The story so far

3 True or false? Indicate T or F.

- | | T | F |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1) Matt went to Florida for a summer holiday. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 2) Matt lives with his grandmother now. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 3) Matt was happy when he arrived in Greenwood. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 4) Matt and Linda had an adventure in Roman times. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 5) Matt and Linda went to America during one adventure. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 6) Linda's friendship was good for Matt because it made him happy again. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 7) Linda's parents are separated. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 8) It's Linda's birthday today. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 9) Linda's dad thinks his family is more important than his work. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 10) Linda's mom doesn't know Matt. | ☐ | ☐ |

Now rewrite the false statements with the correct information.

Words

4 Match each word to its opposite.

- | | |
|-------------|---------------|
| 1) dark | a) there |
| 2) day | b) downstairs |
| 3) dreams | c) present |
| 4) happily | d) night |
| 5) here | e) nightmares |
| 6) past | f) light |
| 7) upstairs | g) sadly |
| 8) dead | h) well |
| 9) ill | i) alive |

Language

5 Match the beginning of each sentence to the correct ending.

- 1) If Matt goes to sleep...
 - 2) If Linda goes to see her father...
 - 3) If Matt saves his parents...
 - 4) If Matt changes the past...
 - 5) If there's a virus in the computer...
- a) ... he will change the past.
 - b) ... it can cause errors.
 - c) ... he has a terrible nightmare.
 - d) ... she will have an unhappy birthday.
 - e) ... the present will change too.

FIRST CONDITIONAL

*If he wants to see you, I can't stop him.
If something goes wrong, I don't know
if we'll see each other again.*

Check your comprehension

6 Here is a rough draft of the letter that Matt wrote to Linda. Complete the letter by writing the following sentences in the gaps.

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1) but I want to try | 4) So you found my note |
| 2) my plan didn't work | 5) I want to stop the accident |
| 3) I'll always remember | 6) Goodbye |
| our adventures together | 7) you're thinking |

Dear Linda,

_____! Then there are 2 possibilities:

1 - _____; 2 - my plan worked. What plan,

_____? It's something I must do - _____

so I'm going back to Newbridge. I know Mr Wells says we
can't change the past, _____.

If something goes wrong, _____.

_____, Linda.

Matt



Words

1 Tick the words that are related to computers.

☐ chaos

☐ software

☐ cake

☐ mouse

☐ e-mail

☐ fog

☐ screen

☐ PC

☐ inventor

☐ virus

CHAPTER 2

A Dangerous Idea

"Oh, Matt!" said Linda unhappily. "Why didn't you ask for my help?" Suddenly she heard a horrible laugh. It came from the computer!

Linda looked at the screen. The words "ERROR – VIRUS" now flashed red and black. "Oh no!" thought Linda. "If there's a virus, perhaps Matt will need my help!"

She moved the mouse and an e-mail message appeared, accompanied by the same nasty laugh:

You like Johnson more than me but now you can't use the computer together any more – ha ha! Johnny

"Johnny Briggs!" thought Linda angrily. "He's so spiteful! I know he's jealous because Matt is my friend but this is a terrible thing to do! If the virus was already in the computer when Matt used it, who knows where and *when* he is now?"

"Mom, er... I... left my jacket at the pool!" shouted Linda, running out of the house. But she didn't go to the swimming pool. In a few minutes she was at Mr Wells' house. Mr Wells was not only her History teacher at Greenwood Middle School,

Check your comprehension

- 2 A computer has changed some of the letters in an e-mail that Linda received from Mr Wells. Which letters are incorrectly replaced by others?

Linba,

Afper 2 abvenpures in phe tasp, you and Mapp trodadly
wanp po use phe pime pravel sofppure, dup tlease de
carefull Rememder, you musp nop change phe tasp!



he was also the inventor of the computer Time Travel software.

"Tut, tut! This is a very complicated affair," said Mr Wells, with a serious expression on his face. "I've told you and Matt many times, we *can't* change the past, it's too dangerous. If we modify one single event in the past there can be a chain reaction and everything can change. I travelled to the Wild West to observe the Native Americans, not to change history. I can understand Matt's feelings, but what is done is done. Can you imagine a world dominated by those dictators from history who were defeated by destiny?"

"Well, what can we do?" asked Linda, desperately. "We don't know if Matt arrived in Newbridge at the time he wanted or not. But if he is there, we must stop him!"

Mr Wells went out of the room and came back with his portable PC.

"There's no time to lose! We must protect the past!"

He started to type the co-ordinates for Newbridge. "When was the accident?" he asked.

"July the 20th," Linda replied. "But what are you doing?"

"I'm going to stop Matt before he causes chaos!"

"Wait! I'll go," said Linda with determination. "I can convince him to abandon his idea, *if* he's in Newbridge at the right time. If he isn't, then he needs *your* help. You must repair my computer and discover what place and century he's in.

Where's your phone?"

Mr Wells indicated the telephone on his desk.

Linda rang home.

"Mom! It's me. I didn't find my jacket but I found Mr Wells. I told him that I've got a problem with my computer and he's coming to look at it. Is that okay? Oh, and Mom, you remember that Mr Wells loves your chocolate cake. Well, there's still a piece of yesterday's cake in the fridge, isn't there? Great! See you later!"

“Well, my decisive young friend,” said Mr Wells, sweetened by the idea of Mrs Chapman’s chocolate cake. “Let’s go, there’s not a minute to lose.”

It was night and a strange, dense fog covered everything. Matt couldn’t distinguish the buildings around him very well, but he was sure he was in Newbridge. The fog irritated his throat and eyes, but he was more worried about the time. “I programmed the computer for the morning of July 20th,” he thought anxiously. “I hope I’m not too late.”





A Dangerous Idea

Characters

3 What must each of the following characters from chapter 2 do? Match the beginning of each sentence with the correct ending.

- 1) Linda must...
 - 2) Mr Wells must...
 - 3) Matt must...
 - 4) Mrs Chapman must...
 - 5) Johnny must...
-
- a) ... look at Linda's computer.
 - b) ... take the chocolate cake out of the fridge.
 - c) ... find Matt in the past.
 - d) ... stop sending nasty e-mails.
 - e) ... find the right street in Newbridge.

The story so far

4 Put the sentences in the correct order.

- ☐ Mr Wells went to Linda's house.
- ☐ Linda discovered the virus.
- ☐ Linda told Mr Wells about Matt's intentions.
- ☐ Johnny sent Linda a virus.
- ☐ Mr Wells wanted to stop Matt.
- ☐ Matt decided to try and save his parents.
- ☐ Linda decided to convince Matt to return.
- ☐ Linda went to see Mr Wells.
- ☐ Linda phoned home.
- ☐ Matt used the software to travel back in time.
- ☐ Linda received an e-mail from Johnny.

Language

5 Match the two parts of each question, then match each question to its corresponding answer (I-V).

- | | |
|-------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1) Why... | a) is Linda's birthday? |
| 2) Who... | b) does Matt return to the past? |
| 3) When... | c) can Matt and Linda travel in time? |
| 4) Where... | d) sent Linda a virus? |
| 5) How... | e) did Matt live before the accident? |

- I) In Newbridge
II) Tomorrow
III) To save his parents
IV) By computer
V) Johnny Briggs

Who knows *where* and *when* he is now?

Beyond the story

6 Match each cause (1-7) to its possible effect (a-g).

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1) no steam engine | a) happy dinosaurs |
| 2) no electricity | b) less oppression |
| 3) no Ice Age | c) more infections |
| 4) no paper | d) no wars |
| 5) no penicillin | e) no computers |
| 6) no dictators | f) no Industrial Revolution |
| 7) no arms | g) no books |

Pictures

7 Look at the picture of Mr Wells' study, page 11. Which of the following objects and people can you see?

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ bookcases | ☐ sofa |
| ☐ Johnny's e-mail | ☐ Einstein |
| ☐ old books | ☐ Matt's letter |
| ☐ comics | ☐ History teacher |
| ☐ medieval hat | ☐ native American costume |



Words

I Match the basic form of each verb to its form in the simple past.

1) can

2) fall

3) hide

4) keep

5) run

6) stand

7) think

a) hid

b) stood

c) ran

d) thought

e) fell

f) kept

g) could

CHAPTER 3

A Crazy Situation

"Stephenson Avenue, Newbridge, July 19th, 8.30 a.m.
That gives me time to find Matt first and stop him."

Linda gave Mr Wells the information to put into his portable computer.

"Okay, it's ready," said her teacher, with great emotion in his voice.

"Good luck, Linda. I'll try to repair your PC, but the preservation of the past is in your hands!"

There was the image of a rotating hour-glass on the screen of Mr Wells' computer. Linda sat down in front of it and looked around her room.

"Goodbye, Mr Wells. I hope I'll be home soon, *with Matt*." She pressed ENTER and disappeared in a flash of white light.

BEEEEEP! Linda was in the middle of the road and there was a car coming! She fell and the car stopped centimeters from her and the portable computer.

"Phew! That was close," she thought.

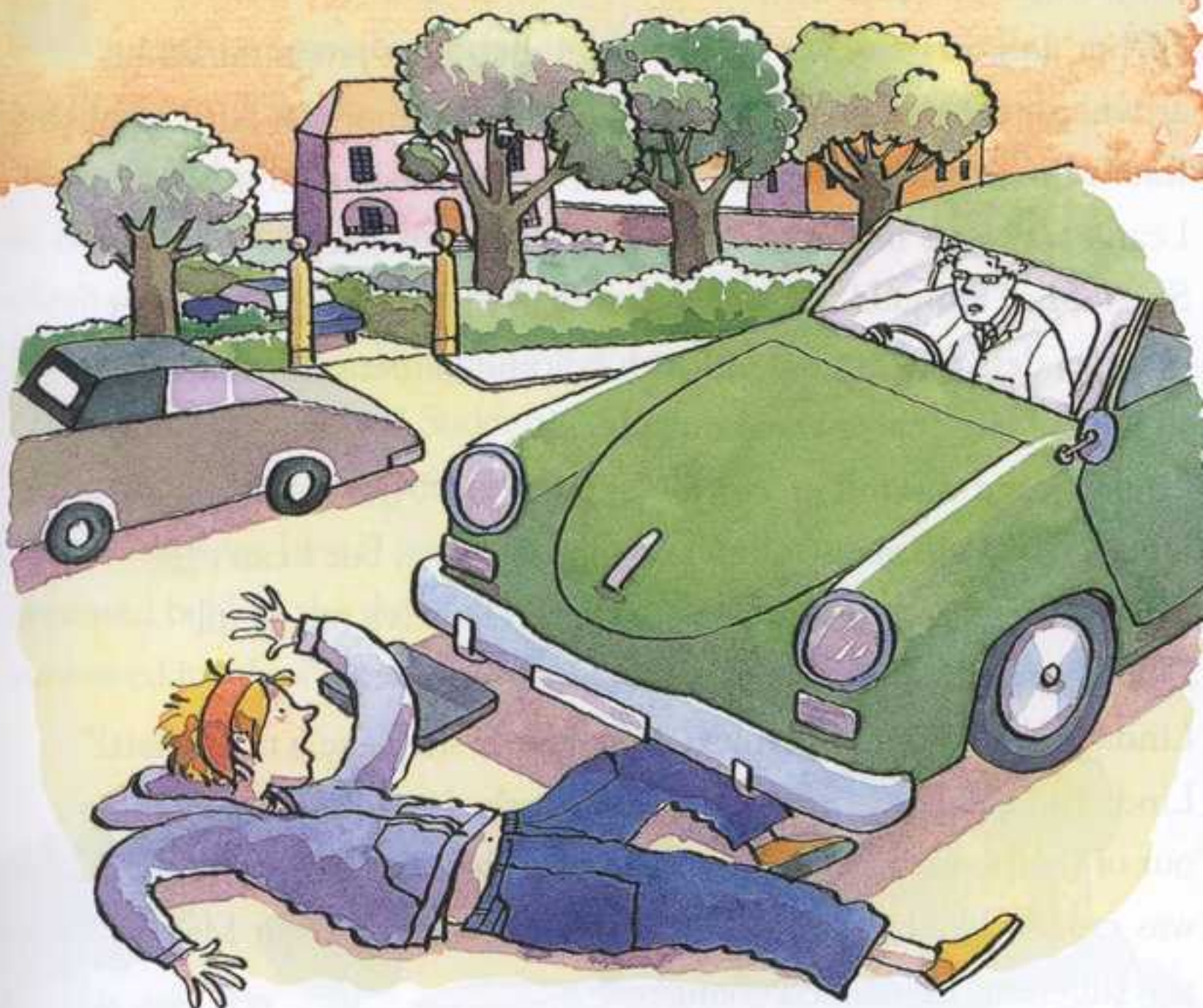
"Are you okay? Where did *you* come from?" said the driver, worried.

He helped Linda to stand up and was happy to see she wasn't hurt.

Linda stared at the man. She recognized his kind face from photographs

2 Use appropriate verbs from exercise 1 to complete the following sentences.

- 1) Matt _____ that he was in Newbridge.
- 2) Linda _____ upstairs to see Matt.
- 3) Mrs Chapman _____ Linda's birthday present under the bed.
- 4) Mr Wells _____ a Native American costume in his study.
- 5) Johnny Briggs _____ send a virus to his enemies.



and she thought that he looked like her best friend – it was Matt's dad!

"I'm sorry, Mr John... er... I mean, Sir." Linda corrected herself but the man looked at her and the PC curiously.

"How do you know my name?" he asked, surprised.

"I... I'm a friend of Matt's," replied Linda, embarrassed.

"Oh!" Mr Johnson smiled. "Matt never told me about you. What's your name?"

"Linda," said Linda, and thinking quickly she added, "I mustn't miss my bus. Bye!"

Matt's dad watched in surprise as Linda ran off in the opposite direction from the bus stop!

This is crazy!" thought Linda. "What a coincidence!"

She stopped running and when she looked back she saw Mr Johnson drive away.

"What do I do now? Mr Wells thinks that Matt programmed his arrival for the day of the accident, which is tomorrow, but I want to watch the house in case he arrives today. But what about tonight? I can't stay here in the street, I need a place to sleep."

She looked around. She was in a typical English suburban street of large, detached houses, all with colorful gardens in front of them and large cars parked outside.

Linda's mind was full of worries and doubts. "And if Matt doesn't arrive? Mr Wells said we can't change the past, but I can't let Matt's parents die in that accident tomorrow. It's too awful. I must warn them."

Linda looked around, perplexed. Suddenly she gave a cry, "Matt!" Linda hid quickly behind a black car parked on the road. Coming out of the house opposite were Matt and his mother. Matt's mom was exactly like her pictures in Matt's photo album, but Matt was different, he seemed younger.

"Of course!" thought Linda. "That's Matt *before* I knew him!" She watched as they got into a car and smiled, "He must be late for school, as usual. But what am I saying? This is crazy – what's going to happen if the two Matts meet?"

As Matt's mom's car went down the street, the black car in front of Linda started to move. She jumped to her feet with fright. Inside were two men in black with dark glasses. They looked at her suspiciously and the electric window came down.

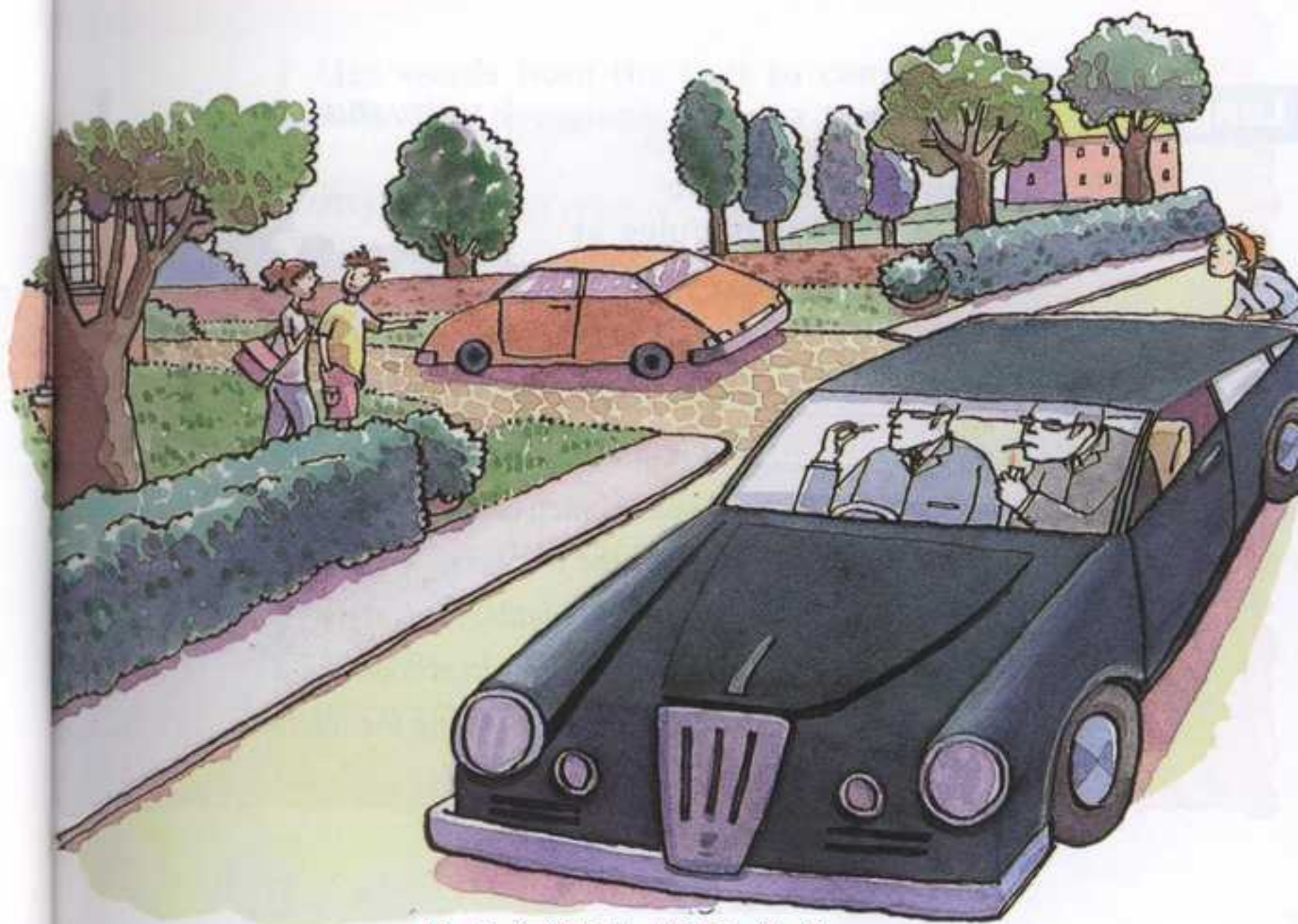
"Hello, er... I... dropped my computer," stammered Linda. "Emm... can you tell me if there's a youth hostel near here?"

But the men didn't speak, the window went up and they drove away.

"How strange! What do they want, I wonder?" thought Linda.

This is stupid!" thought Matt. "I'm certainly in Newbridge, I recognize some buildings and I know I'm near home, but in this fog I'm lost." Then he heard a church bell ringing: it was midnight. "I know that bell! It's St. Thomas' Church. Across the park and I'm home." In the dense fog Matt couldn't find the park gate and decided to climb over the wall. "I can't remember seeing fog like this in Newbridge," he thought, jumping down into the gardens. "Something isn't right." Suddenly an enormous black dog ran out of the fog and blocked Matt's way.

"What have we here?" said a voice, and a tall man with a large gun appeared behind the dog. "A young thief on the master's property," he continued in a low, menacing voice. "It's the workhouse for you, my boy!"





A Crazy Situation

Words

3 Match each expression from the first column to a statement from the second column.

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1) Good luck! | a) That dog almost attacked me! |
| 2) That was close! | b) It looks like a secret passage. |
| 3) I'm sorry! | c) I'm sure you'll pass your exam. |
| 4) What a coincidence! | d) I've broken a glass. |
| 5) What have we here? | e) We've got the same shoes! |

4 Match each word from the first column to a related word from the second column.

- | | |
|-------------|-----------|
| 1) dog | a) screen |
| 2) bus | b) park |
| 3) church | c) album |
| 4) computer | d) leash |
| 5) flash | e) light |
| 6) garden | f) stop |
| 7) photo | g) gate |
| 8) car | h) bell |

Language

5 Use *must* or *mustn't* to complete the list of rules at Greenwood Middle School.

MUST / MUSTN'T

*I mustn't miss my bus.
I must warn them.*

- 1) You _____ wear a school uniform.
- 2) You _____ arrive late.
- 3) You _____ eat in the classroom.
- 4) You _____ do your homework.
- 5) You _____ listen to the teachers.
- 6) You _____ write on the walls.
- 7) You _____ bring your books to school.
- 8) You _____ leave the school during the interval.

Beyond the story

6 Use the following words to complete the idiomatic expressions. Then match these to their definitions (a-f).

ear eye foot hands head mouth

- 1) Don't lose your _____!
- 2) Oops! I put my _____ in it!
- 3) He's got a big _____.
- 4) Keep an _____ on them.
- 5) It's in your _____ now.
- 6) Keep your _____ to the ground.

- a) I made an embarrassing mistake.
- b) Watch them carefully.
- c) It's your responsibility.
- d) Keep calm.
- e) Listen carefully for new information.
- f) He never keeps a secret.

7 Use words from the text to complete the following paragraph about a typical English street.

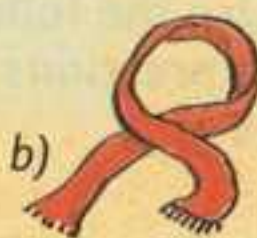
A typical British street or _____ has single,
_____ houses where all four
_____ are independent. These houses
usually have a front and back _____
and a _____ for cars.
They are generally out of the down town, in
_____ areas.



Words

I Match each word to its picture.

- 1) dress
- 2) scarf
- 3) shirt
- 4) shoes
- 5) suit
- 6) pants



CHAPTER 4

At the Workhouse

"F

ind a bed, boy! It's not Queen Victoria's palace, but it's good enough for you!"

Someone pushed him and Matt fell into a large room.

It was dark but a little light came in from the small, high windows. The room was full of low wooden beds, all occupied by two or three very dirty, sleeping children. The sound of snoring filled the rancid air. "Queen Victoria? A workhouse?" thought Matt. "Oh no! I'm not in Newbridge in the year of Mom and Dad's accident – I'm in the wrong time!"

Matt suddenly felt very tired. He pushed one of the sleeping boys gently to make space for himself in a bed. The child moved but didn't wake up. The only blanket was rough and Matt started to scratch. "I hope there aren't any fleas!" was his last thought before he fell asleep, exhausted.

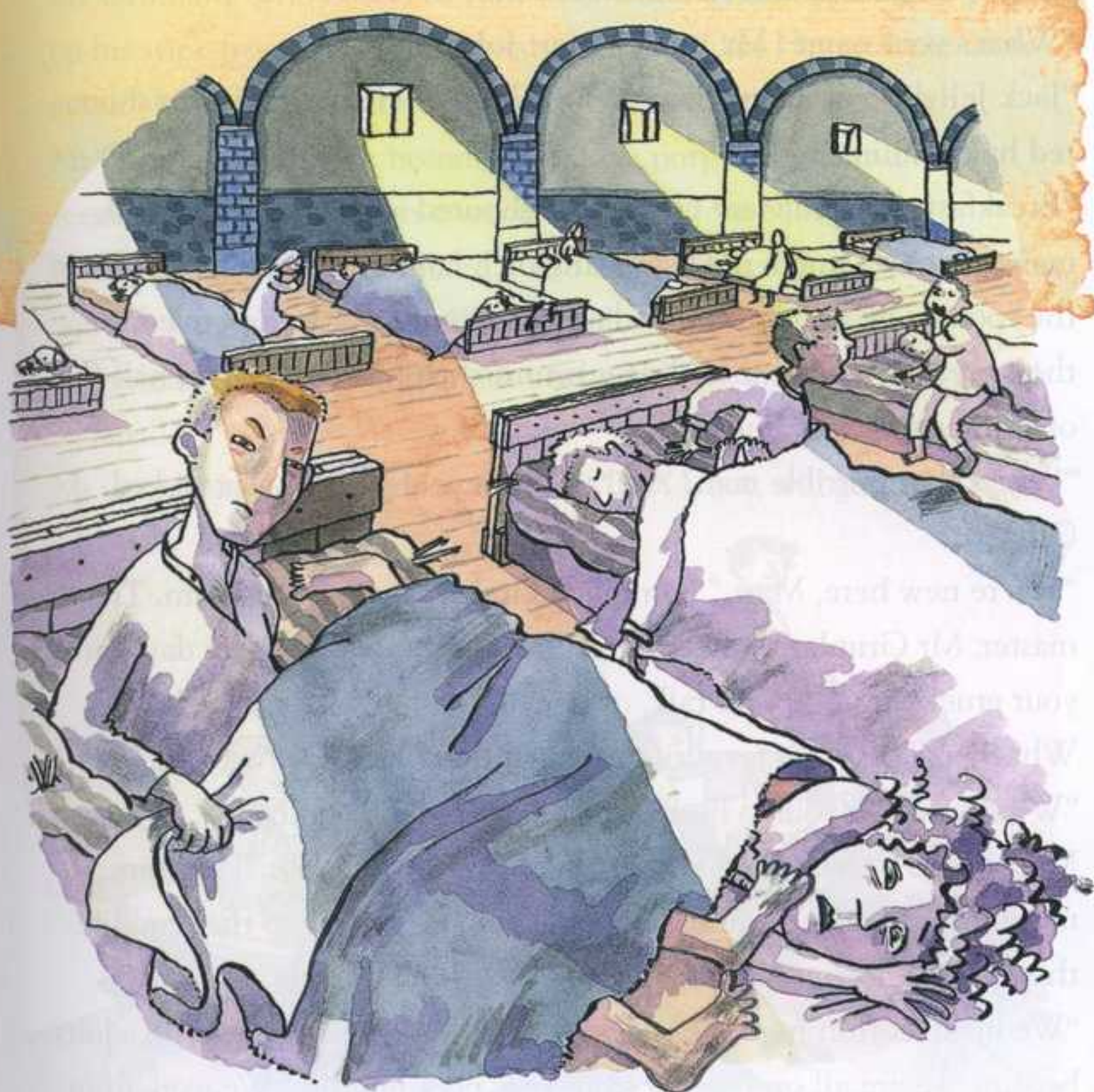
M

att opened his eyes at the first light of day. With a shock he saw a pair of dusty feet in front of his nose. Then he remembered where he was – in the workhouse!

Check your comprehension

2 Choose the correct definition for the word “workhouse”.

- 1) A dormitory and workplace for orphans and rich children.
- 2) A dormitory and school for orphans and poor children.
- 3) A dormitory and workplace for orphans and poor children.
- 4) A sports center and workplace for orphans and poor children.



“What are you doing in my bed?” The owner of the feet looked at Matt, irritated.

“I’m sorry,” replied Matt, sitting up quickly, “but last night I...” He stopped speaking as the boy looked at his clothes with curiosity. Matt looked at the boy, then at the hundreds of other children in the room, now almost all awake. The boys all wore ragged pants tied

with string, simple cotton shirts and scarves. The girls wore long cotton dresses and aprons. Many had no shoes. Matt, embarrassed by his nice, colorful clothes and by their curiosity, began to talk to his young companion to distract him.

“What’s your name? My name’s Matt Johnson.”

“Jack Jellyby, but everyone calls me Ginger.” He indicated his short, red hair, smiling.

“Breakfast time, you lazy creatures!” shouted a fat man with small, malignant eyes and a red face, banging a large stick on a long table in the room. The children immediately moved towards the table for their breakfast. Matt saw Ginger return with his metal plate, half-full of a disgusting grey liquid.

“Who’s that horrible man? And *what* are you eating?” Matt asked Ginger.

“You’re new here, Matt,” he replied kindly, “so let me explain. The master, Mr Grimlard, wakes us for breakfast at 6 a.m. every day. Eat your gruel fast and don’t talk, or he will hit you with his stick, Old Whacker. *That* is his favourite pastime. After breakfast we start work.”

“What work do you do here? And where are the adults?”

Matt began to feel the oppressive air of the workhouse. The thin, miserable children around him were a sad testimony to the hard life there. Many looked ill and all were very thin and pale.

“We make cotton here, Matt,” answered Ginger. “There are no adults because we are all orphans or from very poor families. We work from 6.30 in the morning to 7.00 in the evening. The older children work on the spinning machines and looms. The very small children lie under the machines and collect the threads that fall.”

Matt was shocked by Ginger’s description – these children did 12 hours of work every day! Matt joined the queue and received his bowl of disgusting gruel. “I miss my corn flakes!” he thought, but

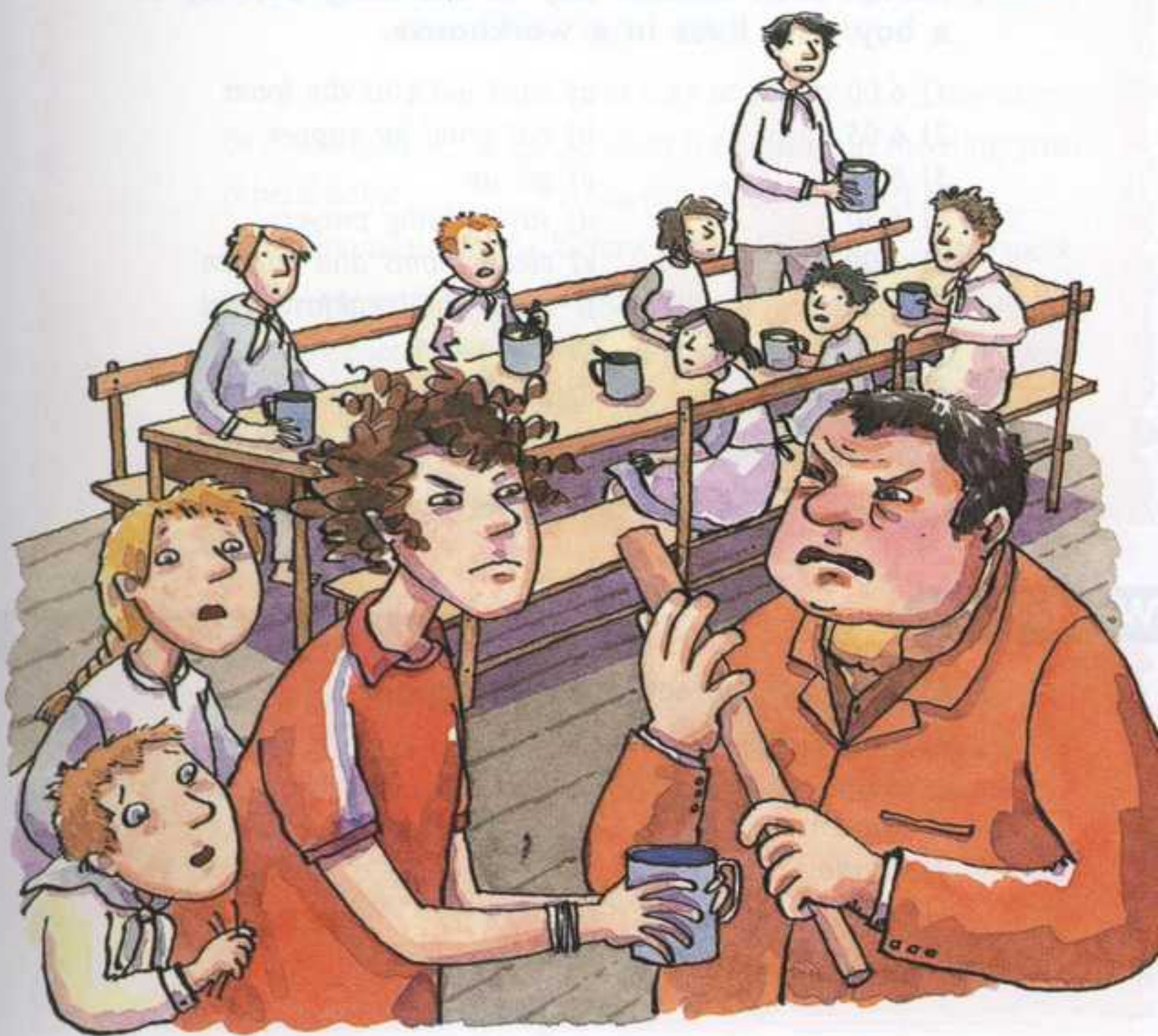
he was very hungry and tasted the gruel. It was like dirty water! He ate it but still felt incredibly hungry. Ginger and the other children looked at him, astonished, as he stood up and went towards Mr Grmlard, who observed him with a menacing expression, picking up his stick from the table. "Excuse me, Sir. Can I have some more gruel?" Matt held his empty bowl in his hands as he spoke.

Mr Grmlard's red face became a strange purple color, and he seemed to expand like an enormous toad before Matt's eyes.

"MORE? MORE?" he shouted, "You can have some of Old Whacker, you insolent young criminal!"

"Criminal?" Matt was indignant at the tyrant's answer. "This gruel is criminal!"

Mr Grmlard seemed ready to explode. "YOU, boy, will go to the mines!"





At the Workhouse

Check your comprehension

3 True or false? Indicate T or F.

- | | T | F |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1) Matt is in medieval times. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 2) Matt's bed is very comfortable. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 3) Matt's clothes are very different from the children's clothes. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 4) Mr Grimlard is not a kind man. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 5) The children have a good breakfast to start the day. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 6) The workhouse is a cotton factory. | ☐ | ☐ |

4 Match each time of day to the daily activity of a boy who lives in a workhouse.

- | | |
|--------------|------------------------------|
| 1) 6.00 a.m. | a) start work at the loom |
| 2) 6.05 | b) eat gruel for supper |
| 3) 6.25 | c) get up |
| 4) 6.30 | d) say evening prayers |
| 5) 7.00 p.m. | e) clean rooms and kitchen |
| 6) 7.30 | f) queue for breakfast gruel |
| 7) 8.00 | g) go to bed |
| 8) 8.30 | h) go down to the factory |
| 9) 9.00 | i) end of working day |

Words

5 Match each adjective to its opposite.

- | | |
|-------------|----------|
| 1) empty | a) awake |
| 2) clean | b) short |
| 3) simple | c) right |
| 4) sleeping | d) hard |
| 5) long | e) dirty |
| 6) wrong | f) full |

Beyond the story

6 Match each country to a typical breakfast.

- | | |
|----------------|----------------------------------|
| 1) Canada | a) bacon, sausages, eggs and tea |
| 2) France | b) cappuccino, pastries |
| 3) Germany | c) pancakes, maple syrup |
| 4) UK | d) café au lait, croissant |
| 5) Switzerland | e) pumpernickel, salami, cheese |
| 6) Italy | f) muesli, yoghurt |

Language

7 Use the following verbs to complete the text about one of Mr Grimlard's typical days.

VERBAL TENSES - SIMPLE PRESENT

Mr Grimlard *wakes* us for breakfast at 6 a.m. every day.

We *work* from 6.30 in the morning to 7 in the evening.

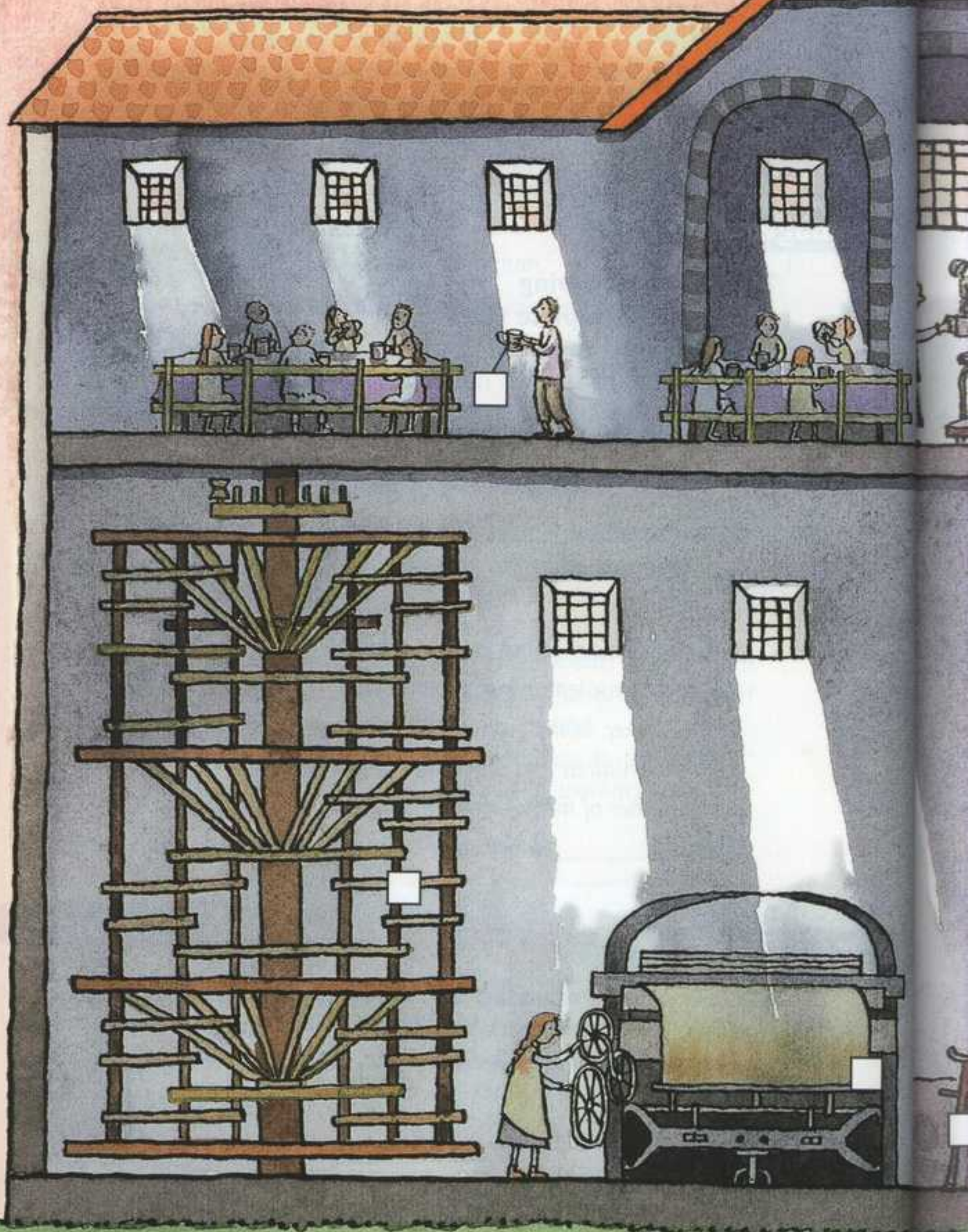
accompany eat get up give go
have hit say wake watch

Every morning I _____ at 5.55 and I _____ my lazy boys and girls. I _____ them their delicious morning gruel (I personally _____ 2 bowls!). After breakfast I _____ them downstairs to the factory, where I _____ them work. If they are insolent or not productive, I _____ them with Old Whacker. In the evening, after supper, I _____ prayers with the children and when they are in bed I _____ a small dinner of meat, vegetables, cheese, cake and beer. Then I _____ to bed after a hard day's work.

Beyond the story

8 Now briefly describe one of your own typical days. When do you wake up? What do you do during the day? When do you eat, and what do you eat?

The Workhouse





hard work is good for you

Look carefully at the illustration. In the small boxes, write the numbers that match the words to parts of the picture.

- | | |
|--------------|------------------------------|
| 1) crutch | 5) Queen Victoria's portrait |
| 2) dormitory | 6) spinning machine |
| 3) gruel | 7) mugs |
| 4) loom | 8) Union Jack flag |



Beyond the story

1 In England, the exams that are taken during the first five years of secondary school are called the GCSE. What is the correct meaning of this abbreviation?

- 1) General Certificate of Some Education
- 2) Great Certificate of Secondary Education
- 3) General Certificate of Secondary Education
- 4) General Certificate of Secondary Exploration
- 5) General College of Secondary Education

CHAPTER 5

The City of Everslême

"Name?" asked the tall, thin man in jeans and a T-shirt at reception. "Linda Chapman," replied a girl in Linda's clothes and with her face, but who looked a few years older.

"Age?" The man continued his interrogation, filling in a form.

"Sixteen," lied Linda, hoping that the make-up applied half an hour ago hid the truth. The man looked at her suspiciously, so she continued, "I finished my GCSEs last week. Now I'm visiting a friend in Newbridge."

"Are you a member of the Youth Hostels Association?" asked the man, and when Linda shook her head he said, "Can I see an identity document? A bus pass or something similar is okay."

"I haven't got any documents with me," said Linda nervously, thinking quickly. "But it's only for one night. My friend finishes her exams tomorrow and then we're... er... going camping."

She saw the man look curiously at her PC.

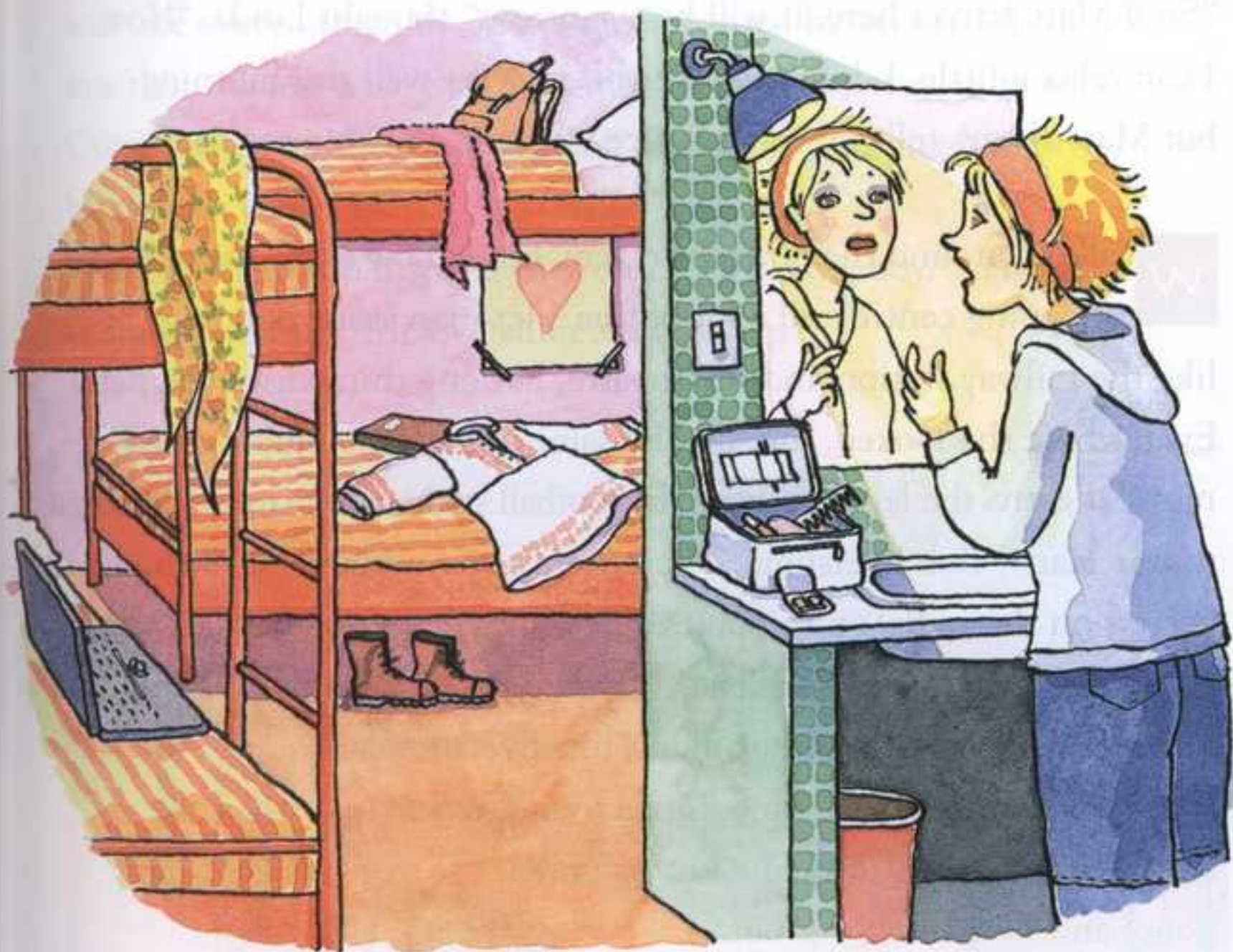
"My camping things are at the left-luggage at the station for tonight, but my computer's too valuable," Linda smiled sweetly. "I'm writing an e-diary of my summer for school."

Smiling, the man gave her a key. "Third door on the left – you're lucky, you're the only person in that room tonight."

Words

2 Match each place to a corresponding description.

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 1) camping site | a) where coal is mined |
| 2) movie theatre | b) where you can stay if you don't want to spend a lot of money |
| 3) coal mine | c) you stay here on holiday in a tent or camper |
| 4) school | d) where you can see football matches |
| 5) stadium | e) you go here to watch films |
| 6) youth hostel | f) you go there to study |



The room was simple but clean with four beds in it. Linda looked at herself in the mirror.

"Phew! That was lucky," she thought. "Even with the make-up I don't look sixteen!"

Suddenly a terrible noise came from the computer, music like cats fighting.

"What is *that*?" Linda wondered, opening the PC. On the screen were

the words "You've got e-mail!" She clicked on them and the terrible music stopped. The message was from Mr Wells:

Your computer is repaired and Matt's time-trip file says he arrives on the day of the accident at 9.00 a.m. Be careful!

Mr Wells

P.S. I hope you like my new invention – e-mails across time!

"So if Matt arrives here, it will be tomorrow," thought Linda. "Now I can relax a little. I didn't see Newbridge very well this morning but Matt always tells me what a nice city it is. I'm going to see."

Walking around the downtown area, Linda now saw a big modern shopping centre and a lot of fine Victorian stone buildings, like the railway station and the theatre, but one thing disturbed her. Everywhere she looked, she saw the same name. The multi-screen movie theatre, the leisure centre, the football stadium, offices, all belonged to one man – Bob Everslime. There were also innumerable election posters on the walls, on the buses. "Everslime for mayor, he's just and fair", "Fight crime, vote Everslime", "Want a job, vote for Bob" she read. Linda remembered that Matt didn't like Everslime.

After walking for a long time, Linda found herself in a street she recognized, Matt's street. She saw a familiar car stop outside Matt's house and his parents got out.

"I don't care what Mr Wells says," thought Linda determinedly. "I can't let them die in that accident tomorrow."

She looked at her watch – three o'clock, Matt was still at school. She went up the drive and rang the bell. Mr Johnson opened the door.

"Ah, Matt's friend from this morning," he said, smiling but looking at her with curiosity.

"Oh no, the make-up!" thought Linda, becoming red with embarrassment.

"I... I must speak to you," she stammered. "You're in danger."

Mr Johnson's expression changed. "Well... er... Linda... come in." As Linda closed the door behind her, she was surprised to see the black car with the two **rude** men from that morning parked on the other side of the street.

It was a new day in the **smoky** streets of Victorian Newbridge, but for the pale, thin people walking sadly to the factories it was like every other day. Matt, accompanied by Mr Grimlard, saw that the fog wasn't fog but smog from the factory chimneys. Outside the city the smog **cleared**, **revealing** the mine buildings, black with **coal-dust**.

"This is where you'll spend the rest of your days, boy," laughed Grimlard cruelly. "Mr Everslime's **coal mines**!"

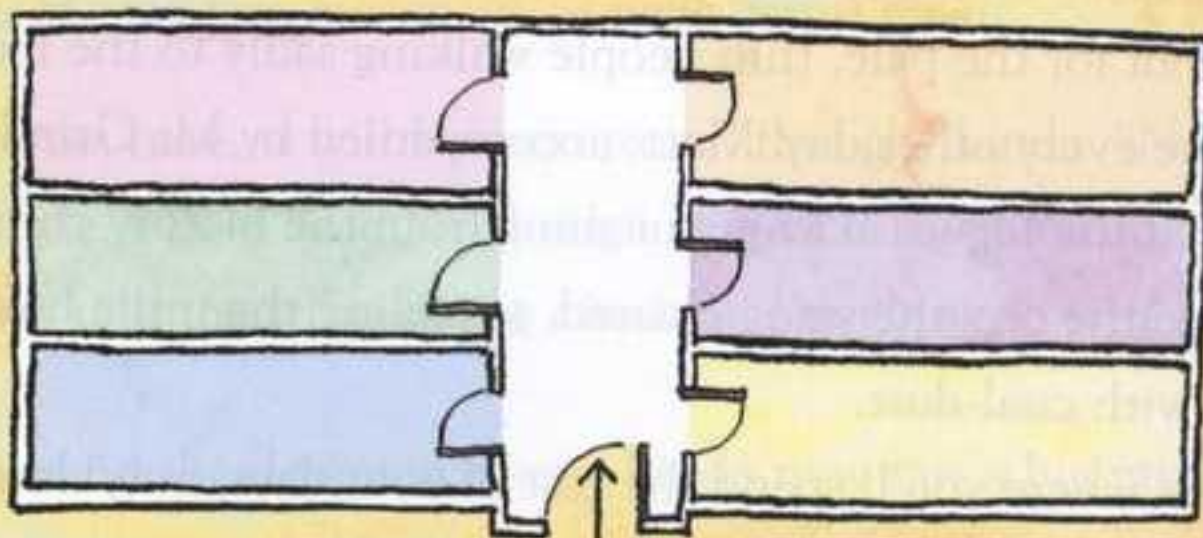




The City of Everslime

Check your comprehension

- 3 Read the sentences below, and write the names of the rooms in the floor plan of the youth hostel. Then complete the last sentence about Linda's room.



- 1) The kitchen is the first room on the left.
- 2) The bathroom is the third room on the right.
- 3) The TV room is the first room on the right.
- 4) The other bedrooms are the second rooms on the right and left.
- 5) Linda's room is the _____ room on the _____.

Beyond the story

- 4 Using your personal information, fill in the form to become a member of the Youth Hostels Association.

YOUTH HOSTEL MEMBERSHIP CARD

First Name	
Last Name	
Address	
Age	
I.D.	Bus pass
	Passport
	Birth certificate

5 The abbreviation "I.D." appears in the form.
What do you think it means?

- ☐ idiot
- ☐ important details
- ☐ identification
- ☐ international database

Pictures

6 Look at the first picture in the chapter. Then use the following words to complete the description of the room in the hostel.

bunk beds clean hands mirror simple sink

It's a _____ room, but it's _____. There are two
_____ and a _____, for washing your _____,
with a _____ above it.

Beyond the story

7 Fill in the election posters with the following surnames to create rhymes.

Keats May Brown Moore

Example: Fight crime – vote Everslime.

1)

HELP THE POOR

VOTE FOR _____

2)

HIGHER PAY

VOTE FOR _____

3)

FOR SAFER STREETS

VOTE FOR _____

4)

FOR A CLEANER TOWN

VOTE FOR _____



Words

I Match each word to its definition.

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| 1) beak | a) out of control |
| 2) garage | b) a bird's mouth |
| 3) insurance | c) menacing messages |
| 4) runaway | d) an organisation of workers |
| 5) threats | e) where cars are repaired |
| 6) Union | f) money to compensate for an accident |

CHAPTER 6

Curiosity and a Canary

Wait in here. I'll be with you in a minute," said Mr Johnson, opening the door to the study. Linda looked around the room. There were bookcases on all four walls, full of books.

On a large wooden desk there was a computer and some family photos. Linda smiled at a picture of Matt as a baby.

The light from the window fell on some papers on the desk, catching Linda's attention.

She saw pages from old newspapers and pages of Mr Johnson's notes about them. She began to read.

From Newbridge Times, 21st July 1864 – Newbridge mine disaster – miners trapped!

24th July – no hope for 43 men and boys – did Everslime know of danger?

25th July – Everslime's daughter one of the dead in coal mine accident – desperate father has no responsibility.

"Everslime – that name again!" thought Linda, very interested now. She looked at the notes again.

Everslime knew seam was dangerous – mine losing money – insurance? – many of dead were in Union – daughter's diary? – negative effect on Bob Everslime's election possibilities!

Beyond the story

2 Why were canaries carried into mines? Choose the explanation that seems most likely to you.

- 1) They sang to make the miners happy.
- 2) They were used as a test for the presence of gas.
- 3) They used their beaks to extract coal.
- 4) Their yellow colour was visible in the dark.



The door opened and Matt's dad came in, a very serious expression on his face.

"This is very sinister. *You* say we're in danger and now *this* arrives." He had a letter in his hand. Linda read it. The words were made of letters cut from newspapers. It said:

You're too curious about the past – remember, curiosity killed the cat!

"And this is not the first," said Mr Johnson. "Letters, phone calls, all threatening me and my family."

Linda was confused. So there were two Everslimes, one in the past who was a mine owner and one in the present who was trying to be elected mayor of Newbridge. But how were these facts connected to the threats sent to Mr Johnson? One thing was clear to her now.

"It wasn't an accident," she whispered with terror, thinking out loud. "What accident?" asked Mr Johnson.

"The car," murmured Linda distractedly. Before Matt arrived, she had to get out of the house, she needed time to think. "I'm sorry, Mr Johnson, I have to go. I'll come back tomorrow morning, I promise. Please be careful!"

Who was that?" asked Mrs Johnson, watching from a window as Linda hurried away.

"A friend of Matt's," said her husband, thinking. "Jane, we don't need the car this evening, do we? It's making strange noises today. I'll take it to the garage tomorrow morning."

"Yes, dear, all right," Mrs Johnson smiled.

The doorbell rang.

"That must be Matt," said Mr Johnson. He opened the door.

"Hi, Matt. Good day! You just missed your friend... that girl Linda," he said.

"Who?" Matt looked surprised. "I don't know anyone called Linda."

The coal mine was an infernal scene – the terrible noise of the machines, the coal dust and steam, the incessant movement of boys pushing tubs full of coal. The penetrating sound of a siren announced the end of a shift and miners, black from head to foot, came out from the pit-head. Some of the boys in this group looked at Grimlard, and Matt saw terror in their eyes.

"Hello, dear boys," said Grimlard. "Here's a new companion." And

he pushed Matt towards them. "Watch your rations, he's got a big appetite!" and laughing nastily, he went away.

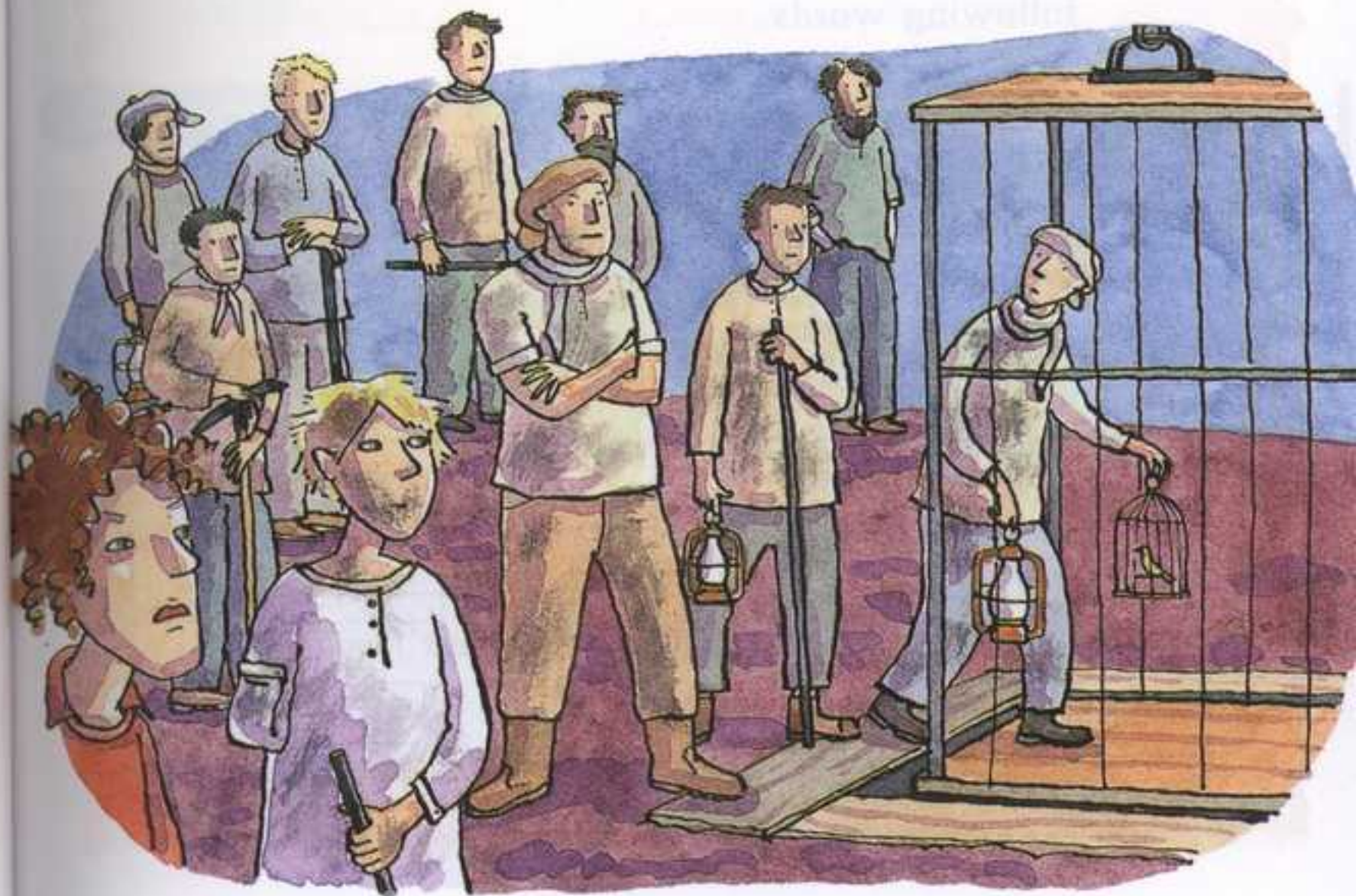
Don't worry," said a boy with sad eyes. "It's better here than at the workhouse. Nobody hits you and there's more food."

Matt noticed with shock that the boy had only one arm.

"Billy, let's go," said another boy. "They're sending the canary down into the new seam."

"There's a new seam but the men think it's dangerous," Billy told Matt as the group returned to the pit-head. "Mr Everslime ordered a canary test, to show that it's safe."

Matt watched a miner with a cage enter the lift. In the cage was a small yellow bird with a dark beak. As the lift descended, Matt felt the tension. Nobody spoke. The minutes passed. Finally the lift returned to the surface. In its cage the yellow canary sang happily and the tension disappeared. But Matt noticed something strange: the bird's beak was now a lighter colour!





Curiosity and a canary

The story so far

3 Choose the correct option.

- 1) There are lots of / few books in Mr Johnson's study.
- 2) The mine disaster was on July 20th / 21st.
- 3) 43 men and boys survived / died in the disaster.
- 4) It seems probable that Everslime had some / no responsibility for the accident.
- 5) Bob Everslime is a direct descendant of the Victorian / modern Everslime.
- 6) The threat to Mr Johnson was / wasn't written by hand.
- 7) Linda thinks the accident was / wasn't premeditated.
- 8) Mr and Mrs Johnson have to book the holiday today / tomorrow.

Check your comprehension

4 Complete the newspaper article that describes the incident that happened at the mine using the following words.

about accident coal mine latest morning
pit-head seam shift surface underground

Newbridge Times, 21st July 1864

NEWBRIDGE MINE DISASTER – MINERS TRAPPED!

_____ news! _____ 40 miners are trapped _____ after a terrible _____ early yesterday _____ at Newbridge _____. They were the first _____ to go into the new _____. There is great agitation around the _____ as the miners' families wait and hope that they will return to the _____.

Pictures

5 Match the following sentences to the corresponding photos of Matt.

- 1) Matt's first goal!
- 2) Happy baby Matt.
- 3) 8 today! Matt celebrates.
- 4) Mariner Matt on the beach.



Beyond the story

6 Use the following animal names to complete the idiomatic expressions.

bird cat dog horse mice

Example: Curiosity killed the cat.

- 1) The early _____ catches the worm.
- 2) You can't teach an old _____ new tricks.
- 3) Don't look a gift _____ in the mouth.
- 4) When the _____ is away, the _____ will play.

Language

7 Match the three parts of each sentence.

HAVE TO/HAD TO

Before Matt arrived, she *had to* get out of the house.
"I'm sorry, Mr Johnson, I *have to* go."

Example: Victorian miners *had to* work very long hours.

1) Victorian miners	has to had to	a) take his car for a check-up.
2) Mr Johnson		b) start working in the mine.
3) Linda		c) work very long hours.
4) Matt		d) repair Linda's computer.
5) Billy		e) think carefully about the situation.
6) Mr Wells		f) learn to live with one arm.



Words

I Complete the sentences with the correct form of the following verbs.

ask order read write suggest reply tell

- 1) "Why don't we do a canary test to show the seam is safe?"
_____ Everslime.
- 2) "Go to work in the mines!" _____ Grimlard.
- 3) "_____ me about the workhouse, Ginger," said Matt.
- 4) "Dear Linda," _____ Matt.
- 5) "What's that?" _____ Linda. "It's an anonymous letter," _____ Mr Johnson, _____ the message.

CHAPTER 7

A Miner, a Petition and a Girl

What's up, lad?" said a tall, muscular man covered in coal dust, passing Matt. He smiled, "Did you see a ghost?"
"No, but I saw a different canary," Matt whispered.

"Yes, you're right. I saw it too," said the man. He looked at Matt. "You're new here, but you seem a bright lad. What are you doing at the mine?"

"I'm an orphan," said Matt. "I got into trouble at the workhouse, so they sent me here. I'm Matt."

"Pleased to meet you, Matt," said the miner. "I'm Clem. I started work here when I was ten, opening and shutting trap-doors, pushing tubs, then I became a cutter, the best at Everslime colliery. That was twenty-five years ago..."

Suddenly the miner began to cough violently, covering his mouth with a dirty handkerchief. When he stopped Matt noticed with horror the black froth on the handkerchief.

"Coal dust in the lungs," said Clem. "A miner can survive gas, explosions and cave-ins but this job will kill him in the end." He saw Matt's worried expression and smiled.

2 Match the parts of the body to the correct description.

- 1) eyes
- 2) hand
- 3) lungs
- 4) nose
- 5) shoulder

- a) They take oxygen into the body.
- b) You smell odors with this.
- c) You wink with one of these!
- d) You can carry a bag on this.
- e) There are five fingers on this.



"Don't worry lad, I'm fine. Listen, if you're in my shift tonight stay near me. I'll look after you. I've got a nose for danger. If there's gas, I'll smell it before you can say 'canary'!"

Now a group of miners walked over to Matt and Clem.

"I don't like it, lads," one of them said. "Everslime's playing a dirty game."

Clem agreed. "That new seam's dangerous. We need some guarantees before we go down there to work."

"You have to speak to Everslime, Clem," said another miner, looking at Clem with respect.

"Okay, I'll try, but the first shift is tonight," Clem replied. "He probably won't see me before we start."

"A petition!" suggested Matt. "Why don't you write a petition?"
The miners looked at him in surprise.

"Write, lad?" Clem smiled. "It's a good idea but no one here can write more than his name."

"I'll do it," said Matt. "I... er... went to school before I became an orphan."

The petition was prepared. Clem dictated and Matt wrote and all the miners signed it. Matt read the result aloud:

"We, the miners, believe that the new seam is dangerous. We request independent guarantees for our safety. Without these we will not risk our lives. With respect..."

He gave it to Clem, but the miner said, "Everslime knows I'm trouble, lad. You take it to him."

The colliery foreman accompanied Matt to a large stone villa. A thin maid opened the door.

"Mrs Skinnybile," said the foreman, "this impertinent boy has a letter for Mr Everslime."

"What do the miners want now?" she asked, pulling at the petition.
"It's for Mr Everslime," said Matt calmly, resisting. The maid, surprised by his tenacity, let him in. "Wait in the library," she ordered.

As Matt entered, he saw a blonde girl in a long white dress watching him from the stairs in the hall.

The wooden walls of the library were full of dusty books that nobody read. As Matt examined them, the door opened. It was the blonde girl. She reminded Matt a bit of Linda.

"Are you from the mine?" she asked, urgently.

"Yes," Matt replied, "Miss...?"

"Everslime," said the girl, embarrassed, "but please call me Estelle."

She smiled again, then was serious. "Listen, the new seam at the mine is dangerous. My father..."

At that moment a tall man with a proud, arrogant face came into the library. He frowned severely at Estelle and she immediately left the room. Turning to Matt he said, "I believe you have a message for me, boy." Matt gave him the paper. Everslime read it and laughed nastily. "Ungrateful dogs!" he growled, "I give them work, and they still protest. I am their guarantee! Go back and tell them that."

It was two o'clock in the morning. In the cold night air the first shift for the new seam waited to descend into the mine. Matt looked up at the stars in the sky, hoping it wasn't for the last time. As they went down he saw fear on the miners' faces. Only Clem was calm. Another face near him, with blue eyes under a large cloth cap, seemed familiar. Matt knew those eyes... it was Estelle!



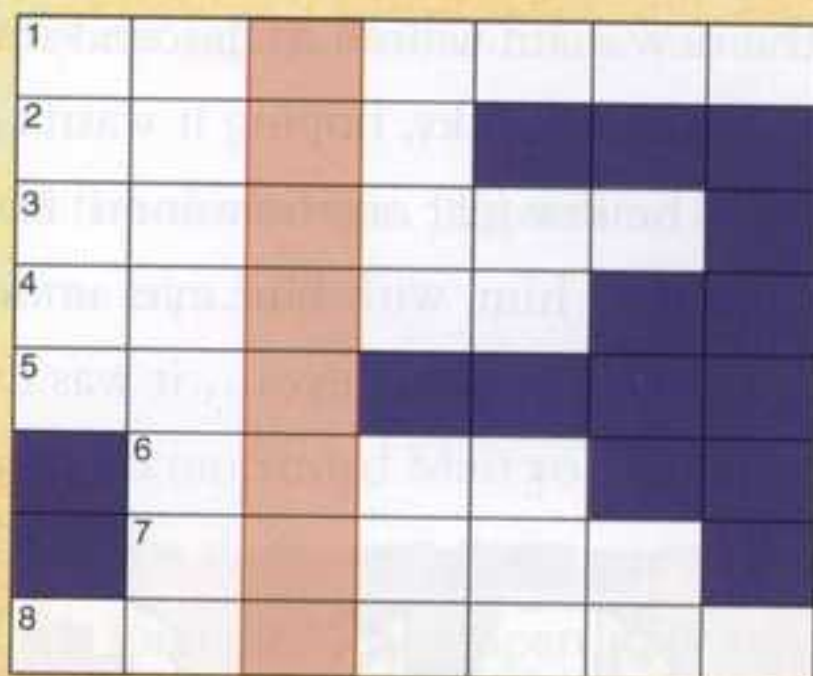


A Miner, a Petition and a Girl

Words

3 Complete the puzzle.

- 1) Children in the workhouse with no parents are...
- 2) Matt's new friend.
- 3) Clem's job in the mine.
- 4) The time a miner works each day.
- 5) Another word for mine.
- 6) You do this when you write your name at the end of a document.
- 7) Clem is ill. He had a bad...
- 8) Another word for 100 years.



4 What word is in the shaded column of the puzzle? Use it to complete the following sentence.

It was Matt's idea to write the _____, to ask Everslime for more guarantees.

5 Use the following words to complete the sentences below.

cave-ins coal tubs explosions gas lung disease

- 1) _____ can cause suffocation, or when there's a flame it can produce _____.
- 2) A lot of miners, after many years down the pit, suffer from _____.
- 3) When _____ are full and go out of control, they are very dangerous.
- 4) Miners are often trapped by sudden _____.

Characters

6 Match each character to the corresponding description.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| 1) Clem is... | a) a sad, adventurous young girl. |
| 2) Estelle is... | b) a strong, respected miner. |
| 3) Mr Everslime is... | c) a thin, curious female servant. |
| 4) Billy is... | d) a cruel, angry colliery owner. |
| 5) The colliery foreman is... | e) an unfortunate but brave young miner. |
| 6) Mrs Skinnybale is... | f) a large, irascible man. |

Language

7 Reorder the words in the sentences to make descriptions of story characters.

ORDER OF ADJECTIVES

"What's up, lad?" said a tall, muscular man.
Matt...was soon in the gardens outside a large grey stone villa...

- 1) with / hair / young / red / boy / is / a / Ginger / short
- 2) tall / Everslime / man / is / with / a / hair / white
- 3) fat / red / Grimlard / a / has / face / and
- 4) is / girl / Estelle / a / eyes / blonde / blue / with / pretty

Beyond the story

8 Write a petition of protest against something that dissatisfies you at your school. Use Matt's written petition as a model. The following words may be useful.

school dinners maths the headmaster intervals
better less more longer shorter

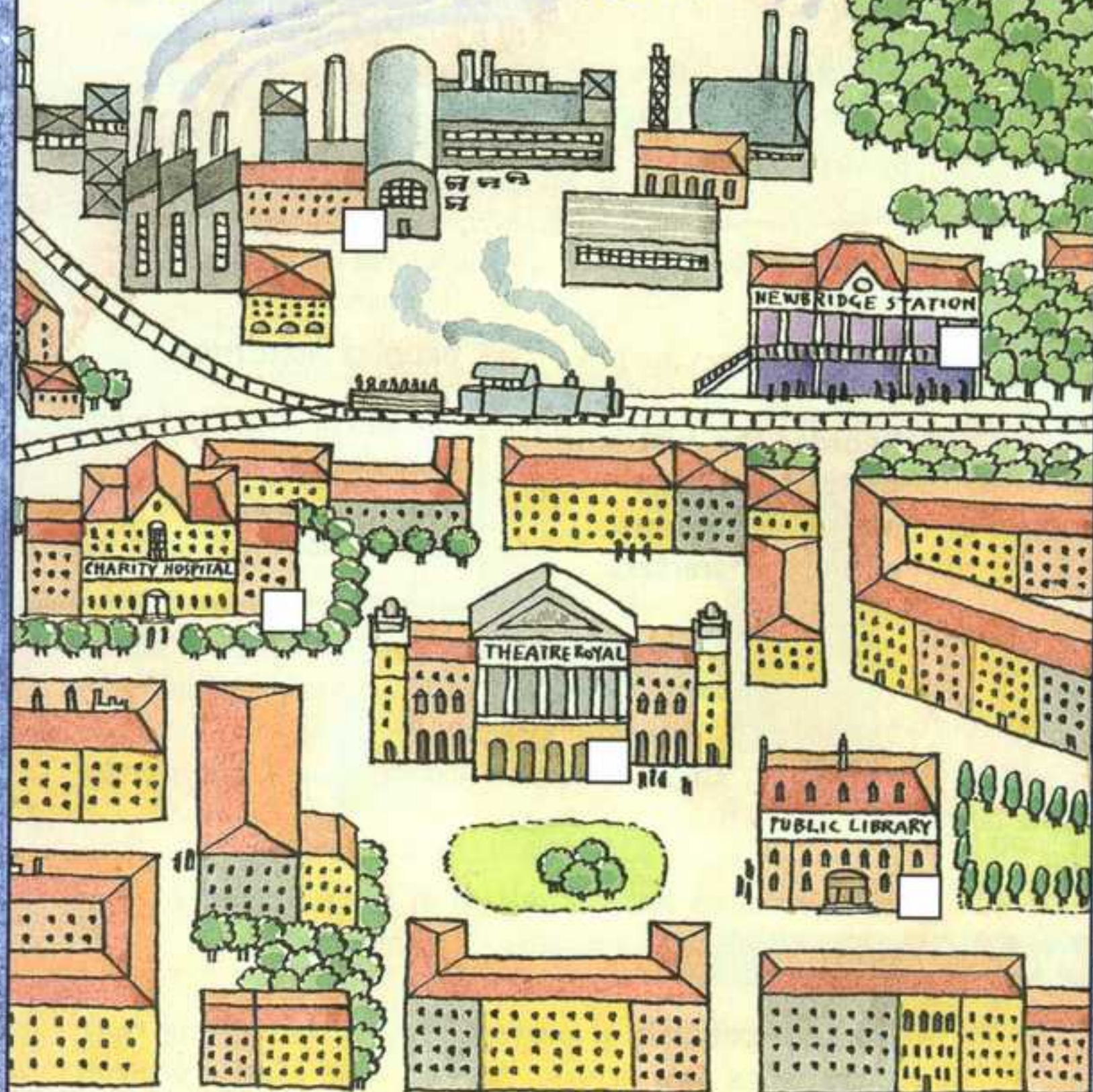
We, the pupils of _____

believe that _____

We request _____

Signed _____

Newbridge Then and Now



1 Write the name of the building to the right of its description. Then write the correct number in the boxes.

1) Doctors work here.

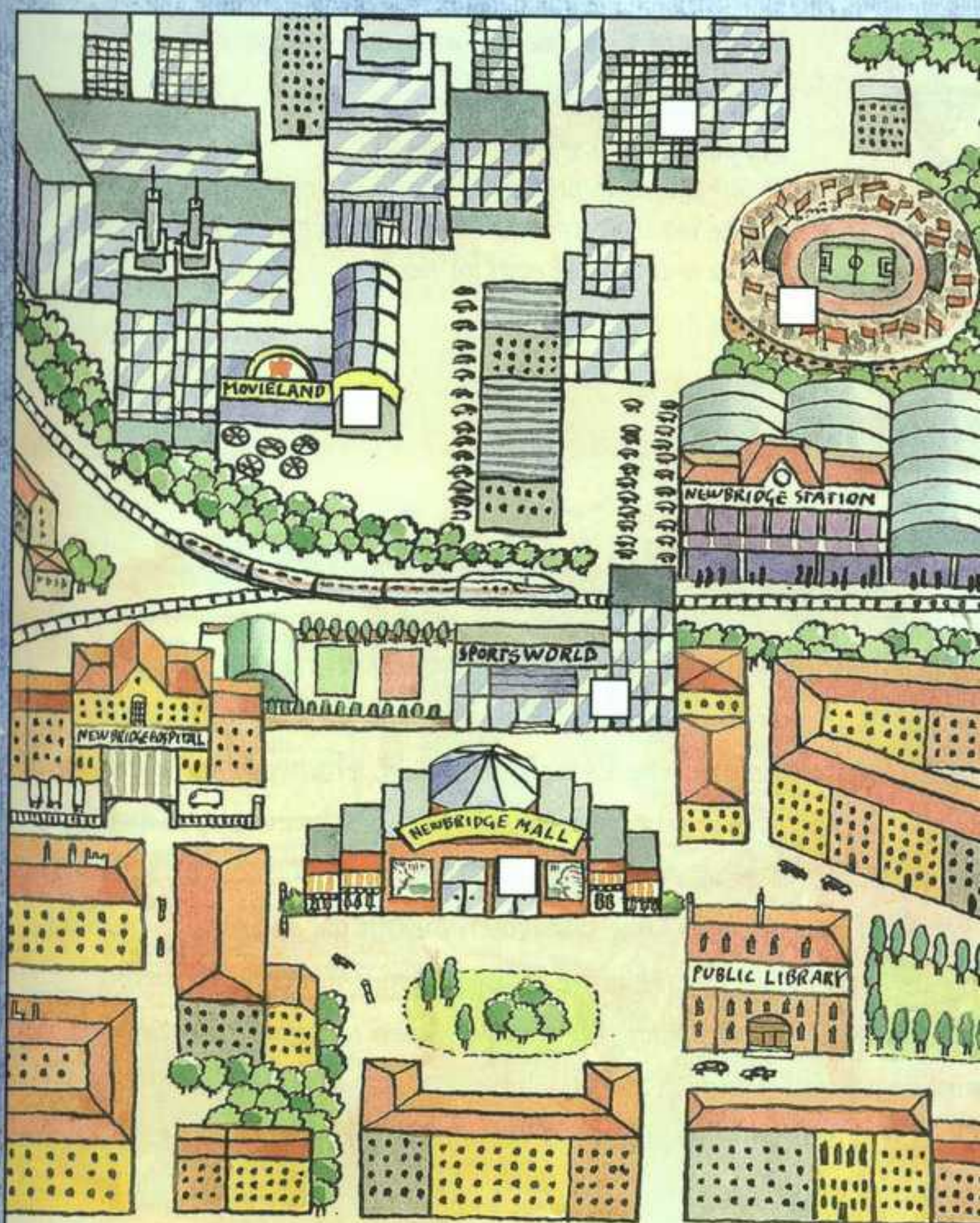
hospital

2) You can take books from here.

3) Trains arrive here.

4) You watch actors here.

5) People work here.



2 Number the small boxes. Match the buildings to the vocabulary.

- 1) sports centre
- 2) football stadium
- 3) multi-screen movie theater
- 4) offices
- 5) shopping centre





The story so far

1 Why do you think Estelle goes down into the mine?
There are two correct answers below.

- 1) She wants to be with Matt.
- 2) She wants to see the canary.
- 3) She wants to protect Matt and the other miners.
- 4) She wants to spy on the miners for her father.
- 5) She wants some coal for her fire.

CHAPTER 8

Linda Investigates

Linda slept badly in the youth hostel. Her mind was full of terrible thoughts. She decided she had to find out more about the Everslime family. She went to the Everslime Memorial Library and looked for old newspaper articles about the mine disaster on the computer.

"Estelle, Ebenezer Everslime's daughter, died in the accident," she read in one article. "Everslime justified her presence in the mine, saying that it was his responsibility. He sent her down to demonstrate that the mine was safe." Linda frowned. "Hmm, that seems strange to me." Then she continued reading, "Everslime's personal tragedy increases his popularity in the elections."

"So, after the disaster he went into politics," she said, scanning the other articles, "and now Bob Everslime wants to continue the family tradition. I need to see Matt's dad again."

Arriving at Matt's house, Linda noticed the mysterious black car parked nearby again. "Who *are* those people? And what do they want?" she thought, as Mr Johnson opened the door.

"I told Matt you were here yesterday," he said, observing her reaction, "but he says he doesn't know you."

Words

2 Match each word from the first column to a related word in the second column.

- | | |
|--------------|---------------|
| 1) desk | a) descendant |
| 2) detective | b) book |
| 3) family | c) drawer |
| 4) lawyer | d) fortune |
| 5) library | e) evidence |
| 6) mind | f) sincerity |
| 7) profits | g) thoughts |
| 8) trust | h) justice |



Linda smiled, unperturbed, "Boys don't like to admit they have female friends, do they? Now listen, you *must* trust me." She told him about her research at the library and he listened with interest. "You already know a lot about the dark past of Ebenezer Everslime," he said. "Now I can tell you something about Bob. He made his fortune through the family name, this city is almost entirely his. Now he wants to protect his interests by becoming Mayor." He opened his desk and took out an old leather book. "Today I discovered an

important piece of new evidence against Ebenezer. I received it from an ex-employee of Bob Everslime's. He is Fred Skinnybile, a direct descendant of Mrs Skinnybile, Everslime's maid at the time of the accident."

Linda read the words on the cover – *The Diary of Estelle Everslime*.
 "Look at the last two entries," said Mr Johnson.

"18th July 1864 – Today I heard Father talking to the coal mine foreman. The new seam is dangerous but he wants to continue because profits are low. I don't know what Father is planning but I'm worried... I wish I was part of another family. My father is so unscrupulous, so uncaring – he makes me ashamed. I wish my mother was here."

"19th July 1864 – Today something happened which changed my life. I saw the prince who can free me from the prison of my existence here. He is the boy I dream about – the same face, the same bright eyes. It seems he is a miner. He is intelligent and kind, and brave, too – he came with a petition for my father about the new seam. My father was very angry. I hope he doesn't hurt my 'miner-prince'..."

"I heard Father telling the foreman this afternoon that if 'something' happens in the mine, the insurance money will compensate for his low profits. He added that if a few miners don't come back up, no one will care! He spoke of the new seam and a secret passage there – something about a hole in the wall and a rock. What's happening? I'm very worried. I must help my 'miner-prince'. I must go to the mine, so the princess can save her prince..."

"This new evidence looks bad for Bob Everslime," said Mr Johnson.
 "Yes, it looks as if Ebenezer deliberately let those poor miners die," said Linda, shocked.

"Exactly. Mr Skinnybile came to me because he lost his job unjustly.

Now he wants the people of Newbridge to know the truth about the Everslime family. We must be very careful with the diary. A lot of people want to destroy it." He put it back in the drawer, and closed it with a key.

"With this evidence," thought Linda, "Mr Johnson is a *real* obstacle to Bob Everslime's political ambitions." She remembered the threats. "They must be connected to the accident!" she thought.

"Linda, my wife and I have to go out," said Mr Johnson, then.

"There's a note for Matt in the living room – he usually gets back about 4 o'clock. You can wait for him if you want."

"Oh no, please don't go!" implored Linda. "Your car, it's..."

Matt's dad smiled. "Don't worry, Linda. I took the car to the garage and it's fine. I hope we'll see you when we come back."

Linda watched from the living room window as he got into the car with Mrs Johnson. Helpless, she saw the black car follow them along the road!





Linda Investigates

Story summary

- 3 There are ten errors in this review of chapter 8. Rewrite it with the correct information.**

Linda slept wonderfully in the youth hostel. In the morning, after lunch, she went to the Everslime Memorial Church to discover more about the Everslime family. She found some old newspaper articles and read about the car accident. After the accident Ebenezer became less popular and then became Mayor. Linda went to see Matt at his house. Mr Johnson showed her Estelle's old address book, which revealed the truth about the mine accident. This was good news for Bob Everslime's reputation and bad news for Mr Johnson's safety. Mr and Mrs Johnson went away on their motorbike and Linda waited for Matt in the kitchen.

Words

- 4 Match each word to its opposite.**

- | | |
|------------|--------------|
| 1) before | a) closed |
| 2) frowned | b) night |
| 3) morning | c) after |
| 4) opened | d) princess |
| 5) prince | e) dangerous |
| 6) safe | f) smiled |

- 5 Use the following adjectives to complete the sentences below.**

shocked worried convinced surprised ashamed

- 1) Clem wasn't _____ by Mr Everslime's guarantee.
- 2) Linda was _____ when Mr Johnson saw her with make-up.
- 3) Estelle was _____ by the conversation between her father and the foreman.
- 4) Matt was _____ when he arrived at the workhouse.
- 5) Matt was _____ to see Estelle at the mine.

Beyond the story

6 Read the titles of these imaginary newspaper articles. Then match each one to the correct historical event.

- 1) The Mediterranean Post: "Epic Journey from Palos to the New World"
 - 2) The Northern Express: "Newcastle Man Invents Locomotive"
 - 3) The Naples Tribune: "Volcano Eruption Destroys Roman Town"
 - 4) The Stratford Echo: "Bestseller Love Story from Local Writer"
 - 5) The Palace Times: "Great Exhibition Has Royal Opening in Crystal Palace"
-
- a) 1829 – George Stephenson made the first train.
 - b) 1851 – Queen Victoria inaugurated an important show of industrial machinery and inventions in London.
 - c) 1595 – William Shakespeare wrote Romeo and Juliet.
 - d) 1492 – Christopher Columbus discovered America.
 - e) AD 79 – Vesuvius destroyed the city of Pompeii.

7 Use the following words to complete the entry in Estelle's diary for 17th July 1864.

dangerous food free morning
permission seam tower

17th July 1864

This _____ Mrs Skinnybile told me about a new _____ at the colliery. This surprises me because my father said that it was _____ to open other seams in the mine. In the afternoon I wanted to take some _____ to the miners' cottages but my father didn't give me his _____. I feel like a princess trapped in a _____. When will I be _____ to live my life?



Characters

I Which character in the story probably said each of the following sentences?

- 1) "I don't have a friend called Linda."
- 2) "I'm tired of these miners and their problems!"
- 3) "I'm convinced that new seam isn't safe!"
- 4) "I want my job again!"
- 5) "This cap will hide my blonde hair."
- 6) "Can you give my car a check-up?"

- a) Ebenezer Everslime
- b) Mr Johnson
- c) Matt
- d) Estelle
- e) Clem
- f) Fred Skinnybile

CHAPTER 9

Down the Pit

T

he doorbell rang at 39 Stephenson Avenue.

"Oh no, who's this?" thought Linda.

Then she heard the key in the lock, and a familiar voice, "Mom, Dad, it's me! I'm home!" As Matt came into the living room, Linda hid behind the sofa. "What's this, a note?" she heard him say. "Ahh, yes, they went to book for Florida, of course..." The voice came closer. "Poor mom and dad, they think it's a secret, but... Hey! Who are you, and what are you doing behind our sofa?"

Linda stood up, incredibly embarrassed, not knowing what to say. But suddenly Matt fell to the floor, one hand on his throat, the other towards Linda. "Help me," he gasped. "I'm suffocating."

D

own in the humid darkness of the mine, Clem's shift reached the entrance to the new seam. Nobody spoke and everybody looked at Clem, everybody except Matt. He looked at Estelle, he wanted to ask her why she was there. But in the ghostly light of the safety lamps her eyes implored him to keep her identity a secret.

Pictures

2 Look at the first picture in this chapter and decide if these statements are true or false. Indicate T or F.

1) The trap-door to the tunnel is closed.

2) The miners have lamps.

3) Matt is looking at Clem.

4) Estelle is wearing a long white dress.

5) You can see Estelle's eyes.

T F

☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐



Well, lads, let's go inside. Follow me, and if I run, *you* run," said Clem, breaking the tension. The echo of his voice accompanied them as they entered the tunnel. The walls were narrow, just wide enough for a coal tub, and low – Matt had to crouch.

"Matt, keep an eye on the flame in your lamp," whispered Clem. "If it's blue, there's Black Damp, a suffocating gas. If it goes out, that means there isn't enough oxygen."

They continued slowly down the tunnel, Matt close to Clem and Estelle close to Matt. Billy, the last of the group, closed the trap-door to the seam behind them.

Now they were completely isolated from the world above.

It's strange," said Clem. "Here we are down here, abandoned by the world, yet without us the world stops. No coal means no industry, no transport, cold houses."

"Oh no!" interrupted a terrified girl's voice. Clem turned with surprise and saw the small miner with the large cap pointing at something on the ground. Matt illuminated the object of Estelle's terror with his lamp. It was a small yellow bird with a dark beak. It was dead.

"I knew it," said Clem angrily. "We're in a death trap. But who are you, boy?" He took off Estelle's cap, and saw her long blonde hair. "Miss Everslime!" he said, incredulous. "What are you doing down here? It's very dangerous."

"I know it is," said Estelle sadly, "and I think my father knows it, too. When Matt came with the petition, I tried to tell him, but my father stopped me. I didn't want to believe that he could put innocent lives at risk, but now I can see with my own eyes that it's true. You must get out of here, before it's too late!"

Clem looked at her with admiration, then shouted to the miners, "You heard the girl, let's go. Don't panic. There's Black Damp down here, but we've got enough time to get out."

As they went back along the tunnel, Matt said, "Estelle, you were very brave to come here."

"I'm afraid of what my father will do now," said Estelle, tears in her eyes. "But I came down here to be with you too, Matt."

"I must be dreaming," thought Matt. Suddenly his dream became a nightmare.

"I can't open it," shouted Billy. "The trap-door's blocked!"

Now there was panic.

"Blocked from the other side," agreed Clem, pushing the door.

"Someone wants to kill us!" cried another miner.

"There's another way out! I know where it is," shouted Estelle, "Follow me!"

She took Matt's hand and they started to run along the tunnel, with Clem and the others behind. But it was impossible to run quickly with the low roof walls. With a thud Matt hit his head and his lamp fell to the ground, breaking the glass. For an interminable instant nothing happened. He saw the horror on Clem's face as the miner whispered, "Oh no, the flame!" Then there was a deafening noise and an intense white light, a thousand times brighter than the light from Mr Wells' computer.





Down the Pit

Story summary

3 Put the events of this chapter in the proper order.

- ☐ Estelle discovers the dead canary.
- ☐ Billy closes the trap-door.
- ☐ Estelle tells the miners that the seam is dangerous.
- ☐ Matt's lamp falls on the ground and explodes.
- ☐ The miners enter the new seam.
- ☐ The trap-door is blocked.
- ☐ Estelle's identity is revealed.
- ☐ Matt hits his head.
- ☐ Estelle goes down to the seam with the miners.

Check your comprehension

4 True or false? Indicate T or F.

- | | T | F |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1) Matt told the other miners about Estelle. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 2) Matt could stand up in the tunnel. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 3) The flame in the lamp goes out if there isn't any oxygen. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 4) Estelle isn't afraid of her father. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 5) There is another exit from the seam. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 6) The miners know where the other exit is. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 7) The trap-door was blocked deliberately. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 8) The light from the explosion is very strong. | ☐ | ☐ |

Now rewrite the false statements using the correct information.

Words

5 Use the following adjectives to complete the sentences.

brave deafening familiar incredulous
low narrow sinister

- 1) The noise from the machines in the workhouse was _____.
- 2) Mr Everslime's popularity was _____ before the accident.
- 3) The threats to the Johnson family were very _____.
- 4) Matt was _____ to take the petition to Everslime.
- 5) Estelle's face was _____ to Clem.
- 6) Matt was _____ when he found Linda behind the sofa.
- 7) The old cobbled streets of Newbridge were _____.

Language

VERB TENSES - PRESENT CONTINUOUS

What are you doing down here?

6 Match each of the questions to its appropriate answer. Then match each resulting dialogue to a character.

- 1) What are you eating?
- 2) What are you doing in the workhouse?
- 3) What are you doing in my library?
- 4) What are you reading?
- 5) What are you making?
- 6) What are you asking for?

- a) I'm an orphan.
- b) I've got a petition from the miners.
- c) Your notes about Everslime.
- d) Another bowl of gruel, please.
- e) My mom's chocolate cake.
- f) A birthday cake.

- I) Everslime to Matt
- II) Matt to Linda
- III) Mr Wells to Mrs Chapman
- IV) Matt to Ginger
- V) Mr Johnson to Linda
- VI) Grimlard to Matt



The story so far

1 Why is Matt suffocating at his home in Newbridge? Choose one of these possible reasons.

- a) He was shocked to see Linda behind the sofa.
- b) He is very timid with girls.
- c) He had the same sensation as Matt in the mine disaster.
- d) He was ill.
- e) He was eating an apple.

CHAPTER 10

Two Matts in Danger!

The blast threw Matt and Estelle through the air. Matt hit the ground and closed his eyes. He didn't dare open them as the ground moved under him, like an earthquake.

Finally there was silence, and then a weak voice said, "Matt, help me, please."

Matt opened his eyes. It was dark. He moved towards the voice and touched Estelle's hand.

"Matt? Are you all right?" murmured the girl.

"Yes, I think so," said Matt, worried. "You?"

"My legs are trapped. There was a cave-in." Estelle's voice was weaker now. "Matt, you must go, before there's another explosion. There's a secret passage to the surface..."

"I won't leave you, Estelle," said Matt, desperately trying to free her.

"It's useless, Matt. Please – save yourself," she whispered.

"I'll go, but I'm going for help," said Matt with determination. "I'll be back to save you, Estelle!"

Blind in the darkness, he ran along the tunnel. Then, suddenly, it seemed there was no air.

"Help me," Matt gasped. "I'm suffocating."

Pictures

2 Look at the second picture in chapter 10, and tick the things you see.

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ☐ bull | ☐ field | ☐ file | ☐ hole |
| ☐ hour-glass | ☐ lift | ☐ ladder | ☐ lamp |
| ☐ pit-heap | ☐ pony | ☐ rock | ☐ study |



"I can't breathe... Estelle," whispered Matt, on the living room floor.

"Estelle? Oh... of course!" cried Linda. Suddenly everything was clear. Matt's body was here in front of her but his mind, his spirit, was in Victorian Newbridge, in the mine, in the accident.

"If I don't save him, both Matts will die!" she thought desperately, opening the PC. "Quickly, please," she implored the computer, typing the date and time of the accident and the approximate co-ordinates

for Newbridge coal mine. The hour-glass icon appeared and Linda started her most important time-trip of all.

It was night and Linda found herself in a field, confronted by a very angry bull.

"Sorry, bull. I know that I'm in your field," she said, trying to pacify the animal. But the bull had other ideas and Linda decided to run, jumping over a fence just in time. Now she was in another field with nicer companions – a group of ponies, it seemed.

"Poor animals," she said, realizing that they couldn't see her. "You must be pit ponies, blind after years working in the mine... The mine! If the ponies are here, I must be near the mine." Her hopes were confirmed by the enormous silhouette of the pit-heap against the night sky. Then she heard voices from the next field. Watching from behind the fence, she saw two men pushing a big rock.

Bert, why are we doing this?" said one of the men, in a sleepy voice. "Everslime says we have to cover that shaft from the new seam," replied the other man.

"The secret passage!" thought Linda. "They're blocking it! I must stop them... but how? I've only got the computer." Then she remembered that terrible music in the Youth Hostel, from Mr Wells' e-mail.

She switched on the computer and found the icon that she wanted – "My Music".

She clicked on it and scanned the list of files. "This is good, 'Nightmare music'," she read and clicked on the audio file, putting the PC's volume to maximum. The effect was instantaneous.

Bert, what's that terrible noise?" cried the first man, terrified. "I don't know, Harry," replied Bert, "but I'm not staying here to find out!"

As the men ran off, Linda ran to the hole. She held the men's lamp to look inside. Suddenly Matt appeared! He saw Linda and shouted with shock, "Aaah!!!"

"Matt, you're safe!" cried Linda happily. "I'm so happy to see you! Come on! Let's go home."

Matt, dirty and tired, looked at Linda sadly, "I can't, Linda. People are trapped down there."

"Matt, I know, but that's history. There was an accident here and they all died," said Linda. "We can't change the past."

"But I *can't* let them die," said Matt, taking the safety lamp from Linda. "Clem, Billy..."

"And Estelle?" said Linda, as her friend started to climb down the shaft again. Matt didn't answer. Then he said, "Go for help." He smiled. "It's good to see you, Linda."





Two Matts in Danger!

Characters

3 Match each sentence below (1-5) to the character from the story who probably said it. Add a verb of speech as shown in the example.

Example: "That's Mr Everslime's daughter!" *cried* Clem.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------|
| 1) "That's Mr Everslime's daughter!" | a) Linda |
| 2) "Help me, there's no air..." | b) Harry |
| 3) "Please come back soon, Matt." | c) Billy |
| 4) "It's a cave-in!" | d) Matt |
| 5) "There's a bull in that field." | e) Clem |

Words

4 In the wordsearch, find six words that rhyme with each of the following.

buy here no passed week write

A	W	N	I	E	E
D	E	L	E	O	R
P	A	S	T	U	I
A	K	N	O	W	G
B	A	H	D	I	H
S	H	E	A	R	T
E	B	Y	N	M	O

5 Match each "subject" to the corresponding verb of movement.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| 1) babies of 9 months | a) climb |
| 2) frogs by a river | b) crawl |
| 3) monkeys in the jungle | c) fall |
| 4) Mr Grimlard after a lot of beer | d) jump |
| 5) leaves from the trees in autumn | e) stumbles |

"I'll save you, Estelle!"

6 Match each sentence to the character that probably said it.

- 1) "I'll use the insurance money to buy a factory."
- 2) "I'll save that fantastic music on my computer!"
- 3) "I'll give the children extra gruel tonight."
- 4) "We'll never work for Everslime again."
- 5) "I'll leave this terrible place one day."
- 6) "We'll reveal the contents of Estelle's diary."

- a) Grimlard
- b) Mr Johnson and Fred Skinnybile
- c) Everslime
- d) Ginger
- e) Harry and Bert
- f) Mr Wells

7 Complete each sentence with the appropriate form of the verb in brackets.

- 1) A: It's Mary's birthday tomorrow.
B: Is it? I _____ (buy) her a new jumper.
- 2) A: The phone is ringing!
B: Don't worry. I _____ (answer) it.
- 3) Those bags are too heavy, Grandma. I _____
(carry) them for you.

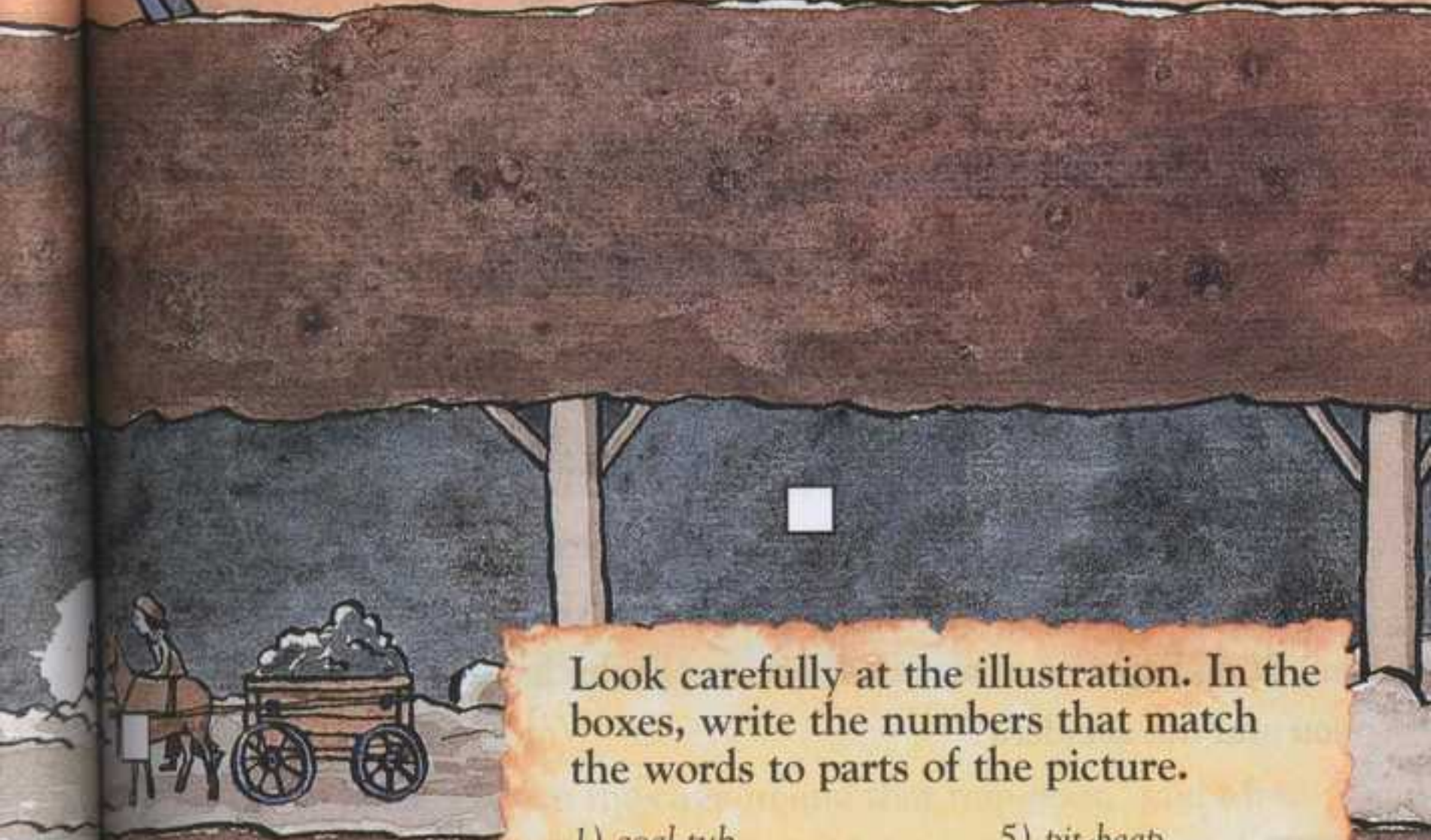
The story so far

8 Where are we in the story? Choose the correct option for each sentence.

- 1) Linda arrives at the coal mine at the right / wrong time.
- 2) Harry and Bert were fascinated by / afraid of the music from the PC.
- 3) The hole to the secret passage is covered / uncovered.
- 4) Estelle's legs are trapped under a wooden / plastic beam.
- 5) Linda now thinks we can / can't change the past.
- 6) Matt climbs up / down the ladder to save Estelle.

The Coal Mine





Look carefully at the illustration. In the boxes, write the numbers that match the words to parts of the picture.

- 1) coal tub
- 2) cutter
- 3) gallery
- 4) lift

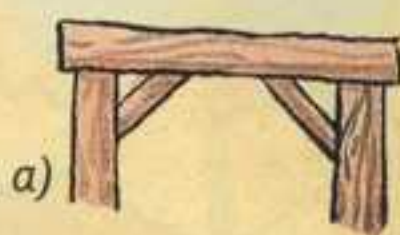
- 5) pit-heap
- 6) pit pony
- 7) seam
- 8) shaft



Words

I Match each word to its corresponding picture.

- 1) lamp
- 2) pistol
- 3) trap-door
- 4) beam



CHAPTER 11

salvation

T

he light from Matt's lamp disappeared into the darkness of the hole. Linda looked around.

"Where can I find help here?" she thought desperately. Then she saw a man walking towards her. "Help!" she cried. "There are some people trapped in the mine!"

But as the man came nearer, Linda saw that he had a pistol. The man looked at Linda, frowning, pointing the pistol in her direction. "I don't know who you are, girl, or what you said to frighten my men, but you are risking your life here. You should mind your own business." The man's cruel face was familiar from the pictures in old newspapers. "You are Ebenezer Everslime!" she cried. "I know all about you! If anything happens to *me*, everyone in Newbridge will know about *you* and the accident!"

M

att was in the tunnel. He knew it was dangerous, but he was convinced that by saving Estelle and the miners he could change the past. He also had another reason for saving Estelle. He liked her – a lot.

"Matt, is that you? You *did* come back," said Estelle, her eyes shining,

Beyond the story

2 What do you think each character should do at this point in the story? Write Y (yes) or N (no) for each possible choice, based on your own opinion.

- 1) Matt should return to the present with Linda.
- 2) Linda should help Matt to change the past.
- 3) Everslime should repent for his terrible actions.
- 4) Estelle should convince Matt to stay in the past.

Y	N
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐

Now read chapter 11 to discover what really happens!



"I don't think I'm hurt but I can't move my legs. Listen to that noise, Matt. Someone must still be alive on the other side!"

From the other side of the wall created by the cave-in Matt could hear a regular knocking.

"They're trapped between the cave-in and that trap-door," said Matt. "I'll free you, Estelle, and then let's hope that Linda arrives with help for them."

"Linda?" asked Estelle, surprised, as Matt tried to move the wooden beam from her legs. "A friend," said Matt. "She was worried about me, and came to look for me."

"A friend?" asked Estelle again, but at that moment Matt moved the beam and she was free.

"It's still dangerous down here, let's get out, quick!" said Matt.

Linda knew that at any moment Matt and Estelle would come out of the hole. "What will Everslime do?" she thought, looking at his pistol. He had the face of a desperate man.

"Mr Everslime," she said, an idea coming into her head, "I'm sorry but I must tell you some terrible news."

He smiled cruelly, "You can say what you like, girl, but I'll kill you all the same. I have nothing to lose."

"Yes, you do! You have your daughter!" said Linda. "Estelle went to the mine to prevent the accident."

"Impossible!" cried Everslime, incredulously. But behind him Linda could see Matt emerging from the hole behind Everslime.

She signaled to him to get down.

"It isn't impossible!" Linda shouted loudly. "Estelle followed that young miner who brought you the petition. Now, thanks to you, she's probably... dead!"

"**Liar!**" Everslime cried, but Linda was pointing to the hole at the end of the tunnel. A ghostly apparition was emerging from it, Matt carrying Estelle! Her eyes were shut, her face was white. She didn't move.

"Estelle!" cried Everslime. "Oh, my darling! What have I done?"

"You must **repent**, Ebenezer!" Linda told him. "And your daughter may recover! Repent!"

Everslime fell onto his **knees**, staring at the thin girl in Matt's arms.

"I'm so sorry, my darling," he **stammered**. "If only you can live, I'll change my ways... I'll do anything to save you, Estelle."

Matt put Estelle down carefully on the grass. Very slowly she opened her eyes. "Father," she said sadly, "now I am saved, but you must save the miners! You must open the trap-door your men blocked and free them or they will die."

"Yes," said Everslime. "You are saved and now I must pay for your life by helping them. It is a far, far better thing that I do now, than I have ever done," and he walked towards the coal mine.

Exhausted by their adventures, Matt and Linda hugged one another, laughing.

"Estelle's 'resurrection' was a great idea, Linda!" said Matt, laughing. "It was lucky that you guessed my intention, and Estelle was fantastic – she really looked dead!" smiled Linda.

"Estelle," said Matt, seeing the girl's unhappy expression. "I have a confession to make. I..."

"Don't say anything," Estelle smiled sadly. "Tonight I finally did something important in my life, and *you* were my inspiration. Now I must try to make my father change his ways. Goodbye, my prince."

For the two friends, Matt and Linda, it was time to leave the past and go back to the present. Linda pressed the ENTER key on the portable computer; they saw the familiar white light flash from it, then she was at home in her bedroom. But where was Matt?





salvation

Story summary

3 Put the sentences in the correct order.

- ☐ Ebenezer Everslime appears with a pistol.
- ☐ Estelle convinces her father to save the miners.
- ☐ Everslime repents.
- ☐ Everslime thinks that Estelle is dead.
- ☐ Everslime threatens Linda because she scared his men.
- ☐ Linda looks for help.
- ☐ Linda tells Everslime that Estelle is down the mine.
- ☐ Matt appears with Estelle in his arms.
- ☐ Matt frees Estelle.
- ☐ Matt hears a signal from the other miners.

Words

4 Use the following adverbs to complete the sentences below.

desperately sadly loudly noisily
incredulously carefully slowly cruelly

- 1) "My dog died yesterday," said Mary _____.
- 2) "No breakfast for you today boys! You must start work early," said Mr Grimlard _____.
- 3) The children talked _____ all the way to school.
- 4) "How much did you spend on that computer?" cried my father, _____.
- 5) Rock music was playing _____ at the party when we arrived.
- 6) Sue did her homework _____ but she still made a lot of mistakes.
- 7) "Please let me go!" the girl shouted _____ to the thief.
- 8) "Please drive _____, there are children crossing the road here."

Pictures

- 5 Look at the second picture in this chapter, and correct the mistakes that appear in this description.

Linda is near the pit-head and the rock. Everslime is behind her and he has a pistol in his pocket. Tall, with dark hair, his eyes are very sad. He is wearing a jacket and pants. Matt and Billy are coming out of the hole. They look like a sinister apparition.

Language

- 6 Use the following verbs in their imperative form - either positive or negative - to complete the commands below.

eat change close
forget get

- 1) "_____ your gruel, boy!"
- 2) "_____ out of my office now!"
- 3) "_____ the trap-door, lad!"
- 4) "_____ the past!"
- 5) "_____ our daughter's birthday!"

THE IMPERATIVE

"Repent, Ebenezer!"
Linda commanded.
"Don't say anything,"
Estelle smiled sadly.

Beyond the story

- 7 In chapter 11, when Everslime repents, he uses the same words that were spoken by the protagonist of Charles Dickens' *A Tale of Two Cities*. What do these words mean? Choose the correct answer.

"It is a far, far better thing that I do now, than I have ever done."

- 1) I am going to do a very cruel action.
- 2) I'm a good man and I'll continue to be kind.
- 3) I wasn't a good man, but now I'll do something good.
- 4) I was a good man, but now I'm going to do bad things.



The story so far

1 Where does Matt find himself now? Choose the most likely hypothesis.

- 1) He's still in Victorian Newbridge.
- 2) He's in Newbridge after the car accident.
- 3) He's in Newbridge with his parents.
- 4) He's in Greenwood with Linda.
- 5) He's in Greenwood at Mr Wells' house.

CHAPTER 12

Return to a New Future

"Matt?" Linda ran out of her room and bumped into her father! "Dad?" she said, confused. "What are you doing here?" "Well, I *do* live here, sleepyhead. Happy birthday!" smiled her father. "I've got a surprise for you. Just give me ten minutes to finish some work. It's great working from home – much better than that stressful office!" He kissed an astonished Linda and went downstairs to his study.

"How strange! Everything's different today!" thought Linda. "Dad still lives here with Mum and me, he has a new job, and he's so relaxed and happy! What's happening?" An incredible thought came to her. "The past *has* changed! And if my past is different, then perhaps Matt's is too..."

She rushed to her PC, connected to the Internet and did a search for "Newbridge – history". A website appeared and she searched frantically for the fatal date – 20th July 1864. She was right! "No victims in mine accident – owner and daughter are heroes!" she read. Then she noticed another link and clicked on it. "Ebenezer Everslime and daughter, Estelle – the story of two important benefactors for Newbridge."

"Incredible!" said Linda. "The Everslimes gave money to improve the lives of everyone in Newbridge, particularly the miners and their families! They built a school, a hospital and a library..."

Words

2 Match each word to its corresponding definition.

1) headmaster

2) sleepyhead

3) stressful

4) trembling

5) welcome

a) say hello to somebody

b) the principal of a school

c) moving like the ground during
an earthquake

d) someone who just woke up

e) like studying for an exam



But... if Estelle didn't die in the accident and Ebenezer was a good man, then perhaps Matt's dad didn't investigate Bob Everslime, and perhaps he's not..." Linda didn't dare hope.

Linda!" called her mom. "Time for your birthday breakfast!"
"Coming, Mom!" Linda ran downstairs. "I just have to call someone first."

Hands trembling, she called Matt's home in Newbridge. "Hello?" With enormous relief she heard the familiar voice of Mr Johnson. "S-sorry, sorry, wrong number!" she stammered. She wanted to shout with joy! Matt's parents were *alive*!

But a few minutes later Linda thought of another, less happy, aspect to consider. "If they are alive, then Matt still lives with them in Newbridge.

That means he never came to London and he never met *me*," she thought sadly.

On Monday, after a wonderful birthday, Linda discovered lots of other changes in her life.

At school assembly when the headmaster came in, Linda almost shouted with surprise – Mr Wells was the headmaster! But the biggest surprise was still to come.

"Boys and girls, today we have a new pupil," announced Mr Wells. A boy in his new uniform stood up in the front row. "Please welcome Matt Johnson." Linda gasped as Mr Wells continued, "Matt is living with his grandmother until his parents arrive in Greenwood. When his father starts his new job in London. We hope Matt will be happy here." Everyone applauded and Linda thought, "Now everything is really perfect!"

"Linda Chapman," called Mr Wells, "please accompany Matt to my office."

Linda walked towards Matt, smiling. "Hello, Matt, I'm Linda."

"Hello Linda," he replied, but his smile became a perplexed frown.

"Sorry, Linda, but do I already know you?" Then he laughed.

"No, that's impossible!"

"You *do* know me," thought Linda. Then she said, joking, "Perhaps we met in another life! Follow me! Mr Wells' office is on the first floor."

Mr Wells opened his office door when they knocked.

He was headmaster now, but he still looked like a mad scientist!

"Ah, Matt, Linda," he smiled, "Come in, come in. Please sit down.

I just wanted to show you something very interesting on my computer..."





Return to a New Future

Check your comprehension

3 Match each character to his/her circumstances at the beginning and the end of the story.

BEGINNING	CHARACTERS	END
a) were separated	1) Mr Wells	I) his parents are alive
b) was an orphan	2) Linda's parents	II) he's the headmaster
c) was the History teacher	3) Matt	III) they're nice
d) were a nasty family	4) The Everslimes	IV) they're happy together

Characters

4 What is likely to happen to each of the following characters?

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 1) Billy | a) married a famous writer and was a leader of the Suffragettes. |
| 2) Clem | b) became clowns in a circus. |
| 3) Ebenezer Everslime | c) became the leader of the National Union of Miners. |
| 4) Estelle | d) invented a machine for collecting threads and became rich. |
| 5) Ginger | e) went to school and later became a teacher. |
| 6) Grimlard | f) married Ebenezer and opened a post office. |
| 7) Harry and Bert | g) married his maid and improved conditions for the miners. |
| 8) Mrs Skinnybile | h) ate and drank too much and exploded! |

Words

5 Tick the words that are related to the Internet.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ☐ assembly | ☐ link |
| ☐ connect | ☐ lollipop |
| ☐ frown | ☐ row |
| ☐ investigate | ☐ search |
| ☐ library | ☐ website |

Language

6 Complete the sentences below using each of the following verbs in the correct form – either simple past or present perfect.

VERB TENSES - SIMPLE PAST AND PRESENT PERFECT

The past *has* changed!
Estelle *didn't* die in the accident!

find change convince make survive come spend

- 1) Matt _____ to Greenwood before his parents.
- 2) Linda's father _____ his job.
- 3) Ebenezer Everslime _____ a lot of money to help the poor.
- 4) Mr Johnson _____ a good job in London.
- 5) Estelle _____ her father to do good actions.
- 6) Clem and Billy _____ the mine disaster.
- 7) Mrs Chapman _____ a birthday cake.

Beyond the story

7 What will happen to the two friends, Matt and Linda? Decide whether each of the following events is certain (C) or only hypothetical (H).

- 1) Linda and Matt will become friends again. _____
- 2) Linda and Matt will have an adventure in Roman times. _____
- 3) Mr Wells will tell Linda and Matt about the time-trip programme. _____
- 4) Linda and Matt will time-trip again. _____
- 5) Linda and Matt will become boyfriend and girlfriend. _____
- 6) Mrs Chapman's recipe for chocolate cake will become famous! _____

Victorian Britain



The reign of Queen Victoria, from 1837 to 1901, was an important period of economic, cultural, political and social change in Britain. The expansion of industry (iron, coal, cotton) and communications (railways and telegraphs) had a strong effect on the economy. Cities became bigger as people arrived from the countryside to work in the factories. The British Empire also expanded into its greatest period, with many colonies in Africa and Asia.

Victorian values were based on a strong moral code of work, frugality and responsibility towards the family and society. More people went to school in this period and there was greater public interest in literature, art and music. Dickens' novels, for example, were popular among all classes. There was also a growing awareness of social problems and the misery generated by the working conditions in the factories. Slowly the middle class began to realise they must do something to help the poor.

Read the article above, and answer the questions.

- 1) When did Queen Victoria live?
- 2) Which were the principal industries that expanded during the Industrial Revolution?
- 3) Why did people leave the countryside?
- 4) Where were most of Britain's colonies located?
- 5) Why do you think there was an increase of interest in literature at this time?

Charles Dickens

Charles Dickens is one of the most important figures in 19th century English literature, and is considered to have encapsulated the period definitively in his popular novels. Dickens captured the Victorian public's imagination with his emotive, exciting fiction. But he also



used his books to attack the social abuses of his times. His personal experience of injustice and poverty made him an active social reformer. He was particularly concerned about the terrible conditions of children forced to work in factories and mines, and about the terrible cruelty in the workhouses where orphans often ended their days.

Dickens was born in 1812 near Portsmouth. When he was twelve, his father was arrested for debts which he couldn't pay and the whole family was put in a debtor's prison, as was the custom at that time. Charles later went to work in a factory in London, until his father found money to send him to school in 1825. He wrote about these terrible experiences in his novel *David Copperfield* (1849-50), considered to be one of his best works.

When he grew up, Dickens began a career as a journalist, writing about Parliamentary debates for the London newspapers. In private he began writing stories and in 1833 started his literary career with the publication of a series of illustrated stories, under the pseudonym "Boz". Many of his most important works, such as *The Pickwick Papers* (1836-37), were originally published in episodes in magazines, and this influenced their structure: many chapters end with suspense, leaving the reader impatient to discover what would happen the next week in the next episode!

One of Dickens' most celebrated novels was *Oliver Twist* (1836), the story of a workhouse boy with the courage to ask for more food, who suffers all kinds of adventures in the dark world of crime and poverty which faced an unprotected orphan in Victorian London. This work was important because it introduced a new genre of "social problem fiction" into English literature. Other well-known works are *A Christmas Carol* (1843) and his industrial novel, *Hard Times* (1854).



True or false? Indicate T or F.

- 1) Dickens was American.
- 2) His family went to prison for a short period.
- 3) His first job was in a mine.
- 4) Dickens went to school when he was 25.
- 5) David Copperfield is autobiographical.
- 6) Dickens started to write stories using another name.
- 7) His novels were originally published on CDs.
- 8) Oliver Twist is the story of a rich boy who lives in Milan.
- 9) Dickens wrote about the problems of the poor in Victorian England.

T	F
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐
☐	☐

Now rewrite the false statements with the correct information.

The Industrial Revolution

The Industrial Revolution is the name of the period from 1750 to 1850, a time of great change in British industry. The Industrial Revolution started in England in the first half of the 18th century. It was characterized by the introduction of new technology – particularly in the cotton and wool industries – with many inventors developing important new machines that drastically changed the methods of producing things.

Steam power

The first steam-powered machine was invented in 1698 by Thomas Savery and improved by Thomas Newcomen. In the 1760s James Watt constructed a steam engine that could power a number of machines.



1 True or false? Indicate T or F.

- | | T | F |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1) The Industrial Revolution started after the Second World War. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 2) The Industrial Revolution started in France. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 3) New technology changed the ways of producing cotton and wool cloth. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 4) The new machines were invented by British people. | ☐ | ☐ |

2 What types of energy were used before the invention of steam-powered engines? Tick them below.

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ☐ animals | ☐ manual | ☐ water |
| ☐ electrical | ☐ solar | ☐ wind |

The Textile Industry

An important industry in Britain was the production of cloth (cotton, wool, etc).

Initially people worked at home making the cloth by hand so it was called a "cottage industry". Then, in 1764, James Hargreaves invented a very efficient spinning machine, called the "Spinning Jenny". But this machine was expensive and most spinners working at home couldn't buy it. From the 1780s these machines worked with steam power. This kind of power was only available in the factories, so spinners had to move from their small villages to live in the towns and work in the factories if they wanted to keep working in the industry. This process is called urbanization. As a consequence, the cottage industry became a factory-based industry. Factory workers, especially the women and children, worked long hours for very low pay.



1 Match each word to its corresponding definition.

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| 1) spinning machine | a) power produced by water vapour |
| 2) spinner | b) people working at home to produce goods |
| 3) cottage industry | c) a person who operates a spinning wheel or machine |
| 4) steam power | d) a machine that transforms cotton fibres into cloth |

2 True or false? Indicate T or F.

- | | T | F |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1) The Spinning Jenny was a popular folk dance. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 2) Cottage industry was replaced by factory-based industry. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 3) Spinning machines were steam-powered. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 4) Urbanization is when city people go to live in the country. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 5) Women and children received more money than men. | ☐ | ☐ |

Transportation

As industry developed, better transport was necessary to distribute the goods produced. A network of roads and canals was constructed across Britain. The greatest revolution came in 1804, when Richard Trevithick had the first ideas for the steam train. These ideas were developed by George Stephenson, an engineer in the Newcastle coal mines. He invented a locomotive to transport coal in the mines. In 1823 Stephenson opened a factory in Newcastle to build locomotives. The first public railway opened in 1825, connecting Darlington to Stockton in north-east England. In 1829 Stephenson created his "Rocket" to carry passengers at great speed. Soon there were railways all over Britain and Europe.

- 1 We are in the year 1830. Use the following words to complete this text that advertises a train journey.

line passengers station steam trips

The incredible new form of transport!!!

The train!

Newbridge – Donchester _____ opens 20th June

Locomotive with _____ power

Can carry 50 _____

3 _____ a day

Tickets from Newbridge _____



Mines and Miners in Victorian Britain

Life for people working in the coal mines of Britain during the Industrial Revolution was very hard. Not only men but also women and children as young as five years old worked in the mines and many of them died in the dangerous conditions under the earth. In the early days of mining only primitive machines were used and most of the heavy work was done by ponies. These poor animals lived all their lives under the ground and soon became completely blind from working in the dark.

The biggest risks for miners were not from cave-ins but from poisonous gases – particularly the lethal one they called “black damp” – and accidents with run-away wagons. Canaries were often used to detect the presence of gas: they were put into the new tunnels in cages, and if they survived, it was believed there was no gas. In these dangerous working conditions, miners did not live very long and their living conditions were difficult. They usually lived in poor houses, which were often damp and lacked proper sanitation. They were allowed only five days holiday a year and were paid very little. On average they had to stop work at 40 because of illness. When a miner died, his family was usually left destitute and taken to special institutions for the poor, the infamous workhouses.



A boy's first job in the mine was usually to open and close the trap-doors which separated one area of the mine from the next. This was the most dangerous place in the mines because of the risk of run-away wagons, and children were often killed in accidents. Because of their small size, children were also frequently used to pull coal tubs (small wagons) in tunnels that were too narrow for ponies.

In 1842, in response to immense public pressure (thanks to Charles Dickens and other social activists writing about the terrible conditions in the mines), the British government finally approved a law which prevented children under 10 from working in mines and which gave miners some limited rights.

1 Answer the following questions.

- 1) Why were pit ponies blind?
- 2) What were the biggest risks for miners in the mines?
- 3) What were miners' homes like?
- 4) At what age did miners usually stop work?
- 5) What jobs did children do in the mines?
- 6) What changed in 1842? Why?

2 Match the times of day to the activities of a 19th-century miner.

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 1) 1.15 | a) I'm a cutter, so I start extracting coal. |
| 2) 1.30 | b) Before supper I help my lads study – I want to give them a better life. |
| 3) 1.50 | c) I have some bread and cheese for breakfast, then I go to the coal mine. |
| 4) 2.00 | d) At last, my shift is finished and I can go home. |
| 5) 6.00 | e) The second half of my shift starts. |
| 6) 6.15 | f) This week I'm in the first shift, so I get up when most people are in bed. |
| 7) 10.00 | g) Time for bed, after a supper of vegetable soup and potatoes. |
| 8) 10.30 | h) I arrive at my cottage, tired and dirty. |
| 9) 16.30 | i) After 4 hours in a narrow seam I have a break. |
| 10) 18.00 | j) I take the lift to the seam I'm working in. |

Unions

After many years of working in terrible, dangerous conditions for little money, miners began to organise their protest, forming unions. These unions were initially at a local level, but soon the British Federation of Miners was created. They asked for better working conditions, higher pay and better living conditions. They organised accident funds and pension funds, too. These also covered miners who could not work because of illness, until they qualified for a state pension. Most of their requests were accepted – the government realized that the miners' contribution to the economy of Britain was very important. The National Union of Miners became the strongest union in the twentieth century. But in the 1980s they lost a desperate battle to keep the mines open and save miners' jobs, and so generations of courage, tradition and industry came to an end.

True or false? Indicate T or F.

- | | T | F |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1) Miners worked in terrible conditions, but they were well paid. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 2) Miners' unions were initially limited to particular areas or individual coal mine. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 3) Miners only wanted to improve their conditions at work. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 4) The family of a miner killed in an accident received some money from the union. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 5) A miner who retired with lung disease could immediately have a state pension. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 6) Miners were fundamental to Britain's success after the Industrial Revolution. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 7) The NUM thought it was a good idea to close the pits. | ☐ | ☐ |

Now rewrite the false statements using the correct information.

The Davy Lamp

For miners in the 19th century working in primitive conditions under the ground, one of the biggest problems was the risk of finding explosive gas. In 1815 a type of lamp was invented which they could use underground – the Davy lamp. It had less risk of starting a fire if the lamp came into contact with gas.



Read the following sentences, and arrange them in the correct sequence to write the history of the Davy safety lamp.

- ☐ One of the biggest dangers in the mines was gas.
- ☐ In addition, if the level of oxygen went below 17%, the flame disappeared.
- ☐ Explosions were often the result of gas coming into contact with a miner's lamp.
- ☐ It also offered another type of accident protection: the flame became blue in the presence of CO_2 , a suffocating gas that miners called the "black damp".
- ☐ This "safety" lamp protected the flame inside a piece of gauze.
- ☐ This could cause suffocation, explosions, or both.
- ☐ But the lamp, commonly called a "Davy Lamp" by the miners, was still dangerous, so a doctor, William Reid Clanny, improved it, substituting the gauze with glass.
- ☐ So, in 1815, the colliery owners commissioned an inventor, Sir Humphrey Davy, to make a safe lamp.
- ☐ But the miners had to have lamps to work underground.

1 Complete the crossword puzzle.

Across

- 1) Where Ginger lives.
- 3) An organisation that helps workers.
- 4) "Homes" for animals in captivity.
- 6) You must do this if you're late for school.
- 9) A very small, acrobatic insect.
- 10) A young boy.
- 11) Water that comes from your eyes.
- 13) A small yellow bird.
- 14) Like summer weather.
- 15) You use a keyboard to do this.
- 16) Next to something.

Down

- 2) A person with property.
- 4) A synonym for pit.
- 5) To write your name at the end of a letter.
- 7) Without warning.
- 8) Showing justice to everyone.
- 12) Like a room of people with cigarettes.

A

alive – _____
 almost – _____
 any more – _____
 apron – _____
 ashamed – _____
 available – _____
 awareness – _____
 awful – _____

B

back – _____
 beak – _____
 beam – _____
 to belong – _____
 blanket – _____
 blast – _____
 blind – _____

to book – _____
 brave – _____
 to breathe – _____
 bright – _____
 building – _____
 bull – _____
 to bump into – _____
 by – _____

C

cage – _____
 canary – _____
 to capture – _____
 to (not) care – _____
 cave-in – _____
 chain reaction – _____
 to clear – _____
 close – _____
 cloth cap – _____



coal-dust – _____
 coal mine – _____
 to cough – _____
 to crouch – _____
 cruelty – _____
 custom – _____
 cutter – _____

D

damp – _____
 danger – _____
 to dare – _____
 darkness – _____
 death trap – _____
 debt – _____
 debtors' prison – _____
 to defeat – _____
 destitute – _____
 detached house – _____
 to detect – _____

to develop – _____
 to dictate – _____
 done (v. past part.) – _____
 drive – _____

E

earthquake – _____
 employee – _____
 even – _____
 everywhere – _____

F

to face – _____
 fair – _____
 fear – _____
 feeling – _____
 fence – _____
 to fill in a form – _____

2 Match each word from column A to a related term from column B. Then write complete sentences like the one in the example.

Example: blind – white stick

A blind person walks with a white stick.

A

- 1) blind
- 2) breathe
- 3) canary
- 4) cutter
- 5) stammer
- 6) fill in
- 7) fleas
- 8) liar
- 9) maid
- 10) sleepyhead

B

- a) apron
- b) yellow
- c) wake up
- d) form
- e) lungs
- f) scratch
- g) seam
- h) fear
- i) white stick
- j) truth

to find out – _____

fine – _____

fire – _____

flea – _____

fog – _____

foreman – _____

fright – _____

froth – _____

to frown – _____

frugality – _____

fund – _____

G

to gasp – _____

to get into trouble – _____

to give a cry – _____

to go out – _____

goods – _____

ground – _____

to growl – _____

guarantee – _____

gun – _____

H

handkerchief – _____

headmaster – _____

hid (v. past), to hide – _____

hole – _____

hour-glass – _____

to hug – _____

to hurry away – _____

hurt – _____

I

to improve – _____

to increase – _____

insurance – _____

iron – _____

J

to joke – _____

K

kind – _____

3 Write the following words in the appropriate column in the table.

apron ashamed belong blanket bull canary cloth cap
crouch handkerchief headmaster flea foreman growl
low maid mayor remind rough shout stammer
stressful toad trust whisper

ANIMALS	JOB	THINGS MADE ON A LOOM	ADJECTIVES	VERBS FOR DIFFERENT VOICES	OTHER VERBS

kind (n.) - _____
knee - _____
to knock - _____

L

lad - _____
laugh - _____
law - _____
left-luggage - _____
to let - _____
liar - _____
lock - _____
to look after - _____
loom - _____
low - _____
lung - _____

M

maid - _____
make-up - _____
master - _____
mayor - _____
Mind your own business! - _____

mine - _____
mining - _____
to miss - _____

N

network - _____
noise - _____

O

owner - _____

P

pay - _____
pit-head - _____
pit-heap - _____
to please - _____
to point at - _____
to power - _____

Q

to qualify - _____
queue - _____

R

ragged – _____
 railways – _____
 to reach – _____
 ready – _____
 to realise – _____
 reason – _____
 to remind – _____
 to repent – _____
 to reveal – _____
 rights – _____
 to ring – _____
 rough – _____
 row – _____
 rude – _____
 run-away – _____
 to rush – _____

S

safety – _____
 to scratch – _____
 screen – _____
 seam – _____
 shift – _____
 to shine – _____
 to shout – _____
 to sign – _____
 sleepyhead – _____
 smoky – _____
 snoring – _____
 so – _____
 social reformer – _____
 spinner – _____
 spinning – _____
 spinning machine – _____
 spiteful – _____
 to stammer – _____
 steam – _____
 stick – _____
 stressful – _____
 suddenly – _____
 surface – _____
 suspiciously – _____
 to sweeten – _____

T

tear – _____
 terrified – _____
 threat – _____
 threatening – _____
 throat – _____
 through – _____
 thud – _____
 tied – _____
 toad – _____
 told (v. past part.), to tell – _____
 trap-door – _____
 to trust – _____
 truth – _____
 tub – _____
 turning – _____
 to type – _____
 tyrant – _____

U

uncaring – _____
 Union – _____
 unscrupulous – _____
 useless – _____

V

valuable – _____
 values – _____

W

to warn – _____
 way out – _____
 What's up? – _____
 What's wrong? – _____
 to whisper – _____
 to wish – _____
 to wonder – _____
 to work – _____
 workhouse – _____

人物简介

Matt Johnson(**马特·约翰逊**): (英国)格林伍德中学的学生, 父母去世前住在纽布里奇, 后搬到格林伍德与奶奶同住。

Linda Chapman(**琳达·查普曼**): (英国)格林伍德中学的学生, 与马特是好朋友。

Mr. Wells(**韦尔斯先生**): 马特与琳达的历史老师, 开发了一种时空旅行软件, 并秘密地告诉了马特和琳达两人。

Mr. Johnson(**约翰逊先生**): 马特的爸爸, 因挖人黑幕而与妻子遭到暗算。

Mr. Grimlard(**格里姆辣先生**): 孤儿院负责人。

Ebenezer Everslime(**埃比尼泽·埃弗斯拉姆**): 靠煤矿起家, 进入政界, 为人奸诈。

Bob Everslime(**鲍勃·埃弗斯拉姆**): 埃比尼泽的后代, 打算竞选市长。

Clem(**克莱姆**): 埃弗斯拉姆煤矿最好的挖煤工。

Estelle(**埃斯特尔**): 埃比尼泽·埃弗斯拉姆的女儿, 为人善良。

第1章 艰难的决定(p. 4-7)

“这不是真的! 这绝不会是真的!”马特·约翰逊突然醒了。依旧是那个噩梦: 那是纽布里奇中学放假前的最后一天。他回到家, 父母不在, 桌上有一张纸条, 上面写着“亲爱的马特, 我们很快就会到家, 有你一份意想不到的礼物! 妈妈和爸爸。”他记得那份礼物——去加州度暑假。梦中的第二个场景是警察来了, 他们告诉马特他的父母已在车祸中身亡。马特觉得很难受, 感到屋子在旋转, 他昏沉沉地摔倒在地。梦中的场景转到葬礼, 然后是自己迁到格林伍德市, 和奶奶一起生活。

不过这次, 在他醒来时, 他记住了噩梦中的一个奇怪的细节。在他昏沉沉时, 他看到身边一位漂亮女孩子的脸, 是琳达。不过这可能吗?

他当时还不认识琳达。他们是在事故发生后在格林伍德认识的。在他回想起自己与琳达穿越时空到中世纪, 然后又到拓荒前的美国西部等种种冒险的经历时, 他笑了。自从他认识琳达后, 他开心起来, 便不再做那个噩梦了。但现在, 噩梦又来了。“看来我必须要做些什么!” 他小声对自己说, 心里怀着一丝希望。

“我回来了！”琳达·查普曼高高兴兴地回到家中。正值周六，她回家前在游泳池中游了一下午。母亲正在打电话，显得不高兴。

“妈，怎么啦？”琳达问。

“刚才是你爸。明天是你生日，他想见你。他为什么不早说呢？现在我把你的生日派对一切都准备好了，他才告诉我。不过，他想见你，我也不能阻拦他。”

“哦，妈！”琳达不高兴地说，“我想跟你、马特和朋友们一起过。爸爸总是身心疲惫，动不动就发火。”

“琳达，都怪他的工作。他把工作看得比什么都重要。”琳达的母亲苦笑着说，“别担心，我会想出一个两全齐美的办法，让大家都高兴的。哎，琳达，马特来了。他在你的房间里，在玩电脑。”

琳达笑了。她跑上楼来见她最要好的朋友，结果发现马特不在那里。电脑屏幕上有几个字“发生错误，电脑已中病毒”。接着她在床上看到一张纸条，是马特写的，内容如下：

琳达：

你好！

如果你看到这张纸条，那有两种可能：一是出了问题，二是我的计划奏效了。你可能在问“什么计划”，它是我必须要做的事情——我想拯救我的父母，所以我用“时空旅者”软件回到车祸发生前一天的纽布里奇。我知道韦尔斯老师说过我们不能改变过去，但我们可以使用电脑进行秘密的时空旅行，我一定要看一下我是否可以改变我父母的命运。琳达，我很想念他们。如果这个计划真的奏效，或者出了差错，那我们不知还能不能见面。不过我想我们会见面的，因为我在格林伍德遇到你之前，早就认识你了——你的脸曾出现在我的梦中。

琳达，我永远也不会忘记你的。

马特

第2章 危险的想法(p. 10-13)

“唉，马特！”琳达不高兴地说，“你为何不让我帮你呢？”突然，她听到了可怕的笑声。是电脑发出来的！

琳达看了一下屏幕，上面的“发生错误，电脑已中病毒”在闪烁，一会儿红，一会儿黑。“坏了！”琳达想，“如果电脑中了病毒，马特可能需要我的帮助。”

她移动鼠标，一封电子邮件出现了，伴随着同样讨厌的笑声。邮件内容是：

“谁让你喜欢马特，而不太喜欢我，这下你们没法再一起用电脑了。——哈！哈！约翰尼”

“约翰尼·布里格斯！”琳达愤愤地想，“这人怎么这么坏！他知道我跟马特是朋友而心怀嫉妒。不过他这样做也太恐怖了！如果马特用电脑时，电脑已中病毒，那谁也不知道他现在会在哪一年的哪个地方！”

妈，呃，我……把外套忘在游泳池了！”琳达边喊，跑了出去。不过，她没去游泳池。几分钟后，她来到韦尔斯老师家。韦尔斯先生不仅仅是琳达在格林伍德中学的历史老师，还是“时空旅者”软件的开发者的。

“啧啧！这事太麻烦了！”韦尔斯先生严肃地说，“我跟你和马特说过很多遍，我们不能改变过去，那太危险了。如果我们改变了过去的一件事，那就会发生连锁反应，一切都会改变。我曾去过拓荒前的美国西部，目的是观察土著人，而不是改变历史。我可以理解马特的心情，但事情既然已经发生，那也没办法。想想，若是世界被一些来自历史的独裁者所统治，而这些人又被命运所打败，那将是一种什么样的情况？”

“哦，那我们要做些什么？”琳达有些绝望地问，“我们不知道马特是否到达了纽布里奇的那个时间点。但如果他到了，我们就必须阻止他！”

韦尔斯先生走出房间，带着他的笔记本电脑回来了。

“我们没有多少时间了，必须让历史维持原状！”

他开始输入纽布里奇的坐标。“车祸发生在什么时间？”韦尔斯先生问。

“7月20日。”琳达回答说，“您在做什么？”

“我要在马特造成混乱之前阻止他！”

“等一下，我去。”琳达坚定地说，“如果他在那个时间到达纽布里奇的话，我可以说服他放弃那个想法；如果他没有到，那就需要您帮忙。您必须修好我的电脑，找到他所在的地点和时间。您的电话呢？”

韦尔斯先生指了一下桌子上的电话。琳达于是给家里打了一下电话。

“妈，是我。我没找到外套，正好遇到了韦尔斯老师。我告诉他我的电脑出了问题，他要去看一下。可以吗？妈，您还记得韦尔斯老师喜欢您做的巧克力饼吧？昨天做的巧克力饼还有一块在冰箱里，对吧？太好了！再见。”

韦尔斯先生听她讲到巧克力饼，高兴起来，说，“好吧，你很果断，就这样吧，我们走，时间紧急。”

马特通过时空旅行，到达时正值黑夜，周围的一切被奇怪的浓雾所覆盖着。他分不太清周围的建筑，不过他确信自己是在纽布里奇。这些雾熏得他的咽喉和眼睛很难受，但他更担心的是时间。“我在电脑上把时间设定在了7月20日，”他焦急地想，“我希望自己没迟到。”

第3章 古怪的情形(p. 16-19)

“**纽**布里奇的史蒂芬森路，7月19日早上8点半。这样我就有时间找到马特并阻止他了。”琳达告诉韦尔斯先生这些信息以输入他的笔记本电脑。

“好了，”韦尔斯先生动情地说，“琳达，祝你好运。我会把你的电脑修好，不过能不能让历史维持原状就看你的了。”

韦尔斯先生的电脑屏幕上出现了一个旋转的沙漏。琳达坐在它面前，环顾了一下自己的房间。“老师，再见。我希望能带着马特很快回来。”她按了一下回车键，消失在一道白光中。

嘟嘟！琳达落在马路中间，一辆车正向她驶来！她跌倒在地，那辆车在离她和笔记本电脑几厘米的地方停了下来。

“呀，真险啊，”她想道。

“你没事吧？你从哪里一下子冒出来的？”司机焦急地问。

他把琳达扶起来，看她没受伤，很是高兴。琳达看了看这个人。她在照片中见过这张慈祥的脸，觉得他长得很像自己最好的朋友——是马特的爸爸！

“对不起，约翰逊先生……呃，我是说您。”琳达纠正了自己的说法，但对方好奇地看着她和她的笔记本电脑。

“你怎么知道我的名字？”他惊奇地问。

“我……我是马特的一个朋友。”琳达尴尬地回答。

“哦！”他笑了，“马特从没有跟我谈起你。你叫什么名字？”

“琳达。”她回答道，接着脑筋很快地一转，说：“我要去赶公共汽车，再见！”马特的爸爸吃惊地看着琳达朝公共汽车站相反的方向跑了。

真是怪了！”琳达心想，“这么巧！”她停下来，回头看见马特的爸爸已开车走了。

“我现在要怎么做？韦尔斯老师说马特将他的到达时间定在发生车祸的前一天，我想去他家看看他是否今天到的。晚上怎么办？我不能老呆在街上，得找个地方睡觉。”

她四周看了一下，发现自己站在一个典型的英国郊区街道上，街道边都是一些很大的别墅，个个前面都有美丽的花园，外面都停放着大型轿车。

琳达心中满是忧虑。“如果马特没来呢？韦尔斯老师说我们不能改变过去，但我不能眼睁睁看着马特的父母明天出车祸。那太恐怖了。我必须提前警告他们。”

琳达四处看了一下，有些不知所措。忽然，她不禁喊了声，“马特！”琳达马上躲在了——一辆停在马路上的黑色轿车后面。这时，马特和他的妈妈从对面房子里走了出来。他妈妈跟她在马特照片中的样子一模一样，马特则不同，他要更年轻一些。

“对了，”琳达想，“这是我认识他之前的马特。”

她看着他们坐进一辆车，笑着想，“他肯定跟往常一样上学要迟到了。咦，这太怪了——如果两个马特相遇，那会是什么样子？”

马特他们开车走了，这时琳达前面这辆黑色轿车也启动起来，吓得她跳了起来。车内是两个身穿黑衣，戴着墨镜的男子。他们警惕地看着琳达，把电动窗打开。

“你好，呃，我……电脑丢了。”琳达结结巴巴地说，“嗯，您能告诉我附近有没有青年招待所？”

这两个人没说活，关上车窗，开车走了。

“真怪呀。他们要干什么？”琳达想。

真是糟糕！”马特想，“我肯定是在纽布里奇，一些房子我能认出来，知道我家就在附近，但这么大的雾让我迷了路。”这时他听到教堂钟声响起，正好是午夜。

“我知道这是圣托马斯教堂的钟声。过了公园，我就到家了。”

在浓雾中，马特找不到公园门口，于是决定从墙上爬过去。“我不记得纽布里奇有这样的雾。”他心里一边想一边跳进里面的花园，“不对啊。”突然，一条大黑狗从雾里跑出来，拦住了马特的去路。

“怎么啦？”有人问。这时一个拿着长枪的高个子男人出现在狗身后。“有小偷来偷主人的东西。”他接着以一种低沉、恐吓的声音说道，“小子，进孤儿院吧。”

第4章 在孤儿院内(p. 22-25)

“小子，自己找个床。这里不是维多利亚女王的宫殿，不过对你来说已很不错了！”

有人推了他一把，他跌跌撞撞进了一个大屋子。屋里很黑，只有从很高的小窗透进些微弱的亮光。屋内全是很矮的木床，每个床上睡着两三个很脏的小孩。空气臭烘烘的，到处是鼾声。“维多利亚女王？孤儿院？”马特想，“啊，糟了！这里是纽布里奇，但年份弄错了，不是爸妈出事那一年！”

马特突然感到很疲倦。他轻轻把一个睡着的小孩推开一些，给自己空出一些地方。那男孩动了一下，但没醒。床上唯一的毯子很粗糙，马特开始抓痒。“希望这里没跳蚤！”想到这里他便睡着了。他已筋疲力尽。

天蒙蒙亮，马特就睁开了眼睛。他吃惊地发现自己鼻子边上有一双脏兮兮的脚。接着，他记起来自己在什么地方——孤儿院！

“你在我的床上干嘛？”床的主人生气地看着马特。

“对不起。”马特马上坐起来说，“我昨晚……”他停了，发现那个男孩正好奇地看着他的衣服。马特看看他，再看看屋里数百个孩子。他们现在都醒了。男孩子们个个穿着用绳子系着的破旧裤子，简易的棉布衬衫，戴着围巾。女孩子们则穿着棉裙和围裙。许多孩子没有鞋子。马特看看自己身上干净漂亮的衣服，在众人好奇的目光下，他有些发窘，于是开始跟他的小伙伴说话，以转移注意力。

“你叫什么名字？我是马特·约翰逊。”

“我叫杰克·杰利比，大家都叫我‘阿姜’。”他指着自已姜黄色的短发笑着说。

“吃早饭了，你们这群懒鬼！”一个长着恶毒的小眼睛，红脸的胖男人用一根长木棍敲着屋内的长桌子喊道。孩子们马上向桌子跑去，准备吃饭。马特看到阿姜端着他的金属盘子回来了，盘子里盛着半盘令人作呕的灰色液体。

“那个坏蛋是谁？你们在吃什么？”马特问阿姜。

“马特，你刚来，”他友好地说，“我给你讲一下。格里姆辣先生是我们的主人，他每天早上六点钟把我们叫醒吃早饭。早饭是稀粥，吃的时候要快，不能说话，否则他就用那根叫‘老歪客’的棍子打你。那是他最喜欢的消遣方式。吃完早饭，我们就开始干活。”

“你们在这里干什么活？大人到哪里去了？”

马特开始感受到孤儿院里的压抑气氛。他周围这些瘦弱、可怜的孩子已表明这里的生活很艰苦，实在令人悲哀。他们中的许多人看上去病怏怏的，所有人都很瘦，脸色苍白。

“马特，我们在这里纺棉纱。”阿姜回答说，“没有大人，我们是孤儿或来自非常贫困的家庭。大一些的孩子操作纺纱机和织布机，很小的孩子躺在机器下面捡掉下来的纱线。”

阿姜的话让马特大吃一惊——这些孩子一天要工作 12 个小时！马特也跟着排队，领到一碗令人作呕的稀粥。“还是我的玉米片好啊！”马特想。不过他已十分饥饿，于是尝了尝稀粥，结果发现那粥跟脏水一样！他喝了稀粥，但仍感到非常饿。阿姜和其他孩子吃惊地看到马特站起来，向格里姆辣先生走去，而格里姆辣先生带着一副凶狠的表情看着马特，从桌子上拿起他的棍子。“师傅，您好，能再给我一些稀粥吗？”马特边说边拿出他手中的空碗。格里姆辣先生的脸本来是红色的，这时变成了一种怪怪的紫色。在马特面前，他就像一只要爆炸的巨大的蟾蜍。

“还要？还要？”他吼道，“你可以再尝尝‘老歪客’的滋味，你这个目空一切的小罪犯！”

“罪犯？”马特听到这个恶霸的话不由得大怒，“你给这种稀粥才是犯罪！”

格里姆辣先生看上去要发作，“你这个小子去挖煤！”

第 5 章 埃氏的城市(p. 30-33)

“姓名？”接待处一名身穿牛仔裤和 T 恤衫的瘦高个男子问道。“琳达·查普曼。”一位身着琳达的衣服，面孔也像琳达，但看上去要大几岁的女孩回答。“年龄？”那人一边填着表，继续问。“16 岁。”琳达撒了一个谎，希望自己半小时前化的妆能不露破绽。对方怀疑地看了看她，琳达接着说，“我上周刚通过 GCSE 考试，我来纽布里奇找一个朋友。”

“你是青年旅社协会会员吗？”对方问。见琳达摇头，他说：“我可以看一下你的证件吗？公交车月票或类似证件都可以。”

“我身上没带这些证件。”琳达紧张地回答，心里在快速想着对策。“我只住一晚上，明天我朋友考完试，我们就……就去野营。”

她注意到对方正好奇地看着自己的笔记本电脑。

“我野营的东西今晚都寄放在车站。不过，笔记本太贵重了。”琳达很甜地笑着说，“我正在按学校要求写我的电子版暑假日记呢。”

这位接待员笑着给了她一把钥匙，“左侧第三个门。你很幸运，今晚那个屋里就你自己。”

房间里有四张床，虽然简单但很干净。琳达照了照镜子。

“嗨！真是幸运。”她想，“即使化了妆，我也不像 16 岁。”

突然，电脑中传出恐怖的声音，像猫在打架时的响声。

“怎么啦？”琳达想。她打开电脑。屏幕上显示着几个字，“您有新邮件。”她点击打开邮件，这时那可怕的音乐才停下来。信是韦尔斯先生写给她的，内容如下：

你的电脑修好了。马特的时空旅行文件上写着他是在发生车祸那天上午9点到的。小心一些！

韦尔斯老师

另：我希望你喜欢我的新发明——穿越时空的电子邮件。

“这样的话，如果马特来到这里，那他明天才到，”琳达想，“现在我可以放松一下。马特总是说纽布里奇是个多么好的城市，今天上午我没有好好看看。现在我要到处转转。”

琳达在市中心走着，看到一个庞大的现代化购物中心和许多很美的维多利亚风格的石头建筑，如火车站和剧院，不过有一件事让她感到很烦。她看到的每个地方都有一个相同的名字。多屏幕电影院、休闲中心、足球场、写字楼等都属于一个人——鲍勃·埃弗斯拉姆。墙上、公共汽车上还贴着无数的选举海报，这些海报上写着“选埃弗斯拉姆当市长，他公正、廉明”、“要减少犯罪，请选埃弗斯拉姆”、“要找工作，请选鲍勃”等等。琳达记得马特不喜欢埃弗斯拉姆。

走了很长一段时间后，琳达发现自己来到了马特家所在的街道上。她看到一辆自己熟悉的车停在马特家外面，马特的父母从车里走了出来。

“我也不管韦尔斯老师是怎么说的了，”琳达想，“我不能让他们明天在车祸中丧生。”

她看了一下自己的表，三点钟，马特还没放学。她沿车道走过去，按了一下门铃。马特的爸爸开了门。“啊，是今天早上遇到的马特的朋友呀。”他笑着说，不过还是好奇地看了一下琳达。

“哎呀，我化的妆！”琳达心中叫苦，尴尬地脸都红了。“我……我必须跟你们说一下，”她结结巴巴地说，“你们有危险。”

马特爸爸的表情变了，“嗯，呃……琳达……进来吧。”在琳达关门时，她惊讶地看到自己早上遇到的那辆黑颜色的车就停在街道对面。

维多利亚女王时代的纽布里奇迎来了新的一天，街道上烟雾弥漫，不过对于这些脸色苍白，身体瘦弱，正走向工厂的悲哀的工人而言，这一天跟往常的日子没什么两样。马特由格里姆辣先生看着往前走。他看到这里的雾不是雾，而是工厂烟囱里冒出来的烟雾。这些烟雾在城外散去，露出许多被黑色煤尘覆盖的采矿建筑。

“小子，你以后就在这里干了。”格里姆辣奸笑道，“这里是埃弗斯拉姆先生的煤矿。”

第6章 好奇心与金丝雀(p. 36-39)

“在这里等一下，我马上回来。”马特的爸爸说，然后他走进了书房。琳达四处看了看。四面墙上全是书架，书架上摆满了书。一个大木桌上有一台电脑和一些家庭照片。琳达看到一张马特婴儿时的照片，笑了。

从窗子里透进来的光照在桌面的一些报纸上，这些报纸引起了琳达的注意。

她看了一下旧报纸和马特的爸爸在上面做的注释。她读道：

《纽布里奇时报》(1864年7月21日)纽布里奇发生矿难——矿工被困井下！

(7月24日)43名矿工无生还希望——埃弗斯拉姆事先知道井下有危险吗？

(7月25日)埃弗斯拉姆的女儿也在矿难中死亡——伤心欲绝的父亲对矿难没有责任。

“又是埃弗斯拉姆这个名字！”琳达想到，这时她变得很感兴趣。她又看了看注释，上面写着：

埃弗斯拉姆明知矿层有危险——煤矿亏本——保险？——许多死者生前都是工会成员——他女儿的日记？——对鲍勃·埃弗斯拉姆的选举有负面影响！

门开了，马特的爸爸出来了，他一脸严肃的表情。

“这太不吉利了。你说我们有危险，现在危险马上来了。”他手上拿着一封信。琳达看了一下信，信中是从报纸上剪下来的，上面写着：

你对过去太好奇了——记住，好奇害死猫！

“这已经不是第一封信了，”他说，“我们收到很多信，接到很多电话，其内容都是恐吓我和家人的。”

琳达被搞糊涂了。这么说来，有两个埃弗斯拉姆：一个是过去，曾是煤矿老板；一个是现在，正在竞选纽布里奇市长。这些事实怎么会与马特的爸爸所收到的恐吓有关呢？她现在明白了一件事。“那不是事故。”她吓得小声自言自语道。

“什么事故？”马特的爸爸问。

“车祸。”琳达心不在焉地低语道。马特回来之前，她必须要离开这里，她需要时间去想想。“对不起，约翰逊叔叔，我要走了。我答应您明天早上我还来。请多保重！”

“刚才是谁？”马特的妈妈从窗口看着琳达匆匆离去时问。

“马特的一个朋友。”她丈夫一边说一边思考，“简，我们今晚不用车，对吧？今天车不知哪里总是响。我明天上午把车送到修理厂去。”

“好，没问题。”马特的妈妈笑着回答。

门铃响了。

“一定是马特。”马特的爸爸说。他开了门。

“马特，今天怎么样？你一个叫琳达的朋友刚走。”他说。

“谁？”马特看上去有些惊讶。“我认识的人当中没有叫琳达的呀。”

那个煤矿跟地狱差不多——到处是机器的轰鸣声、煤尘和蒸汽，孩子们推着装满煤的煤车不停地干活。这时汽笛响了，要换班了。一批矿工从井口走出来，他

们从头到脚都是黑的。这个小组里的几个小伙子望着格里姆辣。马特发现他们的目光中充满了恐惧。

“孩子们，”格里姆辣说，“你们有个新伙伴。”说着，他将马特推向他们。“小心看着你们的口粮，他胃口很大！”他狞笑着走了。

“别担心，”一个目光中带着悲哀的男孩说，“这里比孤儿院好。没人打你，饭也多一些。”

马特吃惊地发现那个男孩只有一只胳膊。

“比利，我们走吧，”另一个男孩说，“他们正把金丝雀放到新矿层。”大家向井口走去。这时比利告诉马特，“这是个新矿层，大家认为下面很危险。埃弗斯拉姆先生命令使用金丝雀检测矿井里的空气质量。”马特看到一个矿工拿着一个鸟笼走进了矿梯，笼内有一只小黄鸟，鸟嘴黑黑的。矿梯下去后，马特感受到了当时的紧张气氛。大家谁也不说话。几分钟后，矿梯升了上来。笼内的金丝雀兴奋地叫着，大家一下子松了口气。但马特注意到一件奇怪的事情：这只鸟鸟嘴的颜色变浅了！

第7章 矿工、请愿与女孩(p. 42-45)

“怎么啦，小伙子？”一个满身煤尘，又高又壮的男人从马特身边走过时笑着问，“看到鬼了吗？”“没，不过这只金丝雀跟刚才放下去的那只不同。”马特小声说。

“你说对了，我也看到了。”他看了一下马特，“你刚来，不过你好像很聪明。你来煤矿干什么？”

“我是一个孤儿，”马特说，“我在孤儿院惹上了麻烦，所以被送到这里来了。我叫马特。”

“很高兴认识你，马特。”对方说，“我叫克莱姆，10岁时就开始在这里干，开关井盖门，推煤车、后来我成为了埃弗斯拉姆煤矿最好的一名采煤工。那已是25年前了……”

突然，他开始剧烈地咳起来，用一块脏手帕捂住嘴。他停止咳嗽后，马特惊恐地发现手帕上有黑炭沫。

“是肺里的煤尘。”克莱姆说，“一名矿工可以经历瓦斯、煤气爆炸、塌方而幸免于难，不过他终归还是因这份工作要死去的。”他看到马特脸上忧虑的表情，笑了。

“别担心，小伙子，我很好。听着，如果你今晚跟我一班的话，呆在我身边，我会照顾你的。我能嗅到危险所在。如果有瓦斯，在你说出‘金丝雀’这三个字之前，我就能闻到！”

这时一群矿工向马特和克莱姆走过来。

“伙计们，我不喜欢下这个井。”其中一人说道，“埃弗斯拉姆在玩诡计。”

克莱姆同意，说，“这个新煤层很危险，我们在下井干活前需要一些担保。”

“那克莱姆你去跟埃弗斯拉姆谈谈吧。”另一名矿工恭敬地说。

“好，我可以试试，但第一班就在今晚。”克莱姆回答道，“在我们动工之前，他

可能不会见我。”

“可以请愿！”马特提议，“大家为什么不写一封请愿书呢？”

矿工们惊讶地看着马特。

“小伙子，写请愿书？”克莱姆笑着说，“主意不错，不过这里的人除了会写自己的名字外，没人会写字。”

“我来写。”马特说，“我……在变成孤儿前读过书。”

请愿书写好了，内容由克莱姆口述，马特书写，所有矿工都签了名。马特最后读了一遍：

我们这些矿工认为开采该新煤层很危险。我们要求为我们的安全提供独立担保。没有独立担保，我们不会冒生命危险下井。敬礼！

马特把请愿书交给克莱姆，对方却说：“埃弗斯拉姆知道我总找他麻烦，小伙子，你去交给他吧。”

煤矿工头带着马特来到一座由很大的石头砌成的别墅。一个纤瘦的女仆给他们开了门。

“斯金尼比夫人，”工头说，“这个请愿的孩子给埃弗斯拉姆先生捎来一封信。”

“矿工们现在又有什么要求？”她说，伸手去拿请愿信。

“这是给埃弗斯拉姆先生本人的。”马特不慌不忙地说，没把信给她。他的固执令女仆感到惊讶，于是她让马特进来，命令道：“在图书室候着。”

马特进来时，他看到一个身着白色连衣裙的金发女孩在大厅楼梯上注视着他。

图书室的木墙上摆满了书，书上积满了灰尘。在马特查看这些书时，门开了，那个女孩进来了。这个女孩使马特想起了琳达。

“你是从矿上来的吗？”她焦急地问。

“是的。”马特回答道，“小姐你是……”

“埃弗斯拉姆小姐。”女孩有些尴尬地说，“请叫我埃斯特尔。”

她又笑了，然后严肃起来，“听着，煤矿的新煤层很危险。我爸爸……”

这时一个高个子男人带着一脸的得意和傲慢走进图书室。他对埃斯特尔严厉地皱皱眉，于是，她赶紧走开了。他转向马特，说道：“小伙子，你给我捎来一封信，对吧？”马特把请愿信交给了他。埃弗斯拉姆看完后狞笑起来。“这些忘恩负义的畜生！”他吼道，“我给他们工作，他们还抗议。我就是他们的担保！你回去就跟他们这样讲。”

已是凌晨两点。新矿层第一班矿工还在夜晚的冷风中等着下井。马特看看天上的星星，希望这不是最后一次看到它们。他们下井时，马特看到其他矿工的脸上

个个带着恐惧，只有克莱姆很平静。他身边的另一个人戴着大布帽，蓝眼睛，看上去有些面熟。马特觉得在哪里见过这双眼睛，对了，是埃斯特尔！

第8章 琳达的调查(p. 50-53)

琳达在青年招待所睡得不好。她脑子里满是一些可怕的想法。她决定去查看更多有关埃弗斯拉姆家族的事情。她去了埃弗斯拉姆纪念图书馆，在电脑上查看了一些有关矿难的旧报纸文章。

“埃比尼泽·埃弗斯拉姆的女儿埃斯特尔也在矿难中去世，”她在一篇文章中读到，“埃弗斯拉姆说明了地下矿井的原因，称是自己为证明煤矿的安全性而让她去的。”琳达皱起眉，心想，“嗯，这有点蹊跷。”然后她接着读，“埃斯特尔的去世让他在选举中更得民心。”

“如此说来，他在矿难发生后进入政界。”琳达大致看了一下其他文章后心想，“现在鲍勃·埃弗斯拉姆打算延续家庭传统。我要再去找一下马特的爸爸。”

琳达来到马特家，再次注意到那辆神秘的黑颜色的车还停在附近。“这些人是谁？他们想干什么？”她心里在想。马特的爸爸开了门，一边说一边注意琳达的反应，“我告诉马特你昨天来过，他竟说不认识你。”

琳达若无其事地笑了笑，说：“男生都不愿意承认有女性朋友，对不对？您听着，您必须要信任我。”她跟马特的爸爸讲了自己图书馆里的发现，而他则很有兴致地听着。“你已经知道许多有关埃比尼泽·埃弗斯拉姆见不得人的历史。”他说，“现在我可以告诉你一些有关鲍勃·埃弗斯拉姆的事情。他通过祖上之名发了家，这座城市几乎全是他的了。现在他想通过担任市长来保护自己的利益。”他打开自己书桌的抽屉，拿出一本旧皮本子。“今天我找到一项批判埃比尼泽的新证据，是我从鲍勃·埃弗斯拉姆以前的雇工那里拿到的。他叫弗雷德·斯金尼比，是矿难发生时埃弗斯拉姆女仆斯金尼比夫人的直系后代。”

琳达看了一下本子封面上的几个字，上面写着“埃斯特尔·埃弗斯拉姆的日记”。马特的爸爸说：“你看一下最后两篇。”

1864年7月18日 今天我听了父亲跟煤矿工头的谈话。新煤层很危险，但他想继续挖，因为利润很少。我不知道父亲的具体计划，只是有些担心……我希望自己出生在另一个家庭。我爸爸是如此的寡廉鲜耻，如此的缺乏爱心——我替他感到羞耻。我希望妈妈还活着。

1864年7月19日 今天发生了一件改变我生活的事情。我看到了自己的白马王子，他可以帮我从目前的困境中摆脱出来。他是我梦中的男孩，一样的脸，一样明亮的眼睛。他好像是一个矿工。他聪明、亲切，也很勇敢——他新煤层的事来向父亲请愿。我父亲很生气。我希望他别伤害我的“矿工王子”……

我今天下午听父亲对工头讲，如果煤矿发生什么“事情”，那保险公司的赔款将补偿他微薄的利润。他还说，如果几个矿工没有生还，没人会关心！他谈到了新煤层和那里的一个秘密通道——好像是一个墙洞和一块岩石。到底会发生什么事？

我非常担心。我必须去帮助我的“矿工王子”。我必须去煤矿，这样公主才可以救她的王子。

“这个新证据对鲍勃·埃弗斯拉姆非常不利。”马特的爸爸说。

“对，看来好像是埃比尼泽故意让那些可怜的矿工去送死。”琳达吃惊地说。

“你说得很对。斯金尼比先生找到我，是因为他无故被辞退了。现在他想让纽布里奇所有的人都知道埃弗斯拉姆家族的内幕。我们必须小心保护这本日记。许多人想毁掉它。”他把它放回抽屉，然后上了锁。

“有了这样的证据，”琳达心想，“这肯定成为鲍勃·埃弗斯拉姆选举中的一大障碍。”她这时想起了那些恐吓，心想，“这些恐吓肯定与矿难有关。”

“琳达，我和马特的妈妈要出去一下。”马特的爸爸说，“我们在客厅里给马特留了一张纸条，他一般在四点钟左右回来。你愿意的话可以等他。”

“哦，请别走！”琳达恳求道，“您的车……”

马特的爸爸笑着说，“别担心，琳达，我已把车送到修理厂检修过，没事。我希望我们回来时还能看到你。”

琳达从客厅窗子看着他跟马特的妈妈坐进车，那辆黑颜色的车则在后面跟着他们。琳达感到无能为力。

第9章 一起下矿井(p. 56-59)

史蒂芬森路39号的门铃响了。

“是谁？”琳达在想。

然后她听到有人用钥匙打开锁，一个熟悉的声音喊道：“妈、爸，是我！我回来了！”马特进入客厅时，琳达躲在沙发后面。“这是什么？纸条？”她听他说。“啊，对了，他们肯定是去订飞往佛罗里达的票了……”接着声音离琳达近了一些。“可怜的爸妈还以为是个秘密呢，谁知……嘿！你是谁？你在沙发后面干什么？”

琳达站起来，极为尴尬，不知说些什么。这时，突然，马特摔倒在地上，一只手在喉咙上，另一只手指着琳达，说：“救救我，我喘不过气了。”

克莱姆一班人下到煤井里，周围黑黑的，很潮湿。他们来到新煤层的入口处，没有说话。除马特外，大家都看着克莱姆。马特看着埃斯特尔，想问她为什么会来这里。但在安全灯朦胧的光中，她的眼神恳求马特不要说出她的身份。

“**嗯**，伙计们，我们进去吧。跟着我，如果我跑的话，你们也跑。”克莱姆的话打破了当时的紧张气氛。他们进入坑道时，他刚才所说话的回声还在周围萦绕。坑道又窄又矮，只容一个煤车通过，马特只得弯腰前行。

“马特，注意你手中灯的火焰颜色。”克莱姆小声说道，“如果是蓝色，那就说明有瓦斯，会让我们窒息；如果火灭了，就说明氧气不足。”

他们继续沿着坑道慢慢前行，马特靠着克莱姆，埃斯特尔靠着马特。比利殿后，他关上了通往煤层的井盖门。

现在他们与井上的世界完全隔绝。

“说来也怪，”克莱姆说，“我们在这里，被世界所抛弃，而没有我们，世界就会停止运转。没有煤就没有工业、没有运输业，人们也无法取暖。”

“哎呀！”他的话被一个受惊女孩的声音打断了。克莱姆吃了一惊，转身看到这位带着大帽子的小矿工指着地上一个东西。马特拿灯照了照，原来是那只鸟嘴黑黑的小黄鸟，已经死掉了。

“我早就知道会是这样，”克莱姆生气地说，“我们遇到瓦斯了。小伙子，你是谁？”他摘掉了埃斯特尔的帽子，看到了她那金色的长发。“埃弗斯拉姆小姐！”他有点不敢相信自己的眼睛，“您来这里干吗？这里很危险。”

“我知道危险，”埃斯特尔悲哀地说，“我认为我父亲也知道。马特送请愿书时，我试图跟他讲，但我父亲不让我插手这件事情。我当时不相信他会让一些无辜的生命去冒险，现在我亲眼看到了。你们必须快出去，否则就来不及了！”

克莱姆敬佩地看了看她，然后对矿工们喊道，“你们都听到这位小姑娘的话了吧，我们走。别慌。这里有瓦斯，不过我们有足够的时间逃出去。”

他们沿着坑道往回走时，马特说：“埃斯特尔，你能来这里，真勇敢。”

“我担心父亲现在会做出什么事。”埃斯特尔眼里含着泪说，“不过，马特，我来这里是为了和你在一起。”

“我肯定是在做梦吧。”马特心想。突然，他的美梦变成了噩梦。

“我打不开井盖门，”比利喊道，“被堵住了！”

这时大家都慌了。

“是从外面堵住的。”克莱姆推了一下门，同意比利说的话。

“有人想害死我们！”另一位矿工大声说。

“还有一条出口！我知道在哪里，”埃斯特尔喊道，“跟我走！”

她拉着马特的手，开始沿着坑道跑，克莱姆和其他人跟在后面。但是，由于坑道很低，大家没法跑快。这时，马特的头砰的一声撞在了墙上，手中的灯掉在地上，把玻璃摔碎了。一时，什么也没有发生。马特看到克莱姆一脸的恐惧，有人低声说：“哎呀，火苗！”接着便是震耳欲聋的响声和一道剧烈的白光，那白光比韦尔斯老师电脑产生的白光亮一千倍。

第10章 马特身陷危险(p. 62-65)

爆炸产生的气流将马特和埃斯特尔抛了出去。马特落在地上后闭上了眼睛，他不敢睁开。身下的地面在动，就像地震一样。最后是一片沉寂。这时一个微弱的声音传来：“马特，救救我。”

马特睁开眼睛。周围很黑。他向声音传来的方向爬去，摸到了埃斯特尔的手。

“马特，你没事吧？”女孩以微弱的声音说。

“我没事，”马特有些担心地问，“你呢？”

“我的腿被卡住了。这里塌方了。”埃斯特尔的声音现在更微弱了，“马特，你要赶在再次爆炸前走出去。有一条通往地面的秘密通道……”

“埃斯特尔，我不会离开你的。”马特回答说。他用尽全身力气想把她拉出来。

“没用的，马特。你要活着出去。”她有气无力地说。

“我出去找人来救你。”马特下定决心说道：“埃斯特尔，我会回来救你的。”

周围黑漆漆的。马特沿着坑道跑。突然间，周围似乎没有了空气。

“救救我，”马特喘着气说，“我喘不过气了。”

我没法呼吸……埃斯特尔。”马特躺在客厅地板上有气无力地说。

“埃斯特尔？哦，对了！”琳达大声说道。她一下子明白了一切。马特的身体虽在她眼前，但他的思想和灵魂还在维多利亚女王时代的纽布里奇，在发生矿难的煤矿那里。

“如果我不救他，那两个马特都会死！”她想到。事情紧急，她马上打开自己的电脑。“快点，拜托。”她恳求自己的电脑，然后输入日期、发生事故的时间以及纽布里奇煤矿的大致坐标。电脑屏幕上出现了沙漏，琳达开始了她迄今最为重要的时空旅行。

琳达到达的地方正值晚上。她发现自己落在一块地里，对面有一只发怒的公牛。

“对不起，公牛。我知道我闯入了你的地盘。”她说去安慰这只动物。但公牛没理她这一套，于是她决定逃跑，在公牛快追上她的那一刻从栅栏上跳了过去。栅栏这边是一些性情温和的动物，似乎是一群矮种马。

“可怜的家伙们。”她说道。她发现这些马看不到自己。“你们肯定是矿上的小马，长年累月在矿井里干活，然后双目失明……煤矿！这里有矮种马，那我离煤矿肯定不远了。”夜幕下显现出来的巨大的煤堆证实了她的想法。这时，她听到另一地方传来人的说话声。她躲在栅栏后，看到两个人在推一块巨石。

伯特，我们这是要干吗？”其中一个人睡意朦胧地问。

“埃弗斯拉姆说我们必须堵住新煤层的坑道。”另一个人说。

“秘密通道！”琳达想，“他们要把它堵死！我必须阻止他们。……怎么办呢？我身边只有一个电脑。”这时她想起了在青年招待所收到韦尔斯老师电子邮件时那可怖的音乐。

她启动电脑，找到她想要的“我的音乐”文件夹，点击打开，浏览其中的文件。“找到了，‘噩梦音乐’。”她看了一下，点击那个音频文件，将电脑音量放到最大。其效果立竿见影。

伯特，什么声音这么吓人？”第一个人惊恐地问。

“不知道，哈里，”伯特回答，“我不想在这里傻等着。”

两个人跑走之后，琳达跑到洞口。她拿着那两个人丢下的灯向里看了看。突然，马特出现了！他看到琳达，惊讶地叫了声：“哎呀！”

“马特，你没事！”琳达高兴地喊道，“见到你真高兴！快出来，我们回去！”

马特又脏又累。他看着琳达伤心地说：“我不能回去，琳达，许多人还困在下面呢。”

“马特，我知道，但那是历史。这里发生矿难，他们都死了。”琳达说，“我们不能改变过去。”

“但我无论如何也不能让他们死。”马特说，“克莱姆、比利……”他从琳达手中拿过灯，沿着坑道爬下去。“还有埃斯特尔？”琳达问。马特没说话，过了一会才笑着说：“你去找人帮忙吧。琳达，我很高兴见到你。”

第11章 拯救遇难矿工(p. 70-73)

马特的灯光消失在坑道的黑暗中。琳达四处观望。

“我在这里向谁求助呢？”她焦急地想。这时她看到一个人向她走来，于是喊道：“救命啊！一些人被困在矿井中了！”

但这人走近时，琳达看到他拿着一把手枪。这人看了一下琳达，皱皱眉，把枪瞄准了她，说道：“小姑娘，我不知道你是谁，也不知道你是如何把我的手下给吓跑的，你在这里乱管闲事会没命的。”那人一张凶狠的脸和旧报纸上的一些照片很相像。“你是埃比尼泽·埃弗斯拉姆！”琳达大叫一声，“我知道你的一切！如果我有什
么不测，纽布里奇所有的人都会知道你的真实面目和这场矿难的真实情况！”

马特在坑道中前行。他知道很危险，但他确信自己如果救了埃斯特尔和这些矿工，他就可以改变过去。他去救埃斯特尔还有一个原因：他非常喜欢她。

“马特，是你吗？你真的回来了。”埃斯特尔说，她的眼睛亮了起来，“我没受伤，但腿不能动。马特，你听那边还有动静。肯定还有人活着！”

在塌方造成的墙的另一边，马特能听到有人在频繁地敲墙。

“他们肯定是被卡在塌方地点与井盖门之间了。”马特说，“埃斯特尔，我先把
你救出来。希望琳达能带人去救他们。”说着，他便去搬压在她腿上的木梁。“琳
达？”埃斯特尔吃惊地问。“是我一个朋友。”马特说，“她担心我的安危，来找我了。”

“一个朋友？”埃斯特尔又问了一遍。这时马特移开了木梁，把她解救了出来。

“这里依旧很危险，我们出去吧，快！”马特说。

琳达知道马特和埃斯特尔很快就会从洞里出来。“埃弗斯拉姆要干什么？”她一边看着他手中的枪一边想。此人脸上一副要铤而走险的表情。这时她想到一个主意，说：“埃弗斯拉姆先生，我有些坏消息要告诉你。”

对方冷笑一声：“姑娘，你想说什么都行，反正你早晚会死。我不会有什
么损失的。”

“你会的，你会失去自己的女儿！”琳达说，“埃斯特尔下了矿井去阻止这场事故。”

“不可能！”埃弗斯拉姆大声说道。他不信。不过琳达这时看到在他的背后，埃

斯特尔和马特从洞中走了出来。她给马特做手势，让他下去。

“并非不可能！”琳达大声喊道，“埃斯特尔跟着那个去给你送请愿书的矿工下去的。现在，由于你的所作所为，她可能已经……死了！”

“撒谎！”埃弗斯拉姆大声说道。琳达于是用手指着坑道一端洞口露出的幽灵般的身影，原来是马特抱着埃斯特尔！埃斯特尔眼睛闭着，脸色苍白。她没有动。

“埃斯特尔！”埃弗斯拉姆大叫一声，“我的孩子！我做了些什么呀？”

“埃弗斯拉姆，你必须忏悔！”琳达告诉他，“这样你的女儿才可能康复！赶紧忏悔！”

埃弗斯拉姆扑通一声跪倒在地，眼睛盯着马特怀中自己瘦弱的女儿，结结巴巴地说，“我的孩子，我对不起你啊。如果你能活过来，我会改变自己的行径……我会尽一切努力去救你的，埃斯特尔！”

马特小心地把埃斯特尔放在草地上。她缓缓睁开了双眼，伤心地说：“爸爸，我被救了，你一定要救那些矿工们啊！你必须去打开你手下人封住了的井盖门，将他们放出来，否则他们都会死的。”

“好。”埃弗斯拉姆说，“你被救了。我现在一定会救他们的。这比我现在的所作所为，我过去的所作所为好上千倍。”说完，他向煤矿走去。

马特与琳达被他们的冒险行动搞得筋疲力尽。两人互相拥抱了一下，笑了。

“琳达，埃斯特尔的复活是一个好主意。”马特笑着说。

“你刚才能猜出我的意图，真是走运，埃斯特尔表现得太棒了，她看上去跟死了一样！”琳达微笑着说。

马特看到埃斯特尔一脸不高兴的样子，对她说：“埃斯特尔，有件事我一直瞒着你。我……”

“什么也别说了，”她有些伤感地笑着说，“今晚，我终于做了一件我人生中的大事，而你是我灵感的来源。现在我必须去劝说我父亲改变他的一些行径。再见了，我的白马王子。”

马特和琳达，他们该离开过去，返回现在了。琳达按了一下笔记本电脑上的回车键，接着他们看到屏幕上一道熟悉的白光一闪，然后她发现自己在自己家的卧室里。马特呢？

第12章 回到新的未来(p. 76-79)

“马特？”琳达跑出自己的房间，一头碰在自己父亲的身上。“爸爸？”她有些困惑地问：“你在这里干嘛？”“我住这里啊，你这孩子没睡醒啊？生日快乐！”她爸爸笑着说，“我有个礼物给你。你再给我十分钟时间让我弄完。在家里工作真爽啊，比天天紧张地在公司上班好多了！”他吻了一下目瞪口呆的琳达，到楼下书房去了。

“真怪了！一切都变了！”琳达想，“爸爸依然跟我和妈妈在一起生活。他有份新工作，这么放松、高兴！发生什么了？”这时她脑海里出现了一个让人难以置信的

想法，“过去已被改变！如果我的过去变了，那或许马特的过去也……”

琳达迅速跑到自己的电脑那里，连接上网，检索“纽布里奇的历史”。一个网站出现了，她疯了似的查询那次矿难的日期——1864年7月20日。她猜对了！网页上写着“煤矿事故中无人遇难——业主及其女儿成为英雄！”她注意到另外一个链接，点了一下，该网页上写着，“埃比尼泽·埃弗斯拉姆和女儿埃斯特尔——纽布里奇两大恩人的故事。”

“不可思议！”琳达自言自语地说。网页上还写着，“埃弗斯拉姆家族捐钱以改善纽布里奇所有居民的生活，特别是矿工和他们的家庭！他们捐钱建了一所学校、一所医院和一个图书馆……”

不过，如果埃斯特尔在矿难中没死，埃弗斯拉姆是一个好人，那马特的爸爸就可能没去调查鲍勃·埃弗斯拉姆的事情，那他可能没……琳达没敢想。

琳达！”她妈妈喊道，“该下来吃你的生日早餐了！”“来了，妈妈！”琳达跑下楼，“我先打个电话。”

她紧张兮兮地给马特在纽布里奇的家打电话。“喂？”是马特爸爸那熟悉的声音，她一颗悬着的心终于放了下来。“对……对不起，我打错了。”她吞吞吐吐地说。她只想高兴地大叫一声！马特的父母还活着！

但几分钟后，琳达想到另外一件不太开心的事情。“如果他们还活着，那马特还和他爸爸妈妈在纽布里奇生活。也就是说，他从没有来伦敦，也从没有遇到过我。”她伤心地想。

琳达愉快地过完了生日。星期一，她发现自己的生活发生了很多变化。

学校开会，校长走进来时她差点惊讶地喊出声来——韦尔斯老师是校长！但令她更吃惊的还在后面。

“同学们，今天我们转来一名新同学。”韦尔斯老师宣布。一个穿着新校服的男生站在前排。“请大家欢迎马特·约翰逊的到来。”琳达惊讶得屏住了气。老师接着讲：“马特的爸爸过些日子会来伦敦工作，他们家会搬到格林伍德来，马特先在这里和奶奶住。我们希望马特在这里开心。”大家都鼓掌。琳达想，“现在一切都太完美了！”

“琳达·查普曼，”韦尔斯老师喊道，“你陪马特到我办公室里来一下。”

琳达朝马特走过去，笑着说：“马特；你好，我是琳达。”

“你好，琳达。”他回答道，但他的微笑很快变成了皱眉，似乎十分困惑。

“对不起，琳达，我以前就认识你吧？”然后他笑了，“不可能认识！”

“你真的认识我。”琳达心想。她开玩笑说：“或许我们在前生见过！跟我来！韦尔斯老师的办公室在一楼。”

他们敲了一下门，韦尔斯老师开了门。

韦尔斯老师现在是校长，但他仍旧像一个狂热的科学家！

“嗯，马特、琳达，”他笑着说，“进来，进来，请坐。我想给你们看一下我电脑上有一个有趣的东西……”

背景知识

维多利亚女王时代的英国

维多利亚女王 1837 年到 1901 年在位。这段时期是英国经济、文化、政治和社会变革的重要时期。工业(钢铁、煤炭和纺织)和交通通讯业(铁路与电报)的发展给经济带来了巨大的影响。农村许多人到工厂上班,这使城市越来越大。英帝国的版图也达到极点,非洲和亚洲的许多国家都成为了它的殖民地。

维多利亚时期的价值观是建立在严格的工作道德准则、节俭以及对家庭和社会的责任之上的。越来越多的人入学读书,公众对文学、艺术和音乐的兴趣也越来越浓厚。例如,狄更斯的小说在所有阶层中都颇受欢迎。人们对各种社会问题和工厂恶劣的工作条件所造成的痛苦也有了更深刻的了解。渐渐地,中产阶级认识到他们必须要帮助穷人。

查尔斯·狄更斯

查尔斯·狄更斯是 19 世纪英国文学史上最重要的人物之一。他那些广受欢迎的小说,其题材涵盖了英国当时社会的方方面面。狄更斯用动情、动人的虚构情节抓住了维多利亚时代公众的想象力。但他也利用自己的文学作品来攻击当时社会的各种弊病。他个人所经历的不公与贫穷使他成为一名积极的社会改革者。他特别关注工厂与煤矿中童工的恶劣工作条件和孤儿院中孤儿所遭到的残酷待遇(他们常常会死在那里)。

狄更斯于 1812 年生于朴茨茅斯市附近。在他 12 岁时,父亲因无力偿还债务而被捕,按当时惯例,全家被关进了负债者监狱。他后来去了伦敦一家工厂工作,直到他父亲 1825 年得到一笔钱后才送他去读书。狄更斯将这些可怕的经历写入了他最好的小说之一《大卫·科波菲尔》。

狄更斯长大后,当了一名记者,为伦敦报纸撰写有关议会辩论的内容,私下里开始写一些短篇小说。1833 年,狄更斯开始了自己的作家生涯,以“鲍斯”的笔名发表了一系列带有插图的故事。他许多最重要的作品,如《匹克威克外传》(1836-1837)开始时都是在杂志上连载发表的,这影响到了作品的结构:许多章节均以悬念结尾,让读者迫不及待地在下期杂志的另一章中去了解故事的发展。

狄更斯最著名的小说之一是《雾都孤儿》(1836)。该小说讲述了一名在孤儿院长大的孩子的故事。这个曾在孤儿院鼓足勇气索要更多食物的孩子在犯罪和贫穷充斥的黑暗社会里遭遇了各种各样的惊险,而在维多利亚女王时期的伦敦,每个无助的孤儿都面临着犯罪和贫穷。这部作品的重要意义在于它是英国文学史上第一部“社会问题小说”。狄更斯其他著名的作品有《圣诞颂歌》(1843)和《艰难时世》(1854)等。

工业革命

工业革命是指 1750 年到 1850 年这段时期英国工业所发生的巨大变革。工业

革命于18世纪上半叶在英国开始,其特点是不断引进一些新技术(特别是在纺织行业),许多发明家所发明的机器大大改进了生产制造的方法。

蒸汽机

1698年,托马斯·塞维利发明了第一台以蒸汽为动力的机器,后来托马斯·纽科门对其进行了改进。18世纪60年代,詹姆斯·瓦特建造了一台能为许多机器提供动力的蒸汽机。

纺织业

英国以前的一个重要产业是纺织业(棉布、羊毛等)。一开始,人们都是在家手工织布,所以被称为“家庭手工业”。后来在1764年,詹姆斯·哈格里夫斯发明了一种效率很高的纺纱机,称为“珍妮纺纱机”。但这种机器非常昂贵,多数个体纺织者买不起。从1780年开始,这些机器采用了蒸汽动力。这种动力只在工厂里才有,所以纺织者如果想继续从事该行业的话,就不得不从小村庄迁往城镇居住,到工厂里干活,该过程被称为“城市化”。这样一来,家庭手工业就变成了基于工厂的工业。工厂工人,特别是妇女和儿童,每天都工作很长时间,但工资很低。

运输

工业的发展需要越来越便利的交通将产品运送出去。于是,英国开始建造公路与运河网络。最大的一场革命发生于1804年,当时理查德·特莱威狄第一个想到了蒸汽火车。纽卡斯尔煤矿一名叫乔治·史蒂芬森的工程师进一步完善了这些想法。他发明了煤矿上用来运煤的机车。1823年,史蒂芬森在纽卡斯尔市开了一家机车制造厂。1825年开通了第一条客运铁路,该铁路连接了英格兰东北部的达令敦和斯托克顿。1829年,史蒂芬森制造出“火箭”机车,大大提高了客运速度。很快,整个英国和欧洲开始兴建起铁路来。

维多利亚女王时代英国的煤矿与矿工

英国工业革命时期,在煤矿工作的人们生活非常艰苦。矿工里不仅有成年男子,还有女人和儿童(有的甚至只有5岁)。许多矿工死于矿下危险的工作条件。在采矿业发展初期,矿上只采用一些原始的机械,多数重活由矮种马去做。这些可怜的动物天天在地下干活,由于总是处在黑暗之中,很快就完全失明了。

矿工工人面临的最大危险不是塌方,而是有毒气体(特别是使人窒息而致命的瓦斯)和失控煤车所造成的事故。当时,煤矿上经常使用金丝雀来检验井下是否有瓦斯:矿工把金丝雀关入笼中,放到新坑道中,如果鸟儿活了下来,这就说明没有瓦斯。在这些危险的工作环境中,矿工的寿命都不长,他们的生活很艰苦,通常住在潮湿、不太卫生的破房子里。他们一年只有五天的假,工资很少。一个矿工死后,其家人往往会变得一无所有,然后会被送到为穷人设立的特殊机构,即臭名昭彰的济贫院(或称为孤儿院)。

在煤矿上,男性儿童刚开始的工作是开关井盖门(将矿上和矿下两个区域分

开)。这是矿上最危险的工作，因为煤车会失控，由此而导致许多儿童丧命。另外，因为儿童个子小，他们还常常负责在矮种马过不去的坑道中推小煤车。

1842年，迫于巨大的公众压力(要感谢查尔斯·狄更斯和其他描述煤矿恶劣工作条件的社会积极分子)，英国政府最终通过了一项法律——禁止10岁以下儿童去煤矿工作，并给矿工一些有限的权利。

工会

矿工在工作环境恶劣、危险，而工资很低的情况下工作数年后，他们开始组织起来与矿主对抗，组建了工会。这些工会开始时只是在工厂内部，很快，英国矿工联合会便成立了。他们要求改善工作环境、提高工资，改善生活条件。他们还组建了事故基金与养老基金，为那些因病不能工作的矿工提供生活保障，直到这些人有资格从国家领取养老金。他们的多数要求被接受了，因为政府认识到矿工对英国经济所作的贡献是很重要的。

矿工全国总工会是20世纪最强大的工会。20世纪80年代，英国政府提出关闭一些矿井，裁减矿工数量，于是工会组织矿工举行大罢工，但遭到了失败。自此，几代人的勇气、传统和经营的行业走到了尽头。

安全灯

对于19世纪在地下原始条件中工作的矿工而言，最大的问题之一在于遇到瓦斯。

1815年，有人发明了一种可以在矿下使用的灯，叫德氏安全灯。这种灯在遇到瓦斯时不易引发大火，造成爆炸。

词汇表

A

alive *adj.* 活的, 活着的
almost *adv.* 几乎
any more 再, 还
apron *n.* 围裙
ashamed *adj.* 羞愧的, 惭愧的
available *adj.* 可用的; 能得到的
awareness *n.* 意识, 注意
awful *adj.* 可怕的, 非常坏的

B

back *adv.* 回到原来的状况, 回原处
beak *n.* 鸟嘴, 喙
beam *n.* 梁, 桁
to belong *v.* 属于
blanket *n.* 毯子
blast *v.* 爆炸
blind *adj.* 瞎的, 盲目的
to book *v.* 预订
brave *adj.* 勇敢的
to breathe *v.* 呼吸
bright *adj.* 聪明的; 明亮的
building *n.* 建筑物, 大楼
bull *n.* 公牛
to bump into 意外碰到, 不期而遇
by *prep.* 在附近, 在旁边, 经, 由, 依据, 按照, 通过, 用

C

cage *n.* 笼
canary *n.* 金丝雀
to capture *v.* 俘获, 捕获
to (not) care *v.* (不)关心, (不)顾虑
cave-in *n.* 塌方
chain reaction 连锁反应
to clear *v.* 扫除, 清除
close *adj.* 近的, 紧密的
cloth cap 布帽
coal-dust *n.* 煤尘, 煤粉
coal mine 煤矿

to cough *v.* 咳嗽
to crouch *v.* 蜷缩, 蹲伏
cruelty *n.* 残忍, 残酷
custom *n.* 习惯; 风俗
cutter *n.* 采煤工; 切割者

D

damp *adj.* 潮湿的
danger *n.* 危险; 威胁
to dare *v.* 敢, 胆敢
darkness *n.* 黑暗
death trap 危险场所, 危险建筑物
debt *n.* 债务, 债
debtors' prison 债务人监狱
to defeat *v.* 击败, 战胜
destitute *adj.* 贫困的
detached house 独立式住宅
to detect *v.* 察觉, 发觉
to develop *v.* 发展
to dictate *v.* 口述, 口授
done (*v. past part.*) 完成了, 做好了
drive *n.* 私用车道

E

earthquake *n.* 地震
employee *n.* 雇员, 雇工
even *adv.* 甚至(…也), 连…都
everywhere *adv.* 到处

F

to face *v.* 面对, 面向, 面临; 朝, 向
fair *adj.* 公平的
fear *n.* 恐怖, 害怕
feeling *n.* 感触, 感觉
fence *n.* 栅栏
to fill in a form 填写表格
to find out 发现
fine *adj.* 美好的
fire *n.* 火, 火灾, 失火
flea *n.* 跳蚤

fog *n.* 雾, 烟雾, 尘雾
foreman *n.* 工头, 领班
fright *n.* 受惊, 惊骇
froth *n.* 泡沫, 唾液
to frown *v.* 皱眉
frugality *n.* 节俭, 节省
fund *n.* 资金, 基金

G

to gasp *v.* 喘息, 气喘
to get into trouble 遇到麻烦
to give a cry 喊了一声
to go out 出去
goods *n.* 货物
ground *n.* 地面, 土地
to growl *v.* 咆哮
guarantee *n.* 担保, 保证, 保证书
gun *n.* 枪, 炮

H

handkerchief *n.* 手帕
headmaster *n.* (英国中小学)校长
hid (*v. past*), to hide *v.* 隐藏, 躲藏
hole *n.* 洞, 孔
hour-glass *n.* (古代计时的)沙漏, 水漏
to hug *v.* 拥抱
to hurry away 匆匆离开
hurt *v.* 受伤, 刺痛, 伤害

I

to improve *v.* 改善, 改进
to increase *v.* 增加, 加大
insurance *n.* 保险
iron *n.* 铁

J

to joke *v.* (和...)开玩笑

K

kind *adj.* 仁慈的, 善良的, 好心的
kind *n.* 种类, 性质
knee *n.* 膝, 膝盖
to knock *v.* 敲, 敲打

L

lad *n.* 小家伙, 少年, 伙计
laugh *n.* 笑, 笑声
law *n.* 法律
left-luggage *n.* 寄存行李
to let *v.* 允许, 让
liar *n.* 说谎者
lock *n.* 锁
to look after 照顾, 关心
loom *n.* 织布机, 织机
low *adj.* 低的; 消沉的; 微弱的
lung *n.* 肺

M

maid *n.* 女仆
make-up *n.* 化妆, 化妆品
master *n.* 主人, 雇主
mayor *n.* 市长
Mind your own business! 别管闲事!
mine *n.* 矿, 矿山
mining *n.* 采矿, 矿业
to miss *v.* 错过, 遗漏

N

network *n.* 网络, 网状系统
noise *n.* 喧闹声

O

owner *n.* 所有者, 业主

P

pay *n.* 薪水, 工资
pit-head *n.* 矿井口
pit-heap *n.* 煤堆
to please *v.* 使高兴
to point at 指向
to power *v.* 给...提供动力

Q

to qualify *v.* (使)具有资格
queue *n.* 行列, 长队

R

ragged *adj.* 衣衫褴褛的, 破烂的

railways *n.* 铁路
to reach *v.* 到达, 达到
ready *adj.* 有准备的
to realize *v.* 认识到, 实现
reason *n.* 理由, 原因
to remind *v.* 提醒
to repent *v.* 后悔, 悔改
to reveal *v.* 展现, 显示, 暴露
rights *n.* 权利
to ring *v.* 按铃, 敲钟
rough *n.* 粗糙的, 粗略的, 大致的
row *n.* 排, 行
rude *adj.* 粗鲁的, 无礼的
run-away *adj.* 失控的
to rush *v.* 冲, 奔

S

safety *n.* 安全
to scratch *v.* 搔, 抓
screen *n.* 屏
seam *n.* 矿层, 煤层
shift *n.* 轮班
to shine *v.* 发光, 照耀
to shout *v.* 呼喊, 呼叫
to sign *v.* 签名
sleepyhead *n.* 昏昏欲睡者, 睡眠惺忪者
smoky *adj.* 冒烟的
snoring *n.* 鼾声
so *conj.* 因而, 所以
social reformer 社会改革家
spinner *n.* 纺纱工
spinning *adj.* 旋转的
spinning machine 纺纱机
spiteful *adj.* 怀有恶意的, 怀恨的
to stammer *v.* 结巴地说出, 结结巴巴地说
steam *n.* 蒸汽, 水汽
stick *n.* 棍, 棒
stressful *adj.* 充满压力的, 使紧迫的
suddenly *adv.* 突然地
surface *n.* 表面, 外表
suspiciously *adv.* 猜疑地, 怀疑地

to sweeten *v.* 使变甜; 使愉快

T

tear *n.* 眼泪
terrified *adj.* 恐惧的, 受惊吓的
threat *n.* 恐吓, 威胁
threatening *gerund* 威胁, 胁迫
throat *n.* 喉咙
through *prep.* 穿过, 通过
thud *n.* 砰击声
tied *adj.* 被系着, 被束缚的
toad *n.* 蟾蜍
told (*v. past part.*), to tell *v.* 告诉
trap-door *n.* 井盖门
to trust *v.* 信任
truth *n.* 事实, 真相
tub *n.* 运煤车; 桶
turning *gerund* 转向
to type *v.* 打字
tyrant *n.* 暴君

U

uncaring *adj.* 不关心的
Union *n.* 工会
unscrupulous *adj.* 肆无忌惮的, 寡廉鲜耻的
useless *adj.* 无用的

V

valuable *adj.* 贵重的, 有价值的
values *n.* 价值观

W

to warn *v.* 提醒, 警告
way out 出口
What's up? 怎么啦?
What's wrong? 出什么问题了?
to whisper *v.* 低声说
to wish *v.* 希望, 想要
to wonder *v.* 惊讶; 怀疑; 想知道
to work *v.* (使)工作, (使)运转
workhouse *n.* 济贫院, 孤儿院

参考答案

第1章

p. 4

1. a-5 b-4 c-6 d-2 e-1 f-3

p. 5

2. 1) He's 2) They're 3) Her
4) She's 5) His

p. 8

3. 1) F 2) T 3) F 4) T 5) T
6) T 7) T 8) F 9) F 10) F

4. a-5 b-7 c-6 d-2 e-3 f-1
g-4 h-9 i-8

p. 9

5. a-3 b-5 c-1 d-2 e-4
6. 4-2-7-5-1-3-6

第2章

p. 10

1. e-mail, screen, software
mouse, PC, virus

p. 11

2. Linda,
After 2 adventures in the past, you and
Matt probably want to use the time
travel software, but please be careful!
Remember, you must not change the
past.

p. 14

3. a-2 b-4 c-1 d-5 e-3
4. 11-4-7-3-8-1-9-6-10-2-5

p. 15

5. 1) b→III 2) d→V
3) a→II 4) e→I
5) c→IV
6. a-3 b-6 c-5 d-7 e-2 f-1 g-4
7. bookcases, old books, Matt's letter,

History teacher, native American
costume

第3章

p. 16

1. a-3 b-6 c-5 d-7 e-2 f-4 g-1

p. 17

2. 1) thought 2) ran 3) hid
4) kept 5) could

p. 20

3. a-2 b-5 c-1 d-3 e-4
4. a-4 b-8 c-7 d-1 e-5 f-2
g-6 h-3
5. 1) must 2) mustn't
3) mustn't 4) must
5) must 6) mustn't
7) must 8) mustn't

p. 21

6. 1) head-d 2) foot-a
3) mouth-f 4) eye-b
5) hands-c 6) ear-e
7. avenue, detached, walls, gate, park,
suburban

第4章

p. 22

1. a-3 b-2 c-4 d-6 e-1 f-5

p. 23

2. 3)

p. 26

3. 1) T 2) F 3) T 4) T 5) F 6) T
4. a-4 b-6 c-1 d-7 e-8 f-2
g-9 h-3 i-5
5. a-4 b-5 c-6 d-3 e-2 f-1
7. get up, wake, give, eat, accompany,
watch, hit, say, have, go

第5章

p. 29

- 1) crutch 拐杖 2) dormitory 宿舍
- 3) gruel 稀粥 4) loom 织布机
- 5) Queen Victoria's portrait 维多利亚女王画像
- 6) spinning machine 纺纱机
- 7) mugs 杯子
- 8) Union Jack flag 英国国旗

p. 30

1. 3)

p. 31

2. a-3 b-6 c-1 d-5 e-2 f-4

p. 35

5. identification
6. simple, clean, bunk beds, sink, hands, mirror
7. 1) Moore 2) May
3) Keats 4) Brown

p. 36

1. a-4 b-1 c-5 d-6 e-2 f-3

第6章

p. 37

2. 2)

p. 40

3. 1) lots of 2) 20th
3) died 4) some
5) Victorian 6) wasn't
7) was 8) tomorrow
4. Latest, About, underground, accident, morning, coal mine, shift, seam, pit-head, surface

p. 41

5. a-2 b-4 c-1 d-3

6. 1) bird 2) dog
3) horse 4) cat, mice
7. 1) had to→c 2) had to→a

3) has to→e

4) has to→b

5) had to→f

6) has to→d

第7章

p. 42

1. 1) suggested 2) ordered
3) Tell 4) wrote
5) asked, replied, reading

p. 43

2. a-3 b-4 c-1 d-5 e-2

p. 46

3. 1) orphans 2) Clem 3) cutter
4) shift 5) pit 6) sign
7) cough 8) hundred
4. petition
5. 1) Gas, explosions
2) lung disease
3) coal tubs
4) cave-ins

p. 47

6. a-2 b-1 c-6 d-3 e-4 f-5
7. 1) Ginger is a young boy with short red hair.
2) Everslime is a tall man with white hair.
3) Grimlard has a fat and red face.
4) Estelle is a pretty blonde girl with blue eyes.

第8章

p. 48

1. 1) hospital 2) library
3) station 4) theater
5) factory
2. 1) sports center 体育中心
2) soccer stadium 足球场
3) multi-screen movie theater 多屏幕电影院
4) offices 写字楼
5) shopping center 购物中心

p. 50

1. 1) 3)

p. 51

2. a-3 b-5 c-1 d-7 e-2 f-8 g-6 h-4

p. 54

3. 1) wonderfully→badly

2) lunch→breakfast

3) Everslime Memorial

Church→Everslime Memorial Library

4) car accident→mine accident

5) less popular→more popular

6) see Matt→see Matt's dad

7) address book→diary

8) was good news→was bad news

9) on their motorbike→in their car

10) kitchen→living room

4. a-4 b-3 c-1 d-5 e-6 f-2

5. 1) convinced 2) ashamed

3) worried 4) surprised

5) shocked

p. 55

6. a-2 b-5 c-4 d-1 e-3

7. morning, seam, dangerous, food, permission, tower, free

第9章

p. 56

1. a-2 b-6 c-1 d-5 e-3 f-4

p. 57

1. 1) T 2) T 3) F 4) F 5) T

p. 60

3. 4-3-6-9-1-7-5-8-2

4. 1) F 2) F 3) T 4) F

5) T 6) F 7) T 8) T

p. 61

5. 1) deafening 2) low

3) sinister 4) brave

5) familiar 6) incredulous

7) narrow

6. 1) e→II

2) a→IV

3) b→I

4) c→V

5) f→III

6) d→VI

第10章

p. 62

1. c

p. 63

2. pit-heap, field, pony, rock, hole

p. 66

3. a-5 b-4 c-3 d-2 e-1

5. a-3 b-1 c-5 d-2 e-4

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6. a-3 b-6 c-1 d-5 e-4 f-2

7. 1) am going to buy 2) will answer

3) can't carry

8. 1) right

2) afraid of

3) uncovered

4) wooden

5) can't

6) down

p. 68

1) coal tub 煤车

2) cutter 采煤工

3) gallery 坑道

4) lift 电梯

5) pit-heap 煤堆

6) pit pony 矿井矮种马

7) seam 煤层 8) shaft 竖井

第11章

p. 70

1. a-4 b-3 c-1 d-2

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3. 2-10-9-8-3-1-6-7-5-4

4. 1) sadly

2) cruelly

3) noisily

4) incredulously

5) loudly

6) carefully

7) desperately

8) slowly

p. 75

5. Linda is far away from the pit-head and the rock. Everslime is in front of her and he has a pistol in his hand. Short, with grey hair, his eyes are very cruel. He is wearing a jacket. Matt, carrying Estelle, is standing out of the hole.

6. 1) Eat 2) Get 3) Close
4) Don't change 5) Don't forget
7. 3)

第 12 章

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1. 3)

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2. a-5 b-1 c-4 d-2 e-3

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3. a-2-IV b-3-I c-1-II d-4-III
4. a-4 b-7 c-2 d-5 e-1 f-8 g-3 h-6

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5. connect, link, search, website
6. 1) came 2) has changed
3) spent 4) found
5) has convinced 6) survived
7) has made
7. 1) C 2) C 3) C 4) C 5) H 6) H

p. 95

Animals	Jobs	Things Made on a Loom	Adjectives	Verbs for Different Voices	Other Verbs
bull	headmaster	apron	ashamed	growl	belong
canary	foreman	blanket	low	shout	crouch
flea	maid	cloth cap	rough	stammer	remind
toad	mayor	handkerchief	stressful	whisper	trust

背景知识

p. 84

- 1) F 2) F 3) F 4) F 5) F 6) T
7) F 8) F 9) T

p. 85

1. 1) F 2) F 3) T 4) T
2. animals, manual, water

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1. a-4 b-3 c-2 d-1
2. 1) F 2) T 3) T 4) F 5) F

p. 87

1. line, steam, passengers, trips, station

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2. a-4 b-9 c-2 d-7 e-6 f-1
g-10 h-8 i-5 j-3

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- 1) F 2) T 3) F 4) T 5) F 6) T 7) F

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- 1-8-3-7-6-2-9-5-4

词汇表

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2. a-9 b-3 c-10 d-6 e-2 f-7
g-4 h-5 i-1 j-8

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同在一所中学就读的好朋友马特·约翰逊和琳达·查普曼有一个不为外人所知的秘密：他们利用历史老师韦尔斯开发的软件可以进行时空旅行，到达过去的某一时间和地点。几年前，马特的父母在车祸中不幸丧生。马特决定穿越时空，回到车祸发生的前一天去拯救他的父母。由于电脑中了病毒，马特虽然到达了预定地点，但时间却是19世纪的维多利亚女王时代！他被带到了孤儿院，继而被送到煤矿下井干活，遭遇矿难。于是，琳达决定去救马特……

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