



## Help!

10 The trees were like inky giants menacingly looming over  
17 the house with twisted, reaching arms. Their decaying  
25 leaves rustled loudly and the air smelled damp.

35 Lucy arrived at the door. Her chest tightened. Her eyes  
44 widened. She lifted her shaking, clammy hand to knock  
55 on the door but, before she could touch it, it creaked  
56 open...

61 They wouldn't find her here.

70 Slowly edging across the threshold, her heart began to  
78 pound. Thoughts were racing wildly around her head  
87 as she tentatively peered into the darkness, trying to  
98 see if the coast was clear. After moments of silence and  
107 stillness, she had reassured herself; judging by the state  
116 of the house, nobody had ventured there in years.

117 Relief.

126 Then, from the floors above, a small, almost inaudible  
130 voice called, "Help... me..."

## Quick Questions



1. Where did the voice come from?

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2. Define: inaudible.

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3. Why was her 'heart pounding'?  
Give **two** reasons.

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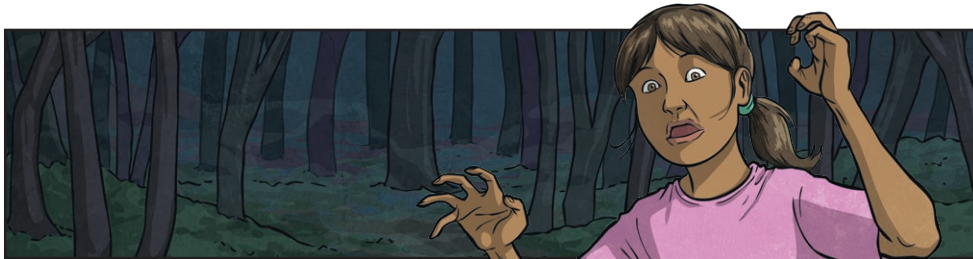


4. What do you predict Lucy will do next?  
Use the text to support your answer.

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130 voice called, "Help... me..."

## Answers



1. Where did the voice come from?  
**The voice came from the floors above (her).**



2. Define: inaudible.  
**Accept very quiet / almost impossible to hear.**



3. Why was her 'heart pounding'?  
Give **two** reasons.  
**Accept an explanation focusing on the fact that she was trying to get away from somebody as evidenced by the sentence ('They wouldn't find her here') so her heart is pounding due to physical exertion and being scared.**

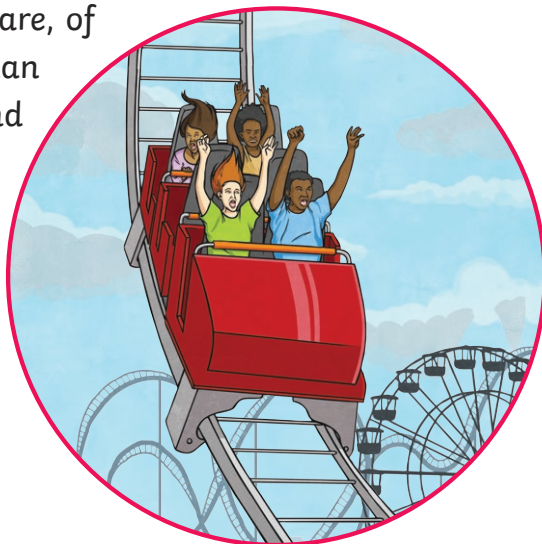


4. What do you predict Lucy will do next?  
Use the text to support your answer.  
**Pupils' own responses, such as: She will go towards the noise because she was brave enough to go into the house.**

# Rollercoasters

9 The rollercoaster has been a fashionable ride for many  
17 years, with one of the first recorded rollercoasters  
26 opening in Paris in 1817. Historically, it is believed  
35 that the rollercoaster was inspired by sledging on the  
43 icy Russian Mountains. The popularity of the coaster  
53 did not spread initially. It wasn't until 1884 that the  
60 first notable and highly admired rollercoaster was  
70 opened in New York, USA, with a runaway train style  
80 ride. The coaster ran on wooden tracks and was an  
82 instant success.

91 Today, a rollercoaster track can either be a complete  
98 circuit or a shuttle-track, allowing the cars —  
106 individual or multiple — to run in both directions.  
110 Modern rollercoasters are, of  
114 course, much faster than  
118 the original models and  
121 safety standards have  
123 notably increased  
125 since then.



# Quick Questions



1. When did the first well-known rollercoaster open? Where?

\_\_\_\_\_



2. Find and copy two words which tell you that rollercoasters are well-liked.

\_\_\_\_\_



3. How do rollercoasters of the past compare with the modern day?

\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_



4. Summarise the information about the original rollercoasters in 20 words or less.

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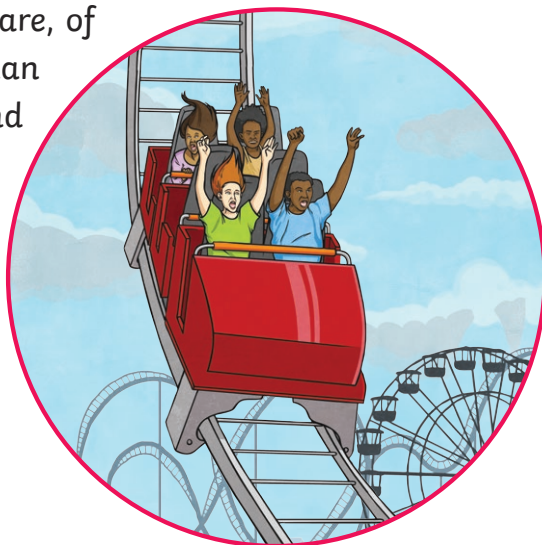
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114 course, much faster than  
118 the original models and  
121 safety standards have  
123 notably increased  
125 since then.



# Answers



1. When did the first well-known rollercoaster open? Where?

**Accept: '1884' and 'New York, USA'.**



2. Find and copy two words which tell you that rollercoasters are well-liked.

**Accept 'fashionable' and '(highly) admired'**



3. How do rollercoasters of the past compare with the modern day?

**Accept an explanation that rollercoasters are faster now, they don't all run on wooden tracks and they have higher safety standards. Also accept reference to the similarity that they still run on tracks and are popular.**



4. Summarise the information about the original rollercoasters in 20 words or less.

**Accept any reasonable summary written in 20 words or less.**





# The Alien Times

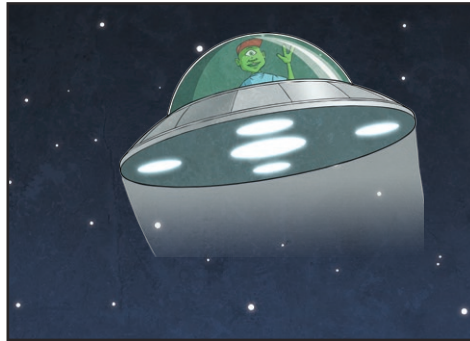


## UFO Sighting

3 Recent bright lights  
5 and high-pitched  
8 whistles have baffled  
12 dog walkers in the  
15 woodlands of Suffolk.  
18 The disturbance has  
22 occurred in the same  
27 area as the UK's largest  
31 ever UFO sighting, in  
32 1980.

35 One astonished walker  
40 said, "I walk in these  
43 woods regularly and,  
47 although I'm aware of  
51 the unusual history of  
55 the place, I've never  
57 experienced anything  
60 like this before."

64 It seems that someone,  
67 or something, might  
71 be trying to contact



75 us again, but nobody  
80 can fathom why this is  
83 happening nearly forty  
87 years since the first  
90 incident. The 'flying  
94 saucer' was in almost  
98 the exact same position  
103 as the UFO that was  
106 spotted in December,  
107 1980.

110 Some residents are  
113 nervous but many  
117 others are excited about  
121 the prospect of contact  
123 with extra-terrestrials!

## Quick Questions



1. Which word means the same as understand?

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2. When and where was the UK's largest UFO sighting?

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3. Find and copy a phrase that implies the area is known for being 'special' or 'different'.

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4. Why do you think some walkers are nervous?

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# The Alien Times



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113 nervous but many  
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## Answers



1. Which word means the same as understand?

**Accept: fathom.**



2. When and where was the UK's largest UFO sighting?

**Accept: December, 1980 and (woodlands in) Suffolk.**



3. Find and copy a phrase that implies the area is known for being 'special' or 'different'.

**Accept: 'the area of the UK's largest ever UFO sighting' OR 'the unusual history of the area' OR 'the same position as a 'flying saucer' was spotted'.**



4. Why do you think some walkers are nervous?

**Accept an explanation that focuses on the unknown of UFOs and how this might cause some people to become anxious.**

# Whodunnit?

- 8 What happened to Ms Smith's jewellery that **day**?  
18 She was meant to wear it to watch a **play**,  
27 She left it behind when she had got **dressed**,  
32 All adorned in her Sunday-**best**.
- 40 Miss Ruby was seeing her friend that **morning**,  
48 She heard the crash which came without **warning**,  
57 The woman screamed - she was given a **fright**,  
66 She yelled for help with all of her **might**.
- 74 The Doctor, in his usual morose, glum **way**,  
81 Was up in his study, beavering **away**.  
88 He ambled upstairs to discover the **theft**,  
96 And discovered the jewellery box; nothing was **left**!
- 102 Sir Crumpet in his garden **outside**,  
109 Was pruning all his shrubs with **pride**.  
117 He claimed to hear voices behind the **house**,  
126 But assumed it was either a pheasant or **grouse**!
- 134 It's such a mystery, who stole the **gold**,  
141 The police predict its already been **sold**.  
150 The townsfolk and I really don't have a **clue**!  
157 The important question here is: do **you**?



# Quick Questions



1. Where was Mrs Smith going on the day of the robbery?

\_\_\_\_\_



2. Find and copy a word which suggests that the Doctor was slow.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



3. What does the phrase 'He claimed' imply about Colonel Crumpet?

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4. Can you solve the mystery? Who do you think 'dunnit'? Why?

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# Answers



1. Where was Mrs Smith going on the day of the robbery?

**Accept: to watch a play.**



2. Find and copy a word which suggests that the Doctor was slow.

**Accept 'ambled'.**



3. What does the phrase 'He claimed' imply about Colonel Crumpet?

**Accept: that they might not be telling the truth.**



4. Can you solve the mystery? Who do you think 'dunnit'? Why?

**Accept any reasonable prediction linking to the text.**