

Clue 1 – Apostrophes

Freddy and June walked past a dog chasing its tail outside Jacks house. They paused outside the greengrocer, where plums, apples, oranges and pears were on sale. The tangerines (10 for £1) particularly caught their eye.

“Its cold,” commented Freddy as they entered Laurels Launderette. A dim light bulb shone its weak glow round the room. He emptied the first bag. Jills trousers, Reeces pants and Olivers shirt fell out on the floor. From his second bag, Bernards jacket, Ottos socks, Olives skirt and Charless vests tumbled out.

“I cant believe the smell of Berts smalls. Weve got a job on our hands here.”

“Good job we brought some of Vivs special washing powder and Eves softener; Im so pleased we remembered them.”

“Do you remember Deniss jumpers? They were really gross”

“Youre right there. They were nearly as bad as Sams pyjamas.

June gazed across the street. Situated between the shop selling boys toys and a lamp post, which looked like an emus head, were the mens toilets.

“What a pigs ear they have made of the High Street,” she thought.

Put in the missing apostrophes.

For apostrophes of possession, highlight the letter before the apostrophe.

For apostrophes of omission, write in the missing letters.

Example: Freds friend isnt sane. = Fred's friend is not sane. = do





Clue 2 – Commas



Ruth made a mental note of what she needed: trout kippers ice lentils leeks eggs and tofu. Her son John red from lying in the sun started to discuss his upcoming birthday.

“What I really want is a new pet” proclaimed the 10 year old.

“Pets aren’t just for birthdays – they’re for life” explained his mother.

“You never buy me what I really want. Callum’s Mum is letting him choose from a list: crocodile tarantula iguana snake Alsatian or scorpion” moaned John.

His mother alarmed at the thought of a dangerous pet moved swiftly to dampen his enthusiasm.

“Callum’s mother may be buying him one of those animals; nevertheless my home is going to stay safe and clean!”

“That’s not fair” argued John leaping up from the sofa.

Put in the missing commas.

Highlight every letter after a comma.

Read the message.

Clue 3 - Past tense ^A

I *buy* (6) some new plastic shoes and *catch* (5) the bus home. I *wear* (4) them to school. Because of the danger of scorpions, I *shake* (5) my shoes. My brother *does* (2) it differently - he *kneels* (4) down and then *tells* (3) me they *are* (2) clear. I *prefer* (7) my way. He *does* (3) this before the sun *rises* (2) above the trees and *breaks* (5) through the clouds.

He *sits* (1) down to breakfast before he *goes* (3) out. Outside the house, he *finds* (2) his bicycle and *meets* (3) his friends. He *is* (1) on time as usual. At break he *drinks* (3) his coconut milk and *bites* (2) into his fresh mango snack.

In class an enormous rat *shoots* (4) out from under the table. Mr Maserotoo *finds* (2) some droppings under the bench and *sends* (3) for a brush. Later the rat *creeps* (5) up to the river bank and *swims* (3) across to the other side.

A warm wind *blows* (1) as we children *sleep* (2). My father *eats* (3) his supper before he too *slides* (1) into bed.

Change the verbs in italics into the past tense. The number in brackets after each word tells you which letter to take from the past tense verb.

Example: The top *spins* (3) = The top span = a

Clue 3 - Past tense ^{AA}

I buy some new plastic shoes and catch the bus home. I wear them to school. Because of the danger of scorpions, I shake my shoes. My brother does it differently - he kneels down and then tells me they are clear. I prefer my way. He does this before the sun rises above the trees and breaks through the clouds. (6,5,4,5,2,4,3,2,7,3,2,5)

He sits down to breakfast before he goes out. Outside the house, he finds his bicycle and meets his friends. He is on time as usual. At break he drinks his coconut milk and bites into his fresh mango snack. (1,3,2,3,1,3,2)

In class an enormous rat shoots out from under the table. Mr Maserotoo finds some droppings under the bench and sends for a brush. Later the rat creeps up to the river bank and swims across to the other side. (4,2,3,5,3)

A warm wind blows as we children sleep. My father eats his supper before he too slides into bed. (1,2,3,1)

Change the verbs into the past tense. The numbers in brackets after each paragraph tell you which letters to take from the past tense verbs. Find all the verbs first before you pick out the letters

Example: The top *spins* (3) = The top **sp**an = a

Clue 4 Homophones ^A

Correct the spellings of the homophones in *italics*. The number after each word shows which letter is part of the message. So 'This *pear* (3) of socks is blue' = pa*r* = i

The bowls, with remnants of the *desert* (7) from last *knight's* (4) meal, had been left *their* (5) by the guests. Freda poured some *serial* (1)- found in the *hire* (6) of the two cupboards – and looked out of the window. A tall *fur* (2) tree cast a shadow over the beds of mint, rosemary and *time* (4). The postman sauntered up to deliver the *male* (3) as a large lorry turned left onto the *mane* (4) road. *Piece* (3) was restored as the lorry departed and the *pail* (3) sunlight revealed a squirrel's twitching *tale* (3) on the bird-table.

Carrying the kitchen waist (3) up the garden, she saw a *cue* (4) forming down the road. It was *plane* (5) to see that the driver of a Fiat had not *red* (4) the One Way sign. She watched the *seen* (5) with interest as a large motorbike arrived with a *raw*, (4) the driver impatient with the *weight*. (4) He *fort* (5) his way through, the *mussels* (6) on his arms bulging, as reign (2) began to fall. *Ate* (3) minutes later the police arrived and *find* (4) the Fiat driver.

"I know I'm not *aloud* (4) that way but you shouldn't *prophet* (4) from my mistake," complained the driver.

Hearing a message on the radio, the policewoman replied, "We have to *chute* (5) off now, I hope this has *taut* (5) you a lesson."

Freda went indoors and climbed the *stares*. (4) The *storey* (4) was fresh in her mind as she began to *right* (4) her diary. The *raise* (3) of the evening sun lit the room.

Clue 4 Homophones ^{AA}

There are 32 incorrectly spelt homophones. Replace each one with the correct spelling. At the end of each paragraph, the number shows which letter of the correctly spelt word is part of the coded message. So the 7th letter of the first incorrect spelling is the first letter. Make sure you have found all the mistakes in a paragraph before you start decoding.

The bowls, with remnants of the desert from last knight's meal, had been left their by the guests. Freda poured some serial - found in the hire of the two cupboards – and looked out of the window. A tall fur tree cast a shadow over the beds of mint, rosemary and time. The postman sauntered up to deliver the male as a large lorry turned left onto the mane road. Piece was restored as the lorry departed and the pail sunlight revealed a squirrel's twitching tale on the bird-table.

(7,4,5,1,6,2,4,3,4,3,3,3)

Carrying the kitchen waist up the garden, she saw a cue forming down the road. It was plane to see that the driver of a Fiat had not red the One Way sign. She watched the seen with interest as a large motorbike arrived with a raw, the driver impatient with the weight. He fort his way through, the mussels on his arms bulging, as reign began to fall. Ate minutes later the police arrived and find the Fiat driver. (3,4,5,4,5,4,4,5,6,2,3,4)

"I know I'm not aloud that way but you shouldn't prophet from my mistake," complained the driver. (4,4)

Hearing a message on the radio, the policewoman replied, "We have to chute off now, I hope this has taut you a lesson." (5,5)

Freda went indoors and climbed the stares. The storey was fresh in her mind as she began to right her diary. The raise of the evening sun lit the room. (4,4,4,3)

Clue 4 Homophones AAA

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Clue 5 identifying nouns, adjectives, verbs and adverbs

Highlight the first letter of every noun in the first paragraph, every adjective in the second paragraph, every verb in the third section and every adverb in the fourth section.

The tiger crept slowly towards the sleeping hyena. A nearby elephant was being washed by a keeper. An iguana, an interesting lizard, lay camouflaged amongst the leaves. Eric and Rachel, full of hope, began their ascent to the summit. (nouns)

It was a beautiful day and the evergreen rainforest teemed with life. The energetic walkers soon passed the nearby monument . There was a tense moment as an orange snake leapt towards Rachel but she dodged it easily. (adjectives)

A wild boar ferreted among the dead leaves and opened a seed capsule.

“I understand,” remarked Eric, “Those seedpods smell so strongly, animals turn up from miles around.”

“I agree with you,” grunted Rachel. (verbs)

The two climbers became painfully aware of large number of mosquitoes who were avidly homing in on them. They reluctantly decided to stop for the night. Tiredly, they erected their tent and dragged their bodies inside. Lying under their mosquito nets, they listened interestingly to the loud calls of the nearby bull frogs as they enticingly tried to attract mates.

Suddenly they were disturbed by a loud crash behind them....

(adverbs)