




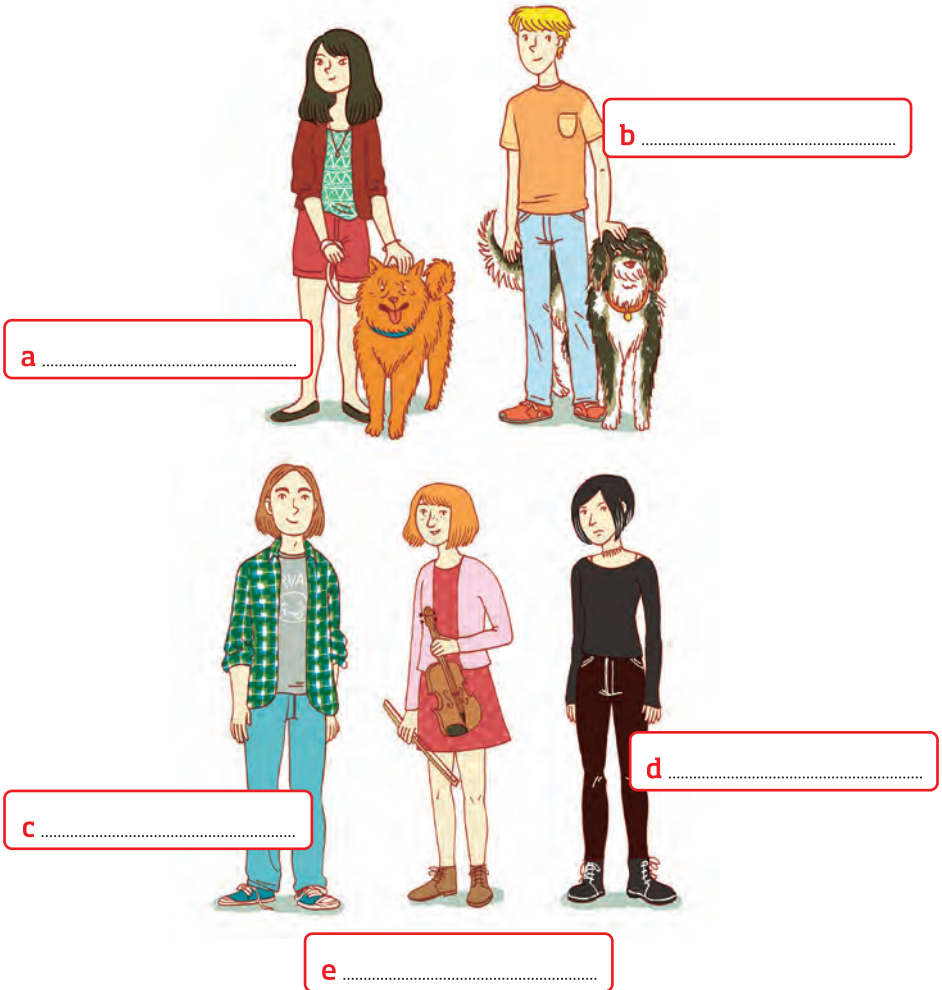
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Before Reading

- 1  Look at the people below. You can see Dan, Sue, Kevin, Chloe and Alice. Listen to the people speaking and then write the correct name by each picture.



- 2  Work in pairs. Which people do you like best? Why?

3 What are these dogs doing? Write the correct sentence under each picture.

Dylan is barking.
 Charlie is wagging his tail.
 Dylan is smelling Dan's shoes.
 Charlie and Dylan are running after a ball.



a



b



c



d

4  **Work in pairs. Ask and answer these questions.**

- a** Do you like dogs? Why/why not?
- b** Do you have a dog? If so, what is it like?
- c** Do you have any pets in your house? If so, what kind of animals are they?

1 AT THE VILLAGE FÊTE



‘Hello, Sue,’ says Dan. ‘How are you?’

‘Fine, thanks,’ replies Sue.

‘You don’t look fine. You look sad,’ thinks Dan Parks, but he doesn’t say it. He doesn’t know Sue Barrington very well. Sue and her family are new to the village.

It’s the Steeple Compton village fête today. Everyone in the village of Steeple Compton is on the sports field. There are some big tents on the sports field, too. Some families are having picnics. Children are playing games. People are selling food and drink and ice creams. There are tall trees round three sides of the field.

‘Maybe I can get Sue an ice cream,’ thinks Dan, ‘and make her happy.’ But he looks up and sees Kevin running across the field to them. Kevin’s fifteen, but not very tall. He has long brown hair and is wearing jeans and a green and white shirt.

‘Hey, Dan! Have you got any money?’ asks Kevin. ‘I want to buy an ice cream.’

‘Sorry, Kevin,’ replies Dan. ‘I haven’t got any money at all.’

Dan knows Kevin well. They’re not really friends, but they both play football for the Steeple Compton under-16 team.



‘Oh, come on, Dan,’ says Kevin. ‘You’ve always got money. Give me some.’

‘Sorry,’ replies Dan. He looks Kevin in the eye.

Kevin looks at Sue. He thinks about asking her but he doesn’t. He looks at Dan again. Then he walks away with his hands in his pockets.

GLOSSARY

- **fête:** party, usually outdoors in the summer
- **field:** area of land on a farm or used for sports
- **picnics:** meals you eat outside

- **pocket:** 
- **team:** group of players in a game or sport
- **tent:** 

Dan watches him. Kevin goes into one of the tents.

Dan turns to Sue.

‘Can I buy you an ice cream?’ he asks.

‘But...’ begins Sue.

‘Do you know Kevin?’ asks Dan.

‘Not really,’ replies Sue. ‘I know his sister. She’s in my class at school. But I don’t know Kevin.’

‘Well, I know him very well,’ says Dan. ‘Don’t give him any money. He never gives it back.’

He smiles at Sue.

‘Now, do you want an ice cream?’ he asks.

Sue smiles back at Dan.

‘Yes,’ she says. ‘Thank you.’

Dan buys two ice creams and gives one to Sue.



Dan and Sue are both thirteen years old. Sue is half-English and half-Chinese. Her father is English and her mother is from Hong Kong. Sue's name is really Su Fei, but everyone calls her Sue. She is pretty with long black hair and dark eyes.

Dan and Sue stand and talk for a minute or two.

Then there is a shout from across the field.

'Sue!' calls a woman with a dog. She is standing outside the field by some trees.

'My mum wants me,' says Sue.

'Is that your dog?' asks Dan.

'Yes,' says Sue. 'His name's Charlie.'

'He looks nice,' says Dan.

'He's great,' says Sue. 'See you later. Thanks for the ice cream.'



Dan sees his mum in one of the tents. She's selling cakes and biscuits. A lot of people are buying them. Dan walks across to the tent. A young girl with short red hair is helping his mum. It's Alice Miller. She's at his school, but not in the same class.

'Hi, Mum. Hi, Alice,' says Dan.

'Dan, can you get me a cup of tea?' asks Dan's mum. She gives Dan £5. 'And get Alice a drink, too.'

'Oh, thank you very much, Mrs Parks,' says Alice. She looks at Dan and smiles. 'Can I have a lemonade, please?'

Dan takes the money. He buys a cup of tea and a lemonade from one of the other tents and takes them across the field to his mum and Alice.

There are only a few cakes on the table now.

'Well, Alice,' says Dan's mum. 'You can go now. Thank you for your help this afternoon.'

'That's OK,' says Alice. 'Thanks for the lemonade. Bye, Mrs Parks. Bye, Dan.'

Alice leaves the tent.

'She is a nice girl,' says Dan's mum. 'And clever, too.'

'Alice is OK,' thinks Dan. 'But she's always so good.'

'Do you want anything else, Mum?' asks Dan.



Alice

What does Dan really think about Alice?

 Talk with a friend then tick (✓).

- He thinks she is very nice.
- He isn't sure about her.
- He doesn't like her.



Dan walks round the field. He looks in some of the tents. People are selling all kinds of things: old books, photographs, clothes. He talks to some of his friends. He buys some orange juice. Then he sits under a tree, drinks his juice and watches everyone.

He can hear two people behind the tree. A man and a woman. 'Do you like it here?' asks the woman. 'Are you enjoying your new home and life in the village?'

'Very much,' replies the man. It is Sue Barrington's father. 'It's a beautiful village and everyone is very friendly.'

'Yes, it is nice here,' replies the woman. 'And is your daughter at the village school?'



‘Yes,’ answers the man. ‘But she’s not having an easy time.’

‘Oh, I’m sorry to hear that,’ says the woman.

‘Yes,’ says Mr Barrington. ‘Someone’s making life difficult for her.’

Dan stops drinking and listens.

‘Is someone bullying her?’ asks the woman.

‘Yes,’ replies Mr Barrington. ‘Usually little things. You know, someone takes the books from her bag and puts them all round the classroom. Sometimes someone writes something nasty in her exercise book. Every day there’s some small thing.’

‘Oh no! Poor girl,’ says the woman.

‘Yes,’ thinks Dan. ‘Poor Sue! That’s why she looks unhappy.’



GLOSSARY

- **bullying her:** making her afraid; not being nice to her
- **nasty:** not nice

‘So she’s not very happy at the moment,’ says Mr Barrington.

‘Does her teacher know about it?’ asks the woman.

‘Sue doesn’t want her teacher to know,’ says Mr Barrington. ‘I mean, Sue’s very new at the school. She doesn’t want to be different.’

‘Who’s doing this bullying?’ asks the woman.

‘That’s the question,’ says Mr Barrington. ‘We don’t know. There is only one bully’. That’s what Sue thinks. But we don’t know who.’


Behind the tree, Dan is still listening.

‘Well, I want to know,’ he thinks. ‘This is wrong. I want to find out’. And I want to stop it.’

Dan

Which one is true? Tick (✓).

- Dan knows the bully.
- Dan wants to find the bully.
- Dan is not interested.

 Why is bullying wrong?
Discuss with a friend.

GLOSSARY

• **bully:** someone who bullies
(wants to make you afraid)

• **find out:** discover

After Reading

Language

1 Use the words from the story to complete the sentences.

torch team look text message bark
practice on wag concert piano

- a Dan plays football twice a week. On Wednesday evening there is a and on Saturdays his always has a game.
- b Sue plays the really well. Next week she's playing at a in London.
- c I can't turn the lights That's why I'm using a
- d Charlie's a funny dog. He likes to and his tail.
- e Have a at your phone. I think you've got a

2 Complete these sentences with the correct preposition from the box.

along outside across for down in

- a Kevin runs the field to Dan.
- b Kevin's sister is Sue's class at school.
- c Sue's mum stands the sports field.
- d Alice thanks Mrs Parks the lemonade.
- e Dylan lies and looks at Dan.
- f Dan and Sue walk North Street.