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Before Reading

- 1  Look at these people. You can see Phil, Jamie, Annie, Emily and PC Jennings. Listen to them speaking and then write the correct name by each picture.



a



c


b



d

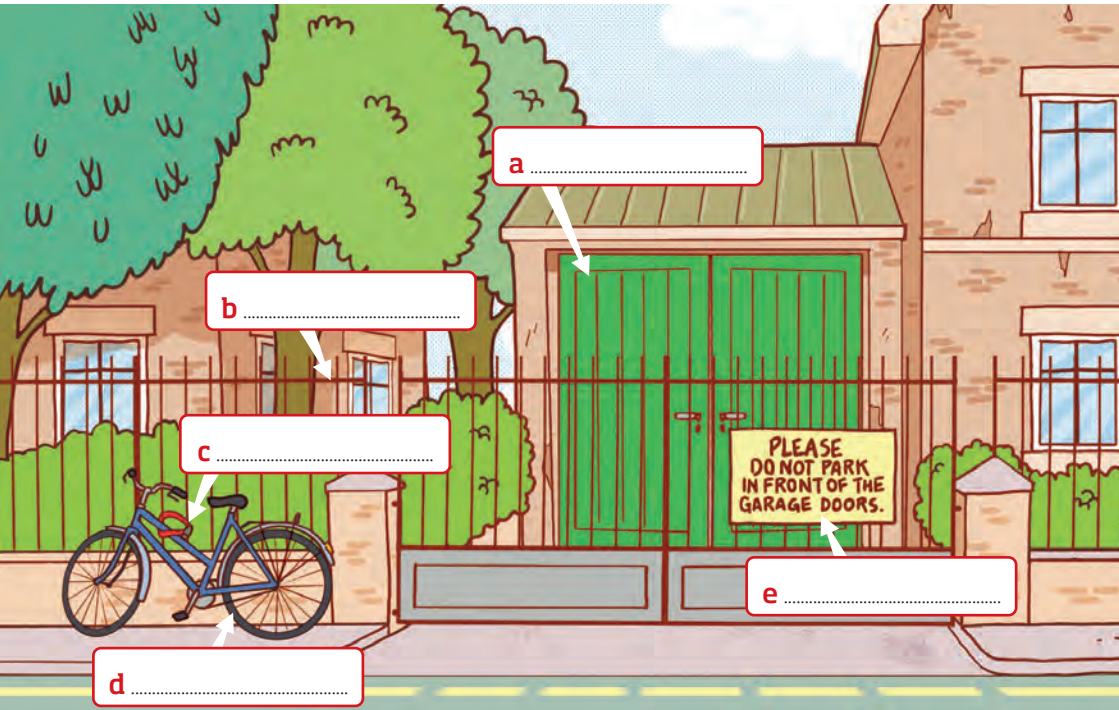


e

- 2  Work in pairs. Which people do you like? Which people do you not like?

3 Write the words from the box below in the correct spaces.

lock notice tyre railings garage



4  Work in pairs. Ask and answer these questions.

- a** Do you have a bike?
- b** How often do you use it?
- c** What kind of bike is it?
- d** Where do you usually go on your bike?

If you don't have a bike ...

- e** Why don't you have a bike?
- f** Would you like to have a bike? Why?/Why not?
- g** Why is it good to have a bike? Where can you go with it?



1 WHERE IS SUE'S BIKE?



'What a great film!' says Dan.

Dan Parks and Sue Barrington are leaving the Odeon cinema in Oxford.

'I love Eddie Redmayne,' says Sue.

'Yes, he's a good actor,' replies Dan.

He looks at his watch.

'Five o'clock already,' he says. 'Time to get home.'

'Yes,' says Sue. 'It's beginning to get dark.'

Dan and Sue live in the village of Steeple Compton, a few kilometres outside Oxford.

They walk up the street and look for their bikes. There are a lot of bikes in Oxford. The city is flat[•] and a lot of people cycle.

'There's my bike,' says Dan. He looks for Sue's, but he can't see it.

'Where's my bike?' asks Sue. 'It's not here.'

Then they see her bike lock[•] on the ground[•] – in two bits.

'Oh no!' says Sue. 'Bike thieves[•]!'

Dan looks up and down the road. He sees a police van[•] fifty metres away on the other side of the street.

'Wait here,' he says to Sue, and runs across the street.

She watches him. He talks through the window of the police van and points back at her.

Then a policeman and a policewoman get out of the van and come across the road with Dan.

GLOSSARY

- **flat:** level; with no hills
- **ground:** (here) road; street
- **lock:** something that stops people taking or moving a bike

- **thieves:** people who steal (take things that aren't theirs)
- **van:**



‘Hello,’ says the policewoman to Sue. ‘I’m PC Jennings. And this is PC Harrison. Your friend tells me your bike is missing.’

‘Yes,’ says Sue. Her eyes are red. She is trying not to cry.

PC Jennings takes out her notebook.

‘OK,’ she says. ‘First of all, what’s your name?’

‘Sue Barrington,’ says Sue. Actually Sue’s real name is Su Fei. She is half-Chinese: her mother is from Hong Kong, and her father is English. But she always tells people her name is Sue.

Jennings looks at Dan. ‘And you?’

‘I’m Dan Parks,’ says Dan.

‘And where do you live?’ asks Jennings.

‘Steeple Compton,’ say Dan and Sue together.

‘OK,’ says Jennings. ‘Now tell me about the bike.’

‘Well, it’s blue,’ begins Sue. ‘It’s a road bike. And it’s only a year old.’

Jennings writes everything in her notebook.

‘Is your postcode’ on the bike?’ asks Jennings.

The teenagers look at each other. Sue looks puzzled.

‘Er, no,’ says Sue.

‘And no electronic tag?’ asks Jennings.

‘No,’ replies Sue.

Harrison looks at Dan and Sue.

‘And is this your bike lock?’ asks PC Harrison. He takes the two bits of lock and looks at them.

‘Yes,’ says Sue. She looks sad and Dan puts his arm round her.

GLOSSARY

- **electronic tag:** thing used to find out where something is
- **missing:** not here any longer
- **postcode:** letters and numbers which help people find an address
- **puzzled:** not able to understand something

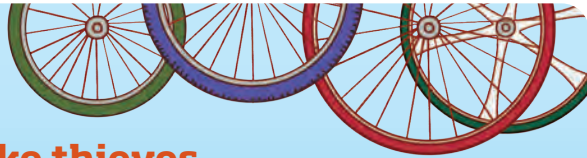
‘Well,’ says PC Harrison. ‘I’m sorry to tell you this but it’s not a very good lock. It’s maybe OK in a place like Steeple Compton. I don’t think there are many bike thieves there. But in a city like Oxford you need a strong lock.’

Jennings puts her notebook away.

‘You know, thieves steal over a thousand bikes every year in Oxford,’ she says. ‘They change the colour of the bikes. Then they take them to another city and sell them. Most people never see their bikes again.’

‘Oh no!’ says Sue. ‘But I love my bike.’

‘Well, I’m sorry,’ says PC Harrison. ‘Next time – remember: buy a good strong lock, put your postcode on the bike and maybe buy an electronic tag.’



Bike thieves

What three things can stop bike thieves?
Underline them in the text. Do you agree?

• **steal:** take without asking

• **strong:** (here) difficult to break

PC Harrison looks at his watch and then at PC Jennings.

‘This young lady wants to go home,’ he says to PC Jennings. ‘It’s almost dark and she hasn’t got her bike now.’

‘Yes,’ says PC Jennings. She smiles at Sue.

‘Come on!’ she says. ‘We can take you home in the police van.’

‘Oh! Thank you so much,’ says Sue. She almost smiles back.

PC Jennings looks at Dan.

‘You can come too,’ she says. ‘You can put your bike in the back.’

‘Thanks,’ says Dan.

They put Dan’s bike in the back of the police van. Dan and Sue get into the back seats, the police officers in the front, and they drive to Steeple Compton.

‘Poor Sue,’ thinks Dan. ‘She really loves that bike. The police are OK, but they can’t do much. Maybe I can find it for her. Maybe I can try and do something about the bike thieves in Oxford.’



Dan

What does Dan want to do?

After Reading

Language

1 Use words from the story to complete the sentences.

thieves garage puzzled laptop shaking post

- a I want to buy a new computer. I want to get a so I can do my homework in the school library.
- b Make sure you look after your bag. There are a lot of about in the city centre.
- c Look! There's a new on my Facebook page.
- d I'm very I don't understand how this computer program works.
- e Why are you your head? I only want you to help me with my homework.
- f My dad never puts his car in the It's full of boxes of old books.

2 Complete these sentences with a preposition from the box.

by about near from for to

- a 'OK,' says Jennings. 'Now tell me the bike.'
- b 'No,' says Dan. 'Come in. Just a minute.'
- c Mum wants me home one o'clock.
- d They're stealing a bike outside the cinema.
- e You don't want anything to happen the girl, do you?
- f They are thieves. Don't go them.