

The Long Shot

篮球疑云



Terry Tomscha
Peggy Albers

Mc
Graw
Hill

Intermediate

B2 Vantage



With
MP3 Inside
Extra Section on Culture
Integrated Activities
Fictional and Non-Fictional Texts
Glossary with Vocabulary Activities



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Check your comprehension

1 Flick through the pages of the book. What sport is practised by the protagonists of the story?

- 1) soccer
- 2) volleyball
- 3) tennis
- 4) basketball

2 Where does the story take place?

- 1) the UK
- 2) Italy
- 3) the USA
- 4) Brazil

CHAPTER 1

A Big Day for Ricki

Ricki wakes up and looks out of his bedroom window. It's a nice sunny morning. The sky is blue. He sits up in bed and remembers that this is an important day for him. "Today is the day!" he says to himself. "Today, I'm going to try out for the basketball team!"

Ricki's school, Howard High, has the best basketball team in the state. They win every game that they play. They also have the best coach, Mr Bergman. Training with Coach Bergman is difficult and tiring. He makes the team practice every day after school and twice on the weekends. He's a tough coach, but that's why the "Howard Hawks" are the best.

All the boys want to be on the team, and today Coach Bergman is going to choose the players for next season. Ricki's a good player, but he's only a junior and there are a lot of senior boys who want to play too.

Ricki's mom interrupts his daydreaming. "Ricki, time to get up!" she calls from the kitchen.

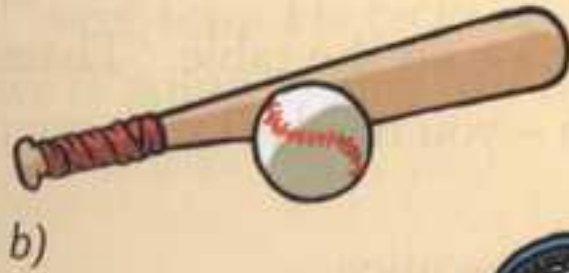
"Yeah, Mom!" Ricki answers.

He jumps quickly out of bed. He has a shower and goes downstairs. His father is at the stove cooking breakfast and his mother is making coffee. "Good morning, Ricki. Do you want two eggs and toast this morning?"

Words

3 Match each word to its picture.

- 1) tennis
- 2) soccer
- 3) basketball
- 4) baseball



his father asks. "It's a big day for you, son. You have your team try-outs! You need a good breakfast inside you!"

"Yes, thanks. Two eggs, please, Dad," replies Ricki, **grinning**. "I'm nervous too!" he **adds**.

He takes some milk from the fridge and sits down at the table.

"Don't be nervous, Ricki. You're a good player. I know you're going to get on the team," his mom says, smiling. "You practice **enough**!"



“Thanks, Mom,” says Ricki, “but I’m only 16 years old. Don’t forget, I’m only a junior. There are lots of seniors who want to play. They are big and strong.”

Mr Anderson puts Ricki’s eggs and toast on the table. “There you go, Ricki. Have some orange juice too – you need all your energy today!”

Ricki eats his eggs and drinks the orange juice.

The doorbell rings and Ricki’s best friend, Tony Caruso, comes in. “Hi, Ricki! Hi, Mr and Mrs Anderson! Still eating, Ricki?” Tony asks and sits down next to his friend.

“Hello, Tony. You have a big day today, too!” says Mrs Anderson, “You’re trying out for the team too, aren’t you? Would you like some orange juice or coffee?”

“Yes, thanks, some juice, please,” replies Tony. “Yeah, we all need all our strength today! Coach Bergman’s going to be really tough on us this afternoon!” laughs Tony.

“You and Ricki are both talented players and you’re fitter than some of the seniors. You’re going to do well,” says Mrs Anderson.

“Thanks,” says Tony. He looks at Ricki’s father. “What are you reading, Mr Anderson? Isn’t that a photo of Howard High School on the front page of the newspaper? What does the article say?”

“Crime in our high schools is increasing,” quotes Ricki’s dad. “It says someone broke three windows at the high school last night. They think vandalism and crime is increasing in schools in our area.”

At that moment, the phone rings. Mrs Anderson answers it. “Yes, he is. Just a minute, please. Ricki, it’s for you. It’s Stacy.” Stacy is Ricki’s new girlfriend. She’s in his class at Howard High. She’s the prettiest girl in their year and she’s intelligent. Ricki likes her a lot. “Hi, Stacy!” Ricki laughs. “What? Oh, thanks! We need some luck. Yeah, see you at school. Bye!”

“Stacy’s a great girl, Ricki. You’re really lucky,” says Tony.

Ricki is a bit embarrassed. He doesn’t like to talk about his girlfriend in front of his parents.

“Uh, yeah, I know, Tony. Your girl, Trish, er... is nice too,” he says. “Listen, we want to go to a movie this weekend. Do you and Trish

want to come with us?" he asks.

"Sounds fun! But, we have to think about basketball today, not movies!" says Tony. He picks up his glass of orange juice. "Here's to us! Today we're going to play like Michael Jordan!" The boys touch their glasses and drink.

Ricki looks at the clock. "Oh! It's late. We have to go!" he says. He picks up his plate, puts it into the dishwasher and gets his bag.

"Thanks! Mom, Dad, see you later!" he calls.

"Bye, honey. Good luck!" calls his mom.

"Good luck, son!" shouts his dad.





A Big Day for Ricki

Check your comprehension

4 True or false? Indicate T or F.

- 1) Tony and Ricki are brothers.
- 2) The boys want to be on the soccer team.
- 3) Mrs Anderson is Ricki's mother.
- 4) Stacy is Tony's sister.
- 5) Michael Jordan is on the Howard High team.

T F

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Now rewrite the false statements with the correct information.

Characters

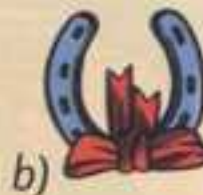
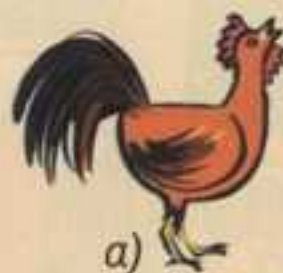
5 Match each character to his or her description.

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| 1) Tony | a) a famous American basketball player |
| 2) Coach Bergman | b) Ricki's girlfriend |
| 3) Michael Jordan | c) Ricki's best friend |
| 4) Stacy | d) the trainer of the school basketball team |

Words

6 Match each expression to one of the pictures.

- 1) Good morning
- 2) Good luck!
- 3) Here's to us!
- 4) Goodbye



7 Match each word to its picture.

- 1) eggs
- 2) milk
- 3) cereal
- 4) bacon
- 5) orange juice
- 6) coffee
- 7) toast



Language

8 Complete the following sentences with the comparative forms of the adjectives in parentheses.

- 1) She is _____ (tall) than the other girl.
- 2) He is _____ (short) than the other boys on the team.
- 3) The girls are _____ (fast) than the boys.
- 4) Is Stacy _____ (pretty) than her friend Trish?
- 5) Are they _____ (happy) than their friends?
- 6) Who is _____ (fat)? Bill or Ben?

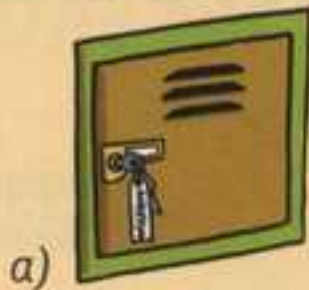
COMPARATIVE ADJECTIVES

They're *bigger* and *stronger* than I am.
You're *fitter* than some of the seniors.

Words

I Match each word to its picture.

- 1) note
- 2) locker
- 3) PC
- 4) e-mail



CHAPTER 2

Mysterious Messages

R

icki and Tony get off the school bus and walk towards Howard High. They're both very tense and excited. They talk about the try-outs all the way.

"It's going to be hard to study today," says Ricki. "I'm too excited, and we have an English test this morning, too."

"Yeah, I know. It's going to be difficult," says Tony. They walk to their **lockers** to get their books.

"Hey, Tony! Look," says Ricki, "there's a note on my locker door." "What does it say?" Tony asks him.

Ricki opens the note and reads it **aloud**.

"Don't go to basketball practice today – something bad is going to happen!"

Ricki looks at his friend, **puzzled**, "What does it mean, Tony?" "I don't know," says Tony. "It's probably just a **joke**. Maybe someone wants to **frighten** you. Maybe someone wants to **make the team** and doesn't want you to come to the try-outs. Forget it, Ricki."

He opens his locker. A note falls out onto the floor. "Hey, Ricki! I have a note, too!" he says, surprised. He reads his note to Ricki: "Basketball is for men, not boys. Don't try out for the team or something bad is going to happen!"

"Who is sending these notes? Who wants to **threaten** us?" asks Ricki. "I don't know, but I don't like it," replies Tony.

Pictures

2 Look at the illustrations in chapter 2 and choose the correct answers.

- 1) What does Ricki find in his locker?
a basketball / their English test / a note
- 2) How does Tony feel when he finds one too?
surprised / shocked / happy / sad
- 3) Where are Ricki and Tony in the second picture?
at home / in school / in the street
- 4) What is Ricki doing at the computer?
checking his e-mail / doing his homework / playing a game



Hi, Ricki!" says a friendly voice then, and Stacy Johnson walks over to their lockers. She is tall, with long blonde hair and blue eyes. She is smiling at Ricki.

"Hi, Ricki! Hi, Tony! How are you?" she says. She gives Ricki a hug.

"Oh, hi, Stacy!" replies Tony. "Great, how're you?"

"What's the matter?" she asks then, seeing his worried expression. "Is something wrong?"

"Oh, it's probably nothing," says Ricki.

"We found two notes in our lockers," says Tony. "We think it's a joke, but..."

"Can I read them?" asks Stacy. She looks at the notes. "Mmm. I

don't think this is a joke. Let's tell the **principal**!"

"Hey, wait a minute," replies Ricki. "We don't need to do that. I think Tony is right. The notes are jokes. I'm not **scared**. Let's forget them." "Ricki, these notes aren't jokes!" says Stacy. "Someone wants to frighten you. But why? Okay, don't tell the principal, but please tell Coach Bergman."

Suddenly the bell rings for their first class.

"Time to go," says Ricki. "Look Stacy, don't worry. These notes are nothing. See you at lunch."

"Oh, okay, see you then!" and Stacy walks down the hall with a worried expression.

Tony and Ricki go to their computer class. They **switch on** their PC's before class starts.

"I want to look at last night's basketball **scores**," says Tony. He goes into the Internet.

"Yeah! The Los Angeles Lakers did it. They **won**! They **beat** the Chicago Bulls!" he shouts.

"I want to **check** my e-mail," says Ricki, laughing.

Ricki **types in** the password for his e-mail.

"You have mail," the computer voice says. Ricki opens up the first message. It's from Stacy.

From: Stacyj@hhs.k-12.il

To: Rickia@hhs.k-12.il

Subject: Good luck!

Message: Hi Ricki! Just a note to say good luck today at practice!

See you at school!

Love, Stacy

He opens up the second message.

From: caper@whosemail.com

To: Rickia@hhs.k-12.il

Subject: warning

Message: Don't go to practice today or something bad is going to happen!

"Tony, look!" Ricki whispers as their teacher comes in. "It's another



mystery message!”

“Wow, this is **weird**!” replies Tony. “Who is ‘Caper’?”

“I don’t know. The message doesn’t come from our school. Look at the e-mail address. Quick! Check yours and see if you have any messages from ‘Caper’.”

Tony types in his password.

“You have mail,” says the computer voice.

Ricki and Tony look at each other. Tony **clicks** on the new message.

“Oh my God, it’s from ‘Caper’, too!” he says, opening it.

From: *caper@whosemail.com*

To: *tonyc@hhs.k-12.il*

Subject: *warning*

Message: *Don’t try out for the basketball team today.*

This is your final warning!

“What are we going to do?” asks Ricki.

“I don’t know,” says Tony. “But I know one thing – these stupid messages aren’t going to stop us. We’re going to go to basketball practice tonight and we’re going to try out for the team and nobody is going to stop us!!!”



Mysterious Messages

Check your comprehension

3 Choose the correct answers.

- 1) Who wrote the first e-mail message?
Stacy / Mr Stockton / Caper / Microsoft
- 2) Where do Ricki and Tony find the first notes?
in their lockers / in their bags / in their books
- 3) Where do Ricki and Tony find the second note?
in their lockers / in their bags / on their computers
- 4) Who wrote the mysterious e-mail messages?
Mr Stockton / Caper / Microsoft
- 5) Who does Stacy want to tell about the notes?
a teacher / the principal / her mother
- 6) What does Caper say in the notes?
Let's have lunch / Don't try out for the basketball team /
Help me with my homework

4 Who has written these messages? Use the "From" line to write the name of the sender and his e-mail address.

1) To: _ HYPERLINK "mailto:Stacyj@hhs.k-12.il"
Stacyj@hhs.k-12.il
From: _____
Subject: Movie
Hi Stacy,
Do you want to go to a movie this weekend?

2) To: _ HYPERLINK "mailto:Rickia@hhs.k-12.il"
Rickia@hhs.k-12.il
From: _____
Subject: Practice
Hi Ricki,
We have practice this afternoon at 4:00. Don't be late!

Words

5 Match each word to its definition.

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| 1) e-mail | a) place where students put books at school |
| 2) password | b) afraid |
| 3) principal | c) a funny story; a trick |
| 4) locker | d) the head of the school |
| 5) joke | e) a message sent by computer |
| 6) scared | f) words used to open a computer program |

Language

6 Complete the sentences with the following verbs plus *to be going to*.

have try out stop
check drink tell

THE FUTURE - TO BE GOING TO

Something bad is going to happen.
We're going to go to basketball practice tonight.

Example: Ricki and Tony like basketball.

They are going to try out for the team.

- 1) Ricki and Tony _____ an English test.
- 2) Tony turns on his computer. He _____ his e-mail.
- 3) Stacy is worried. She _____ the teacher.
- 4) Tony isn't afraid. Nobody _____ him from going to basketball practice.
- 5) Ricki is thirsty. He _____ some water.

Story summary

7 Put the sentences in the correct order.

- ☐ Tony and Ricki walk to school.
- ☐ The notes say something bad is going to happen.
- ☐ Tony and Ricki receive e-mail messages from "Caper".
- ☐ Tony says he is still going to basketball practice.
- ☐ Stacy is worried about the notes.
- ☐ Ricki finds a note on his locker door.



Words

I Match each action verb to its picture.

- 1) to shoot
- 2) to dribble
- 3) to score
- 4) to pass



CHAPTER 3

The Basketball Try-outs

It's lunchtime. Thank God! I'm so hungry!" says Ricki to Tony as they leave their English class and walk to their lockers. "Me too! English is so hard, I'm always hungry after our English lessons!" replies Tony.

"It isn't hard, it's easy," says Ricki, laughing, "but you have to do the homework, Tony!"

"Yeah, okay, I know," replies his friend.

They put their books away, **lock** their lockers and walk to the **lunchroom**.

Hey, there's Stacy and Trish. Let's eat with them," says Tony. They walk over to the table where the two girls are sitting. "Hi! What's the matter, girls?" asks Ricki, seeing their worried faces.

"Ricki, we're scared," replies Stacy.

"About what?" asks Ricki.

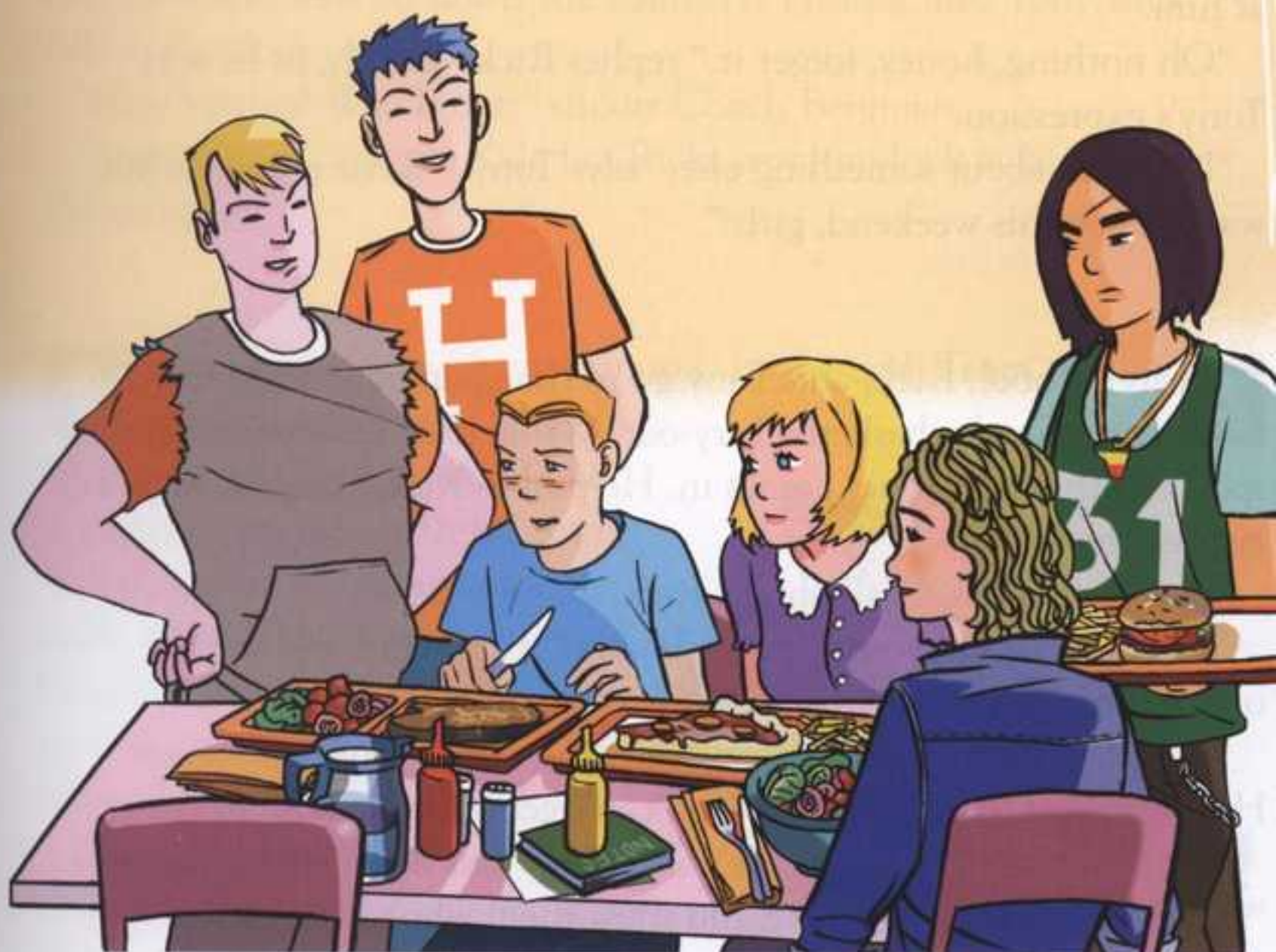
"About those notes you and Tony found in your lockers," says Trish.

"Please **show** them to the principal," says Stacy. "They could mean **trouble**."

2 Match each word to its opposite.

- 1) hard
- 2) worried
- 3) bad
- 4) same
- 5) angry
- 6) right

- a) calm
- b) wrong
- c) easy
- d) relaxed
- e) good
- f) different



"Aw, girls, it's nothing," says Tony. "It's just a bad joke."

Just then two tall senior boys stop at their table. "Hey, Anderson! Hey, Caruso! Are you trying out for the team today?" Kyle Martin asks them.

"Yeah, and I'm going to make the team, too!" replies Ricki, laughing.

"Oh yeah? Well, watch out, **kid**, you don't want anything bad to happen today, eh?" says the other senior, Pat Jones, with a **nasty** smile. Pat and Kyle walk away, laughing, to go sit at another table.

"I don't like Kyle Martin and Pat Jones. They're **bullies**. They always make trouble," says Trish, uncomfortably.

"Do you think they **wrote** the mysterious notes?" asks Stacy.

“Remember what Pat said – ‘You don’t want anything bad to happen today’ – the same words as your note, Ricki.”

“No, I don’t think they wrote the notes,” replies Ricki. “They’re **creeps** but they just want to play basketball. Writing notes and sending e-mails is not their style.”

“Sending e-mail threats...? What do you mean?” says Stacy, looking at him.

“Oh nothing, honey, forget it,” replies Ricki quickly, as he sees Tony’s expression.

“Let’s talk about something else,” says Tony. “What movie do you want to see this weekend, girls?”

After school, Ricki and Tony go to the **changing rooms** to get ready for the basketball try-out. While they are putting on their sports clothes, Pat Jones comes in. He pushes Ricki **roughly**. Ricki falls against the lockers.

“Hey, **watch out**, Pat!” shouts Ricki angrily.

“Why? What are you going to do, kid?” Pat laughs and walks out of the changing room.

“Forget it, Ricki,” says Tony calmly, “he wants you to get angry. He wants you to play **badly** so you can’t get on the team.”

“Yeah, you’re right, Tony. He’s a moron,” says Ricki after a moment. “Come on! Let’s go out there and show them who’s the best!”

Ricki and Tony walk out onto the basketball **court**, grinning.

Okay! Everyone, onto the court!” shouts Coach Bergman. Twenty-five boys get up and run onto the basketball court. Twenty-five boys want to be on the team but only twelve boys are needed. Everyone is nervous. The players practice for an hour. Finally, Coach Bergman shouts, “Okay, we are going to play a game now. I want to watch you play so I can choose the boys to be on the school team. Play hard and play well, boys! Good luck!”

Tony and Ricki and three other boys are in Team A in the white **shirts**. Pat Jones and Kyle Martin are in Team B with some of their friends. They’re wearing the red shirts.

Coach Bergman **blows his whistle** and shouts, “Let’s play!” He blows the whistle again and the game begins.

Tony takes the ball and throws it to Ricki. Ricki **dribbles** down the court, **dodging** his opponents, to the **basket**. He plays the ball well. He sees Pat Jones coming towards him and tries a shot at the basket. It's a good **shot** but he's too far from the basket. He misses. Tony catches the ball **on the rebound** and **shoots**. Swish! The ball goes straight into the basket! Two points for Team A! Kyle Martin catches it and runs off down the court. He crashes into Tony who falls to the floor.

"Hey, Martin! Watch out!" shouts Coach Bergman.

"Sorry, Coach!" shouts Kyle but Ricki sees him look at his friend Pat and grin.

The teams play for fifteen minutes. In the end, Team A wins by sixteen points to twelve.

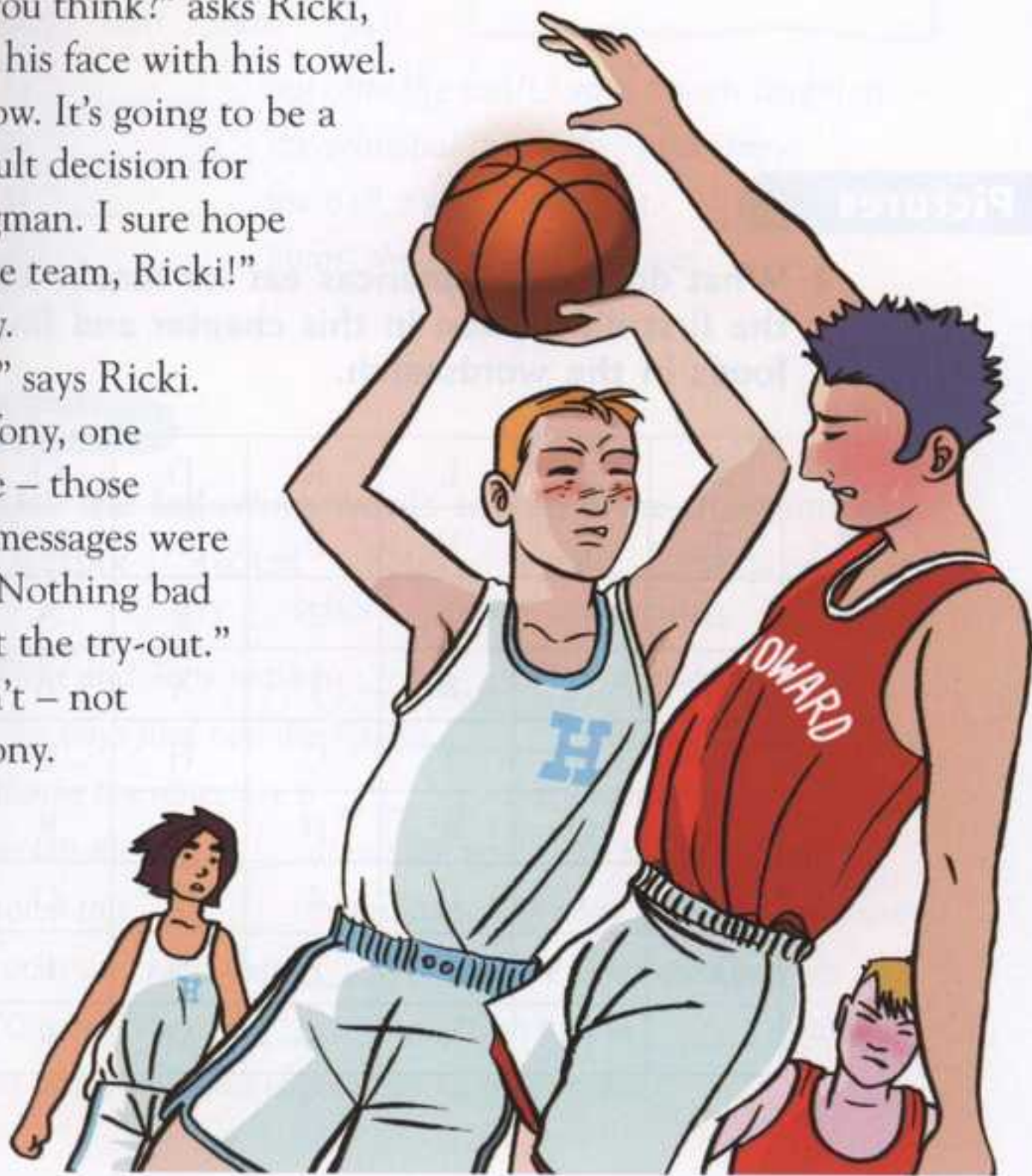
"What do you think?" asks Ricki, as he **wipes** his face with his towel.

"I don't know. It's going to be a really difficult decision for Coach Bergman. I sure hope we make the team, Ricki!" replies Tony.

"Me, too," says Ricki.

"Anyway, Tony, one thing is sure – those mysterious messages were just a joke. Nothing bad happened at the try-out."

"No, it didn't – not yet," says Tony.





The Basketball Try-outs

Check your comprehension

3 True or false? Indicate T or F.

- 1) The note Ricki receives is signed by the writer.
- 2) Stacy thinks the notes are a joke.
- 3) Tony knows who the e-mail is from.
- 4) Kyle and Pat are really nice basketball players.
- 5) Ricki and Tony play well during practice.
- 6) Pat bumps into Tony accidentally on the court.

T F

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Now rewrite the false statements with the correct information.

Pictures

4 What do young Americans eat for lunch? Look at the first illustration in this chapter and find six foods in the wordsearch.

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S | A | L | A | D | O | R |
| T | B | V | B | M | K | O |
| E | P | I | Z | Z | A | L |
| A | H | K | J | X | B | S |
| K | E | T | C | H | U | P |
| N | Q | W | H | E | R | M |
| M | I | U | I | T | G | N |
| Y | O | L | P | B | E | V |
| L | C | V | S | M | R | E |

Characters

5 Match each character to a description.

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 1) Pat Jones | a) He is rough and arrogant. |
| 2) Stacy | b) She is worried about the e-mails. She wants to tell the principal. |
| 3) Ricki | c) He laughs when he pushes Tony on the basketball floor. |
| 4) Trish | d) She doesn't like Kyle and Pat. She says they are bullies. |
| 5) Kyle Martin | e) He is angry when Pat pushes him. |

Language

6 Complete the sentences with the following verbs.

play run show pass

IMPERATIVES

Show them to the principal.
Watch out, Pat.

- 1) "_____ out onto the court," says Coach Bergman.
- 2) "_____ the principal the notes," says Stacy.
- 3) "_____ the ball, Kyle," shouts Pat.
- 4) "_____ hard!" shouts Coach Bergman.

Story summary

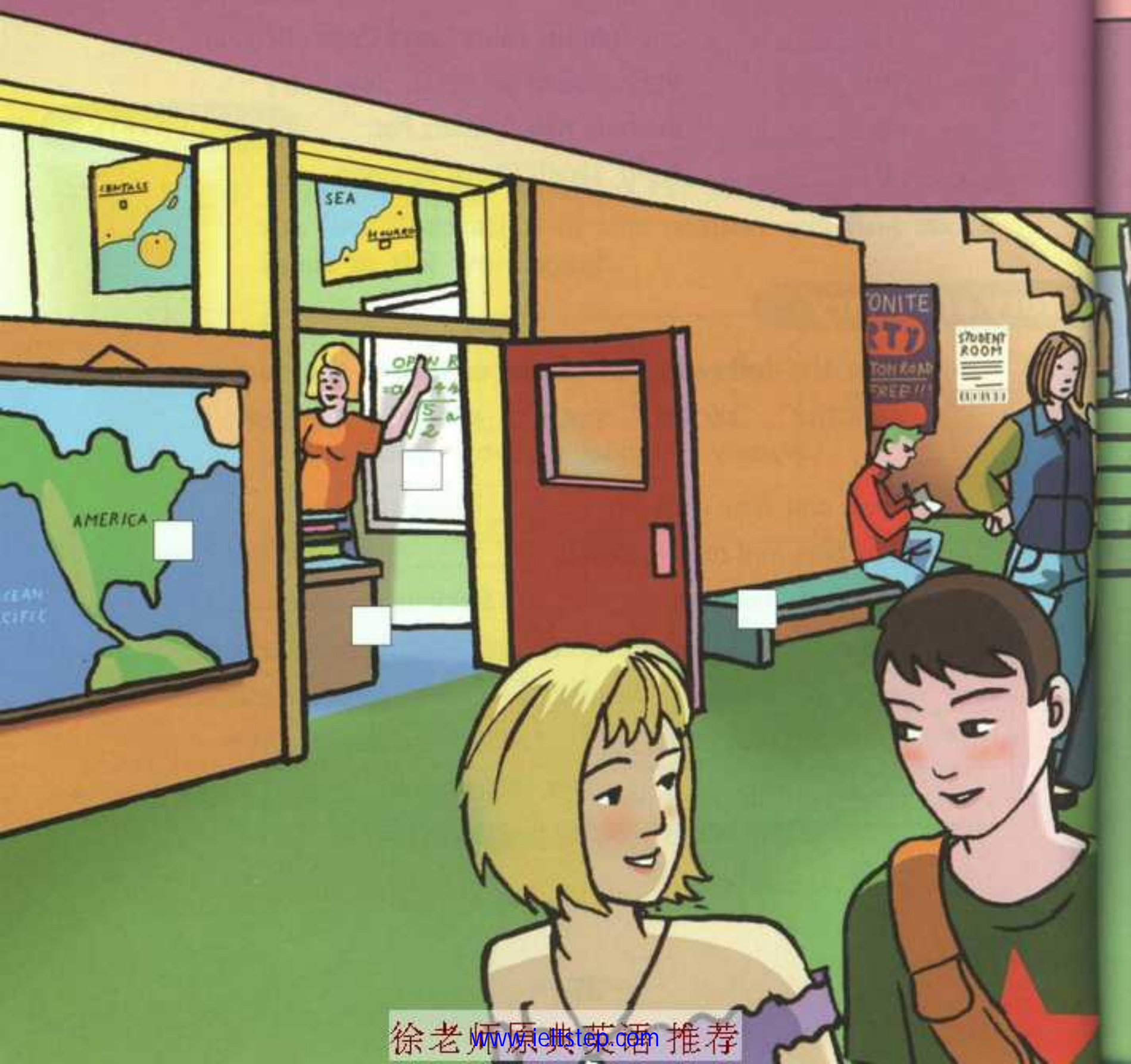
7 Use the following words to complete the summary.

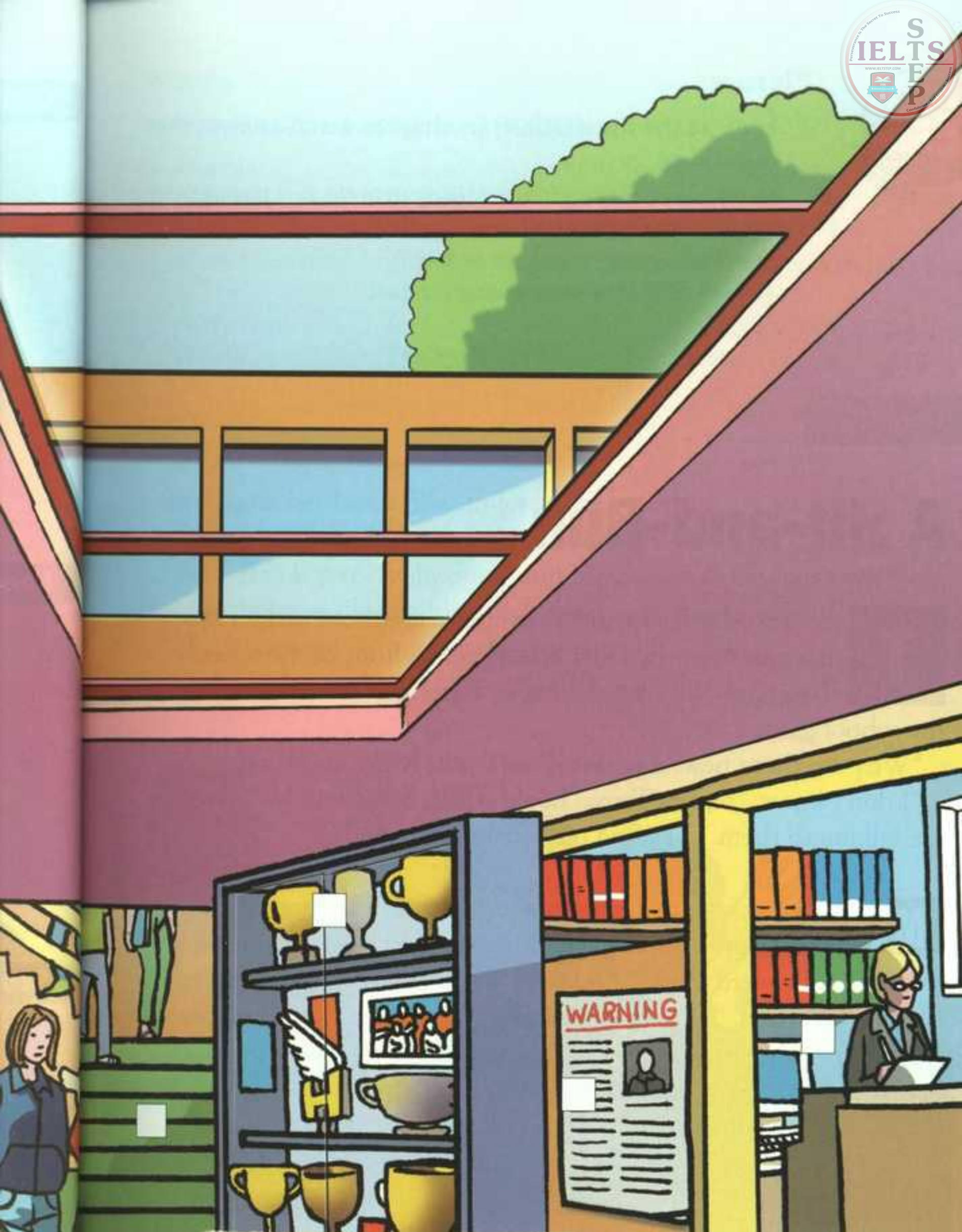
practice excited notes e-mails message
mystery school joke principal

Ricki and Tony walk to _____. They are very _____.
The boys find two mysterious _____ in their lockers. Tony thinks the notes are a _____. Stacy wants Ricki and Tony to tell the _____ about the notes, but the boys want to solve this _____ themselves. The boys go to the computer room and read their _____. There is a message from "Caper". The _____ says, "Don't go to _____ today or something bad is going to happen to you!"

SETTINGS

Howard High School





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

- | | | |
|-------------|--------------|---------------|
| 1) office | 4) hall | 7) notice |
| 2) bench | 5) classroom | 8) map |
| 3) trophies | 6) stairs | 9) whiteboard |



Pictures

1 Look at the illustrations in chapter 4 and answer the questions.

- 1) Who are Stacy and Trish talking to in the first picture?
- 2) What do you think he is asking them about?
- 3) What is going to happen to Ricki?
- 4) Who do you think is driving the car?

CHAPTER 4

A Hit-and-Run

The next day Ricki and Tony arrive at school early. There is a van from the local newspaper in front of the school. Two journalists are talking to a group of students outside the school gates.

"Why are those news reporters here?" asks Ricki, surprised.

"I don't know," replies Tony. "Look! Trish, Stacy and Mr Stockton are talking to them. Let's find out what's going on."

"Mr Stockton, we are doing another news article about the increasing problem of crime in our high schools. Is there a lot of crime at Howard High?" one news reporter is asking the principal. Mr Stockton says, "No, we don't have much crime here. Sure, we have some vandalism and we have some minor discipline problems. A few students have truancy problems, but there's nothing major. I think our students feel safe here."

"Stacy and Trish, do you feel safe at this school?" the other reporter asks the girls.

"Yeah, usually I feel safe," replies Trish, "but there are some bullies at the school."

"What exactly do you mean? What do they do?" asks the reporter.

"Well, some students are using notes and e-mail..."

But Stacy interrupts her friend, "No, we don't have a lot of crime at our school, sir. We feel very safe here."

She frowns at Trish and whispers, "Not yet. We don't have any proof, Trish."

Words

2 Match each word to its definition.

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 1) senior | a) a person who hurts someone younger or weaker |
| 2) junior | b) a person who breaks or destroys property |
| 3) coach | c) a person who writes news stories |
| 4) news reporter | d) a student in the fourth or final year of high school |
| 5) vandal | e) a sports teacher |
| 6) principal | f) a student in the third year of high school |
| 7) bully | g) a person in charge of a school |

Trish nods her head. She smiles at the reporters.

"Yes, all in all we feel safe at Howard High – it's a good school."

"Well, thank you, Trish, Stacy and Mr Stockton for your time," says the reporter, closing his notebook.

"Don't mention it," replies the principal.

"You're welcome," say Stacy and Trish.



Tony and Ricki run to catch up with Stacy and Trish.
“Hey, what did they want?” asks Ricki.

“They’re writing another story on crime in high schools like the one in the newspaper yesterday. Remember the broken windows at school the other day?” says Trish. “They’re trying to find out what happened, who the vandals are and why they did it.”

“So why were they asking you?” asks Tony.

“I don’t know, maybe because we’re so **gorgeous!**” **jokes** Trish.

“Ricki, you and I have two famous girlfriends!” he replies and everybody laughs.

“Hey, what happened at the try-outs yesterday?” Stacy asks then.
“Are you two on the team?”

“We are going to find out at lunchtime,” says Ricki.

“Let’s meet at the gym then,” says Trish.

“Okay! See you there!” replies Ricki.

The four friends meet at the gym later. Tony and Ricki see two boys standing near the coach’s door. Their heads are down. They’re not smiling.

“Oh no!” says Ricki. “Eric Caplin and John MacMillan aren’t on the team. Look at their faces! They’re seniors, too. I think they’re very good players.”

“Well, obviously, Coach doesn’t agree. **Keep your fingers crossed,**” says Tony. “Let’s hope we make the team.”

They walk to the **noticeboard** outside Coach Bergman’s door and look at the team list anxiously.

“Yahoo! Congratulations, Ricki and Tony!” cries Trish suddenly.
“You’re on the team! Look, there are your names!”

“Hey, that’s great!” shouts Stacy, hugging Ricki. “You’re the best!”

Eric Caplin comes over to them.

“You were lucky this time, Caruso and Anderson!” he says furiously. “But remember you’re just kids. Coach made a big mistake,” and he walks away.

“Why is he so angry with you?” asks Trish.

“I suppose it’s because he’s a senior but he isn’t on the team,” replies Tony, **shrugging** his shoulders.

“Okay, but why is he so nasty? He’s really hostile,” says Trish, puzzled. “Hey, forget Eric Caplin – he’s an idiot,” says Stacy. “Let’s celebrate guys! Let’s go have pizza for lunch!”

Ricki, Tony, Stacy and Trish walk out of the school towards the pizzeria, laughing and talking. Ricki turns to say something to Stacy as he steps off the curb. Suddenly, a car with dark windows comes round the corner. It speeds towards Ricki, getting faster and faster. Nobody knows whose car it is. They can’t see the driver.

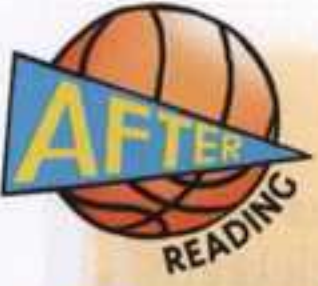
“Ricki, watch out!” shouts Tony, and Stacy screams, but it’s already too late. The car hits Ricki and knocks him down onto the road, then speeds off without stopping. He lies on the road; his face is white. His friends surround him.

“Ricki, Ricki, are you all right?” cries Stacy.

“Ricki, can you hear us?” shouts Tony.

A small pool of blood is forming under Ricki’s head. His eyes are closed. He doesn’t reply.





A Hit-and-Run

The story so far

3 Put the sentences in the correct order.

- ☐ Stacy and Trish talk to a news reporter about crime in their school.
- ☐ Tony and Ricki are chosen for the basketball team.
- ☐ Ricki has blood on his head and he can't speak.
- ☐ Some vandals broke windows at the school.
- ☐ A car knocks Ricki down.
- ☐ Eric Caplin is angry because he isn't on the team.
- ☐ No one can see the driver because the car has dark windows.
- ☐ The friends decide to go and eat a pizza to celebrate.

Words

4 Complete the sentences with the following words.

hostile safe hugs truant kid gorgeous

- 1) Ricki thinks Stacy is beautiful. He says she is _____.
- 2) Kyle isn't on the basketball team. He's very angry with Ricki and Tony. He is _____ when he speaks to them.
- 3) Kyle often misses school. He isn't sick. He is playing _____.
- 4) The school isn't dangerous. The students think it is _____.
- 5) Ricki is on the basketball team. Stacy is happy and puts her arms around Ricki and _____ him.
- 6) Eric says Ricki isn't an adult. He says he is just a _____.

Language

5 Complete the sentences with the following words.

hear feels see
smell tastes

VERBS OF THE SENSES

They can't see the driver.
Can you *hear* us?

- 1) The pizza _____ delicious. Can I have another piece?
- 2) The teacher isn't speaking very loudly. I can't _____ him.
- 3) Can you turn off the heat? It _____ very hot in this classroom.
- 4) Can you sit down? I can't _____ the teacher.
- 5) What's that terrible _____? Is it a bad egg?

Story summary

6 Imagine that you are the reporter who interviewed Stacy and Trish at school. Complete the report on the accident using the following words.

speeding basketball accident pizzeria junior
try-outs identify stop list car windows
road celebrate principal

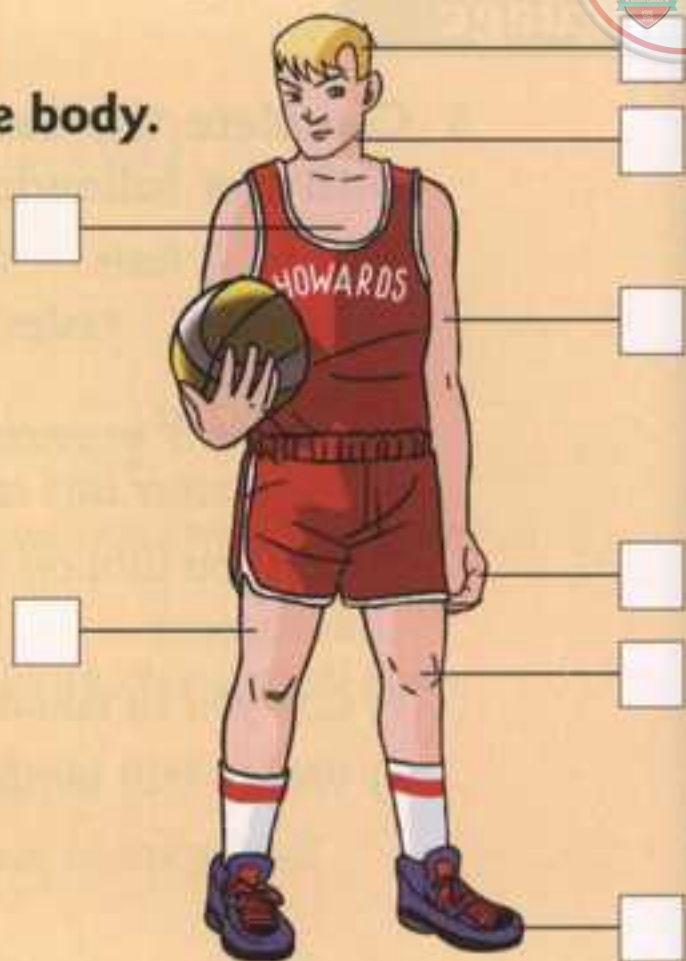
Student Hit By Speeding Car!

Ricki Anderson, a _____ at Howard High School, was hit by a _____ car this afternoon while leaving school. Anderson and his friend Tony Caruso saw their names on the _____ of successful players on the school _____ team after they attended the _____ the previous day. They decided to go out to _____ at a local _____. As they were crossing the _____ outside the school, a speeding _____ came towards them. It knocked Anderson down, but the driver didn't _____. Students from the school were not able to _____ the driver of the car as it had dark _____. The _____ of Howard High, Mr George Stockton, is investigating the _____.

Words

I Match each word to the corresponding part of the body.

- 1) leg
- 2) arm
- 3) knee
- 4) foot
- 5) head
- 6) neck
- 7) chest
- 8) hand



CHAPTER 5

Emergency

"Ricki? Ricki, can you hear me?" asks Mr Stockton.
The principal kneels next to Ricki and puts his hand on his head. Ricki is lying on the ground but he isn't moving. His eyes are still closed.

"Stacy, call Ricki's parents and tell them about the accident. Tony and Trish, ask for an ambulance. Ricki needs to go to hospital."

Stacy uses her cell phone to call Mr and Mrs Anderson.

Trish runs into the school to call the hospital but she can't find a telephone. She stops one of the students and says, "Please help me. This is an emergency. We need an ambulance – can I use your cell phone?"

The girl looks shocked. She gives Trish the phone.

"Hello? 911? We need an ambulance at Howard High School immediately. There has been a road accident. It's an emergency! Please hurry!"

"Ricki, can you hear me?" asks Mr Stockton again. He looks at Stacy. "Stacy, you try. He knows your voice," he says. Many of the students are coming out from the school now.

"Yes, me," says Charlie Bell. "A red car came out of the parking lot very fast. It went straight at Ricki and knocked him down."

"What about the driver?" asks Mr Stockton. "Who was it?"

"I don't know. The car had dark windows, but I think there were two people in the car," replies Charlie.

"Did you recognise them?" asks Mr Stockton.

"No, sorry, Mr Stockton," replies Charlie.

Suddenly, Ricki moves a little bit. He groans. "Ohhh, my head hurts!" he says.

"Oh, Ricki, you're okay!" cries Stacy. She holds his hand. She is crying.

"My leg, I can't feel my leg," Ricki says weakly. "Help me, please."

Tony kneels down next to his friend.

"Ricki, listen. Don't move. The ambulance is coming. Your parents are going to the hospital," he says.

Ricki is very weak. He can't speak but he nods his head.

The ambulance drives up to the school, its siren flashing, and two paramedics get out.

"Move please, kids," says one of the men. "We want to talk to the boy."

"What's your name?" the paramedic asks Ricki while his colleague examines him carefully.

"Ricki... Anderson," replies Ricki very quietly. He tries to move and groans with pain.

"No, don't move, son. Where's the pain?" asks the paramedic.

"In my head and in my leg," replies Ricki.

"What happened?" asks the other man, looking at Mr Stockton.

"It was a hit-and-run," says Mr Stockton. "A car knocked him down, then drove away."

"In that case we must inform the police," replies the paramedic, pressing a number on his cell phone.

They put Ricki on the stretcher and take him to the ambulance. Stacy gets into the ambulance too.

"Ricki, don't worry. You're going to be okay. I'm going to the hospital with you." She holds his hand.

"Are you a relative, Miss?" asks one of the men.

"No... but..." begins Stacy.

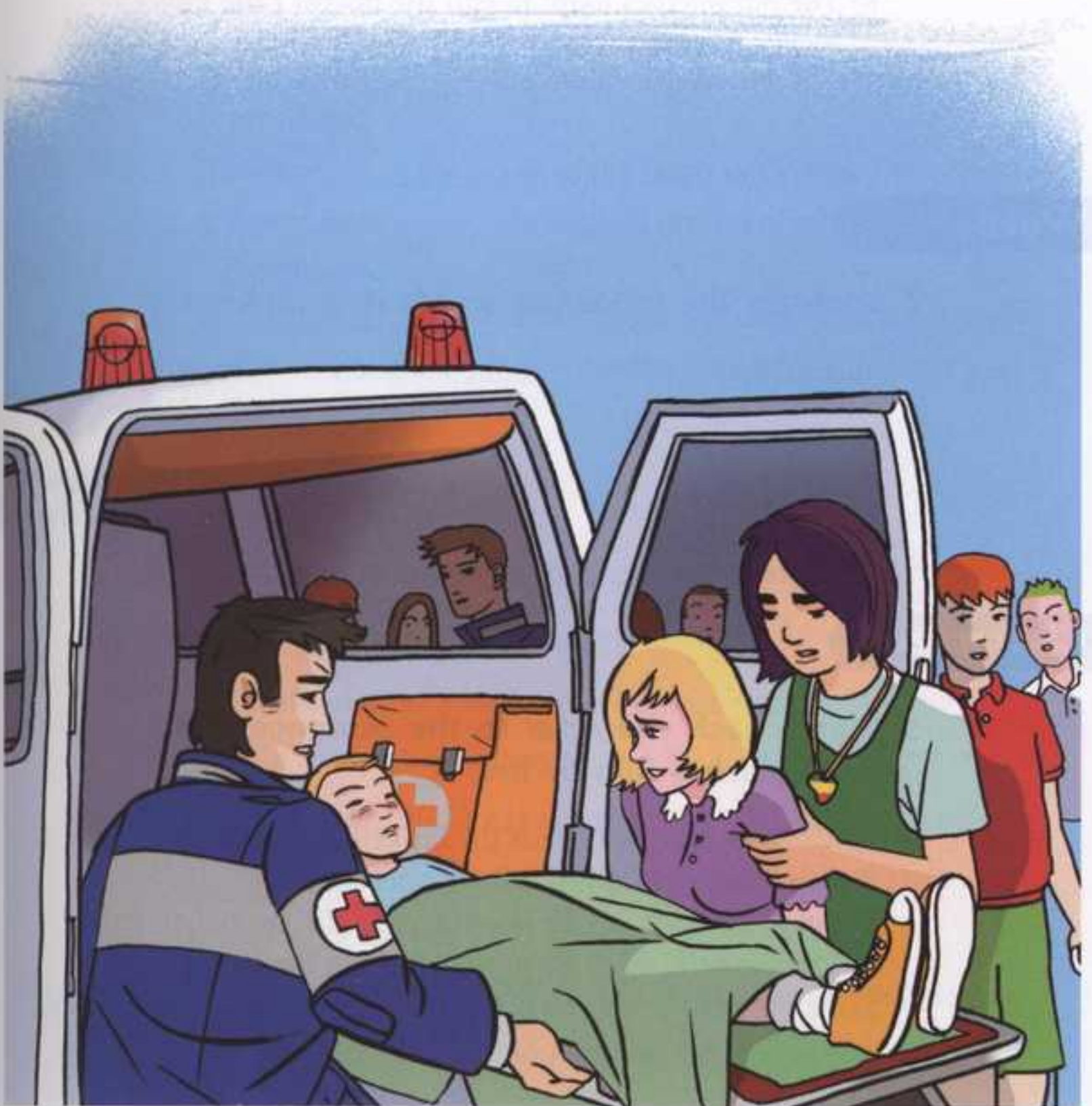
"I'm sorry, Miss, but you can't come in the ambulance," says the paramedic.

Stacy gets out again. She is very **upset**.

"Don't worry, Stacy, we're going to the hospital," says Tony. "Come on, we can go by bus."

Trish, Tony and Stacy are shocked by Ricki's accident. They sit in silence on the bus. All of them are thinking that maybe it wasn't really an accident.

"We have to find the driver of that red car," says Stacy. "I'm sure he has some connection with the notes and e-mails you guys got. Those notes were not a joke. Someone wants to hurt Ricki. And Tony – you're next!"





Emergency

Check your comprehension

3 Choose the correct option to complete each sentence.

- 1) Ricki can't speak because his mouth hurts / he loses his memory / he has concussion.
- 2) Ricki's arm / hand / leg / back hurts.
- 3) Mr Stockton asks Ricki's friends to take him into the school / find the red car / call 911.
- 4) Charlie says there were three / two / a lot of people in the car.
- 5) The paramedics tell Ricki to get up / not to move / not to talk.
- 6) The paramedics want to call the doctor / the police / Ricki's mom.

Words

4 Look up the following words in a dictionary.

hurt feel bleed pain blood fracture

Characters

5 Match each character to the sentence that distinguishes him or her.

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| 1) Mr Stockton | a) He is the basketball coach. |
| 2) Eric Caplin | b) He saw the accident. |
| 3) Pat Jones | c) He doesn't make the basketball team. |
| 4) Charlie Bell | d) He pushes Ricki in the locker room. |
| 5) Mr Bergman | e) He is the principal of Howard High School. |

6 Match each sentence to the character who said it.

- | | |
|--|------------------|
| 1) Where's the pain? | a) Charlie |
| 2) Can you hear me, honey? | b) the paramedic |
| 3) I can't feel my leg. | c) Mr Stockton |
| 4) I think there were two people in the car. | d) Stacy |
| 5) Did any of you kids see the accident? | e) Ricki |

Language

7 Complete each sentence with the past tense of the appropriate verb.

SIMPLE PAST - IRREGULAR VERBS

Ricki Anderson *had* an accident.
A red car *came* out of the parking lot.

break be find eat win read

- 1) The boys _____ the window with their football.
- 2) The police _____ the escaped prisoner in the forest near my house.
- 3) Hitler _____ the leader of the Nazis in Germany.
- 4) My brother _____ the original version of all of Jane Austen's novels.
- 5) The dog _____ the meat my mother cooked for our dinner!
- 6) Our school team _____ the soccer championship last year.

The story so far

8 Put the sentences in the correct order.

- ☐ A car speeds towards them.
- ☐ Ricki and his friends decide to celebrate.
- ☐ An ambulance arrives to take Ricki to the hospital.
- ☐ The driver of the car doesn't stop.
- ☐ The friends leave the school to walk to the pizzeria.
- ☐ The car knocks Ricki down.
- ☐ The coach chooses Ricki and Tony to be on the team.
- ☐ Two seniors, Eric and John, do not make the team.



Words

I Match each word to its picture.

- 1) plaster cast
- 2) thermometer

- 3) injection
- 4) crutches



CHAPTER 6

In Hospital

T

he ambulance arrives at the hospital. Mr and Mrs Anderson are already there. They watch anxiously as the paramedics pull the stretcher out of the ambulance.

“Oh Ricki! Are you all right?” asks his mother. She runs to her son’s side.

“Yes, I think I’m all right, Mom,” replies Ricki. “Don’t worry.”

“What happened, son?” asks his father.

“You can tell your parents the story later,” says one of the paramedics.

“You must rest now. Then the doctor is coming to see you.”

They take Ricki to the Accident and Emergency department and put him to bed. When they move him from the stretcher his leg hurts very much. His parents are worried when they see the pain on his face. What’s the matter with Ricki’s leg?

“The doctor is coming soon,” the paramedic tells them and leaves the family alone in the room.

R

icki starts to tell his mother and father the story. “We were all walking out of the school gates. One minute Tony and I were talking about the basketball team, and the next minute a car knocked me down. I don’t remember anything after that,” he says.

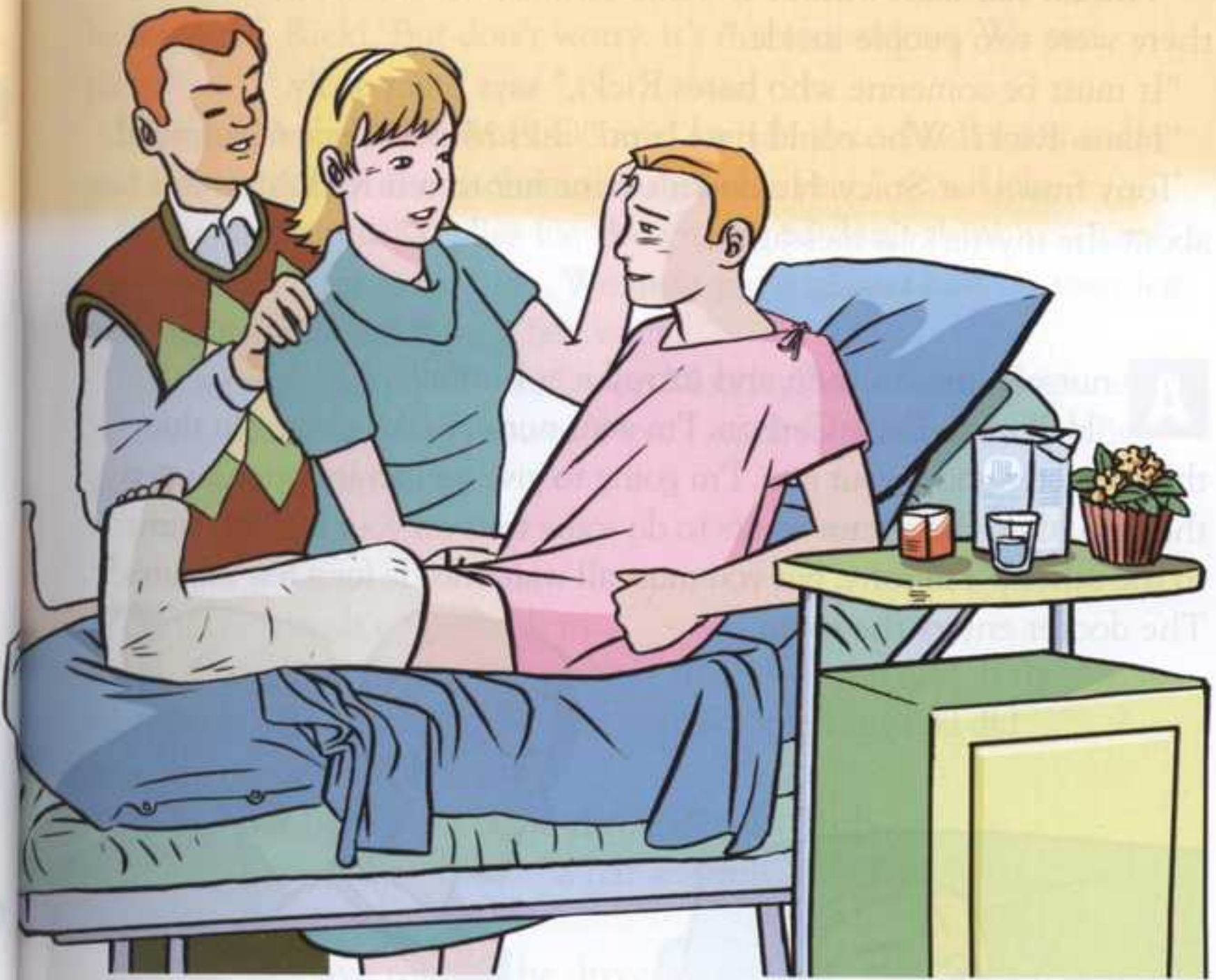
“Basketball team?” asks Mrs Anderson.

“Oh yeah, Mom – I made the team! Our names are on Coach

Pictures

2 Look at the illustrations in chapter 6 and answer the questions.

- 1) Where is Ricki in this chapter?
- 2) Who is the man in the green clothes?
- 3) Who is the woman in the white coat?
- 4) What's the matter with Ricki?



Bergman's list," says Ricki. He smiles and then he groans in pain as his leg starts to hurt again. His mom takes his hand.

"Don't worry, honey, the doctor is coming now," she says.

At that moment, Trish, Tony and Stacy arrive.

"Ricki, how are you?" asks Stacy. She comes over to the bed. She takes his other hand.

"I'm all right, Stacy. Thanks," Ricki says smiling.

"The doctor is coming to examine him now, Stacy," Mrs Anderson

tells her.

"We know about the accident," says Mr Anderson to Tony. "Do you know who the driver of the car could be?"

"No, I'm sorry, Mr Anderson, I don't. I didn't recognize the car," replies Tony.

"The car has dark windows," adds Trish. "But Charlie Bell thinks there were two people inside."

"It must be someone who **hates** Ricki," says Stacy sadly.

"Hates Ricki? Who could hate him?" asks Mrs Anderson, surprised.

Tony frowns at Stacy. He doesn't want her to tell Ricki's parents about the mysterious messages.

A nurse comes in then and introduces himself.

"Hello, I'm Drew Carlson. I'm your nurse. Ricki, please put this thermometer under your arm. I'm going to give you an injection to stop the pain, then the doctor wants to do some tests on your leg." He turns to the others, "I'm sorry, but you must all wait outside for a few minutes." The doctor enters the room.



"Hello, Ricki, I'm Dr. Brown. How are you feeling?" she asks kindly.

"Not too bad, Doctor, but my leg hurts a lot," replies Ricki.

"Hmmm... Let's **have a look**," she says. She feels Ricki's left leg. Ricki cries in pain.

"I want some **X-rays** of that leg," says the doctor to Nurse Carlson.

"Please take Ricki to the X-ray room. I think your left leg might be fractured, Ricki. But don't worry, it's not too serious. We can **fix it**."

"Can I still play basketball, Doctor? I made the school team today and I want to play in the championship this year," says Ricki.

"Congratulations!" replies Dr. Brown. "But I don't think you can play basketball for some time. We must put a **plaster cast** on your leg and you need to rest it for a few weeks."

"But we start basketball practice on Monday!" says Ricki, desperately.

"Sorry, Ricki," says Dr. Brown. "Now I want to talk to your parents," and she leaves him alone.

Ricki's friends come back in.

"Ricki, we were talking about the notes you and Tony received at school. The notes were right – something bad did happen," says Stacy.

"But who is behind all these threats?" asks Trish.

"I don't know," says Tony. "What about 'Caper'? That's the name on the e-mails."

"I think we have to find the driver of the car," says Trish. "Who has a red car in our school?"

"That's going to be impossible, Trish. I think it was a Subaru, but there are a lot of red Subarus in town and the car could be **stolen**."

"Wait a minute, I remember something," says Stacy slowly. "The car has an unusual wheel! The back wheel on the right was different from the others."

"That's a good **clue**," says Tony. "I'm sure 'Caper' and the red car are connected. When we find Caper, we find the mystery driver!"

"Don't worry, Ricki, we're going to find out who is doing all this," says Trish to her friend, and Stacy and Tony nod in **agreement**.

"**You bet!**"



In Hospital

Check your comprehension

3 True or false? Indicate T or F.

- | | T | F |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1) Drew Carlson is a doctor. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2) The nurse gives Ricki some medicine. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3) Ricki's friends leave the room because they want to have a coffee. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4) The doctor wants to do an X-ray of Ricki's leg. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5) The doctor thinks Ricki can play basketball next week. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Now rewrite the false statements with the correct information.

Words

4 Find six words related to Ricki's accident.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| R | O | A | M | B | U | L | A | N | C | E | J | X |
| T | H | E | R | M | O | M | E | T | E | R | V | R |
| J | E | P | T | C | R | U | T | C | H | E | S | A |
| Y | A | A | Z | W | L | P | B | R | W | T | N | L |
| S | D | I | T | F | E | R | Z | U | O | R | P | E |
| O | I | N | J | E | C | T | I | O | N | Y | Z | G |

5 Complete the dialogues with the following words.

threat clue upset hurt

- 1) A: Give me the answer or I'm going to tell the teacher.
B: Is that a _____?
- 2) A: Ouch!
B: What's the matter?
A: My legs _____.

- 3) A: Oh dear!
 B: What's wrong?
 A: I failed my exam and I'm _____.
- 4) A: Whose car is it?
 B: I don't know, but we have one _____.
 A: What is it?
 B: The car is red.

Language

6 Complete the sentences with **could** or **must**.

MODAL VERBS – PROBABILITY

It *must* be someone who hates Ricki.
 Your left leg *could* be fractured.

- 1) A: I can see a car coming down the road.
 B: It _____ be Bill or Ben. What color is it?
 A: It's white.
 B: It _____ be Ben. His car is white.
- 2) A: Who is that walking down the street?
 B: I'm not sure. It _____ be Sally or Sarah. What color is her coat?
 A: It's blue.
 B: It _____ be Sally. Her coat is blue.
- 3) A: Whose exam paper _____ this be?
 B: I'm not sure. It _____ belong to one of the students.
 A: It's got a picture of a basketball on it.
 B: Oh, it _____ be Ricki's. He always puts a picture of a basketball on his papers.

Story summary

7 Complete the summary with the following words.

hurts crutches fractured tests upset month car
 rest X-rays ambulance temperature hospital

Ricki is hit by a red _____. He _____ his leg. The _____ comes and takes him to the _____. The nurse takes Ricki's _____ and tells him the doctor wants to do some _____. The doctor thinks Ricki's leg is _____. She wants to do some _____. She tells him he needs to _____ his leg and that he has to use _____ for a _____. Ricki is _____ because he can't play basketball for a long time.

Words

I Match each profession to its picture.

- 1) journalist
- 2) camera man
- 3) sound technician



CHAPTER 7

More from Caper

The next day Ricki comes home from the hospital. His friends telephone him from school. Stacy puts her phone on "speaker" so that they can all talk to Ricki and hear him.

"Hi Ricki! It's us. How are you?" asks Stacy.

"I'm fine," says Ricki. "But my leg's in a cast so I have to stay in bed. I want to be at school with all of you. It's boring here at home alone."

"You need to rest so that your leg can get better," says Tony. "I'm going to talk to Coach Bergman today. I think he's going to let you stay on the team. He's a good guy."

"Thanks, Tony," replies Ricki. "Oh, and a news reporter is coming over to my house today. She wants to interview me about the accident. I'm going to be on TV!"

"Mr Stockton wants to see us today, too. We're going to tell him about Caper," says Stacy.

"I don't think that's a good idea. He's going to think we're just stupid kids," says Ricki. "We have to find out some more about Caper first. We need more proof. Then we can tell the principal."

"Okay," agrees Tony after a pause, "but I don't like it. These people could be dangerous – look what happened to you, Ricki!"

Ricki hears the school bell ringing.

"We have to go to class now," says Trish. "See you after school! Bye."

Pictures

2 Look at the illustrations in chapter 7 and answer the questions.

- 1) Is Ricki at school in this chapter? Why / why not?
- 2) Who is he talking to in the first picture?
- 3) What do you think they are talking about?
- 4) Where are Tony, Trish and Stacy in the second picture?
- 5) What do you think they are looking at?



Later that day the doorbell rings at Ricki's house. Mrs Anderson brings a news reporter, a sound technician and a camera man into the living room. Ricki is lying on the sofa. The camera man sets up his camera and begins to film the interview. The sound technician holds the microphone over their heads and begins to **record** their conversation. The news reporter introduces herself to Ricki. She asks him a lot of questions about crime in his school, the accident, and his **injuries**. She thinks Ricki's accident could be connected to the vandalism at school. Ricki isn't sure. He tells her about the basketball team and how he can't play in the championship until his leg gets better, but he doesn't tell her about Caper and the messages. He doesn't tell her that he suspects some of the basketball players. He

knows they can't prove there is a connection between them and the accident. **Not yet.**

During lunchtime at school, Tony, Trish and Stacy go to the computer room. Tony opens his e-mail. There is another strange message. It says:

From: _HYPERLINK _caper@whosemail.com_

To: _HYPERLINK _tonyc@hhs.k-12.il_

Subject: warning

Message: Anderson's accident wasn't an accident. You are next Caruso!

"Tony, I don't like this," says Trish. "Let's tell Mr Stockton now."

"Not yet, Trish. I want to send our friend Caper an answer this time," says Tony. He hits the "Reply" button and writes his message.



From: _HYPERLINK _tonyc@hhs.k-12.il_

To: _HYPERLINK _caper@whosemail.com_

Subject: challenge

Message: I'm not afraid. We're going to find you. Start running, **sucker!**

"Tony, do you think that's a good idea?" asks Stacy. "If Caper gets angry, who knows what he's going to do?"

"I want to provoke him," replies Tony. "I want to know who 'Caper' is. I think if he **gets mad**, he's going to make a mistake, and then we can identify him."

"Let's go to Ricki's house and talk to him about it after school," suggests Stacy. "We can make a plan."

"Good idea," agrees Trish. "Four heads are better than three!"

After school, the friends go over to Ricki's house.

"How's your leg, Ricki?" asks Tony.

"It really **hurts**. I don't know when I'm going to be able to walk, **much less** play basketball," answers Ricki, gloomily. "How was school?"

"Tony got another e-mail from Caper," Trish tells him. "We're worried."

Tony tells Ricki about the message and his reply.

"We have to find out who Caper is," says Ricki. "That's the key **and** to the mystery."

"I think he's a basketball player," says Stacy. "He wants to hurt you and Tony because you made the team. If you two can't play, Coach Bergman is going to need two more players. Maybe Caper hopes to get on the team that way."

"Maybe it's Kyle!" says Trish. "Remember, he knocked you down at practice, Tony."

"Yeah, but maybe it's Pat. He said something bad was going to happen in the lunchroom," answers Ricki.

"Or, maybe it's Eric, or John. They're seniors and they're not on the team," adds Tony.

"How can we find out who Caper is? There are too many **suspects**," says Stacy.

"Listen," replies Ricki, "I have an idea."



More from Caper

Check your comprehension

3 True or false? Indicate T or F.

- | | T | F |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1) Ricki goes back to school. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2) A news reporter interviews him about the vandalism at school. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3) Ricki tells her about Caper. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4) Tony gets an e-mail from Ricki. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5) Stacy tells Mr Stockton about the e-mail messages. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6) Ricki thinks they need more proof to connect Caper and the accident. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Now rewrite the false statements with the correct information.

Language

FIRST CONDITIONAL - FORECASTS

If he gets mad, he's going to make a mistake.
If you two can't play, Coach Bergman is going to need two more players.

4 Form sentences using *If* plus an expression from the first column matching it to an appropriate ending from the second column.

Example: If you study hard, you're going to pass the exam.

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1) you study hard | a) you're going to get better. |
| 2) you don't sleep | b) he's going to buy a motorbike. |
| 3) he gets some money | c) you're going to pass the exam. |
| 4) you win the game | d) you are going to get sick. |
| 5) you rest | e) you are going to be the champions. |

The story so far

- 5 Write an e-mail message to a friend, explaining the story of Ricki and Tony. Use the following words.

locker notes e-mail messages threats joke
 basketball try-outs team celebrate speeding car
 to knock down leg ambulance stretcher hospital
 X-rays plaster cast interview suspects proof

Beyond the story

- 6 Ricki's answers to the reporter's questions are recorded here. What are the questions?

NEWS REPORTER: _____?

RICKI: *I'm fine, thanks.*

NEWS REPORTER: _____?

RICKI: *We decided to go for a pizza. A car was speeding along the road. The car knocked me down.*

NEWS REPORTER: _____?

RICKI: *No, there is not a lot of crime at my school.*

NEWS REPORTER: _____?

RICKI: *No, I'm not afraid to go to school. I like school.*

- 7 Now read the article that the reporter wrote after the interview with Ricki. There are nine errors. Find and correct them.

Teenage Boy Hurt in Hit-and-Run Accident

A young teenager was hurt yesterday in a road accident in front of Redwood High School. The boy was entering the school with five friends when a bicycle speeding along the road knocked him down and broke his arm. A taxi took him to the hospital, where doctors did X-rays of the boy's back. The boy is a keen baseball player and was on the team for Howard High this year in the championship. Doctors say he must rest in the hospital now for a few weeks and he will be able to start playing again in a few years.



Words

1 Match the words for each activity to one of the pictures.

- 1) put on a CD
- 2) dance
- 3) put up lights



CHAPTER 8

Ricki's Plan

His friends listen carefully as Ricki explains his plan. "I want to have a party. I want to invite all the players from the try-outs. Maybe one of the players knows something about the messages and the accident!" he says.

"Do you think 'Caper' is going to come?" asks Stacy.

"If he's one of the players, he's going to be invited," replies Ricki.

"I think it's a dangerous idea," says Trish. "This Caper is a dangerous person. He could do something to hurt you or Tony at the party."

"But we want to find out who Caper is," answers Tony. "He wants to stop us from playing basketball but I'm not going to **let** him."

The friends plan the party. They're going to have a lot of food and drinks. They are also going to have music and dancing. The party is going to be in Ricki's **back yard**. Tony says he can bring his new CD player, and Trish and Stacy are going to buy the food. Ricki makes a list of twenty-five people to send invitations to. The friends write the text of the invitation together. It says:

You are invited to Ricki's "**Get well soon**" and birthday party!

On : Friday, February 4th

At : 9:00 p.m.

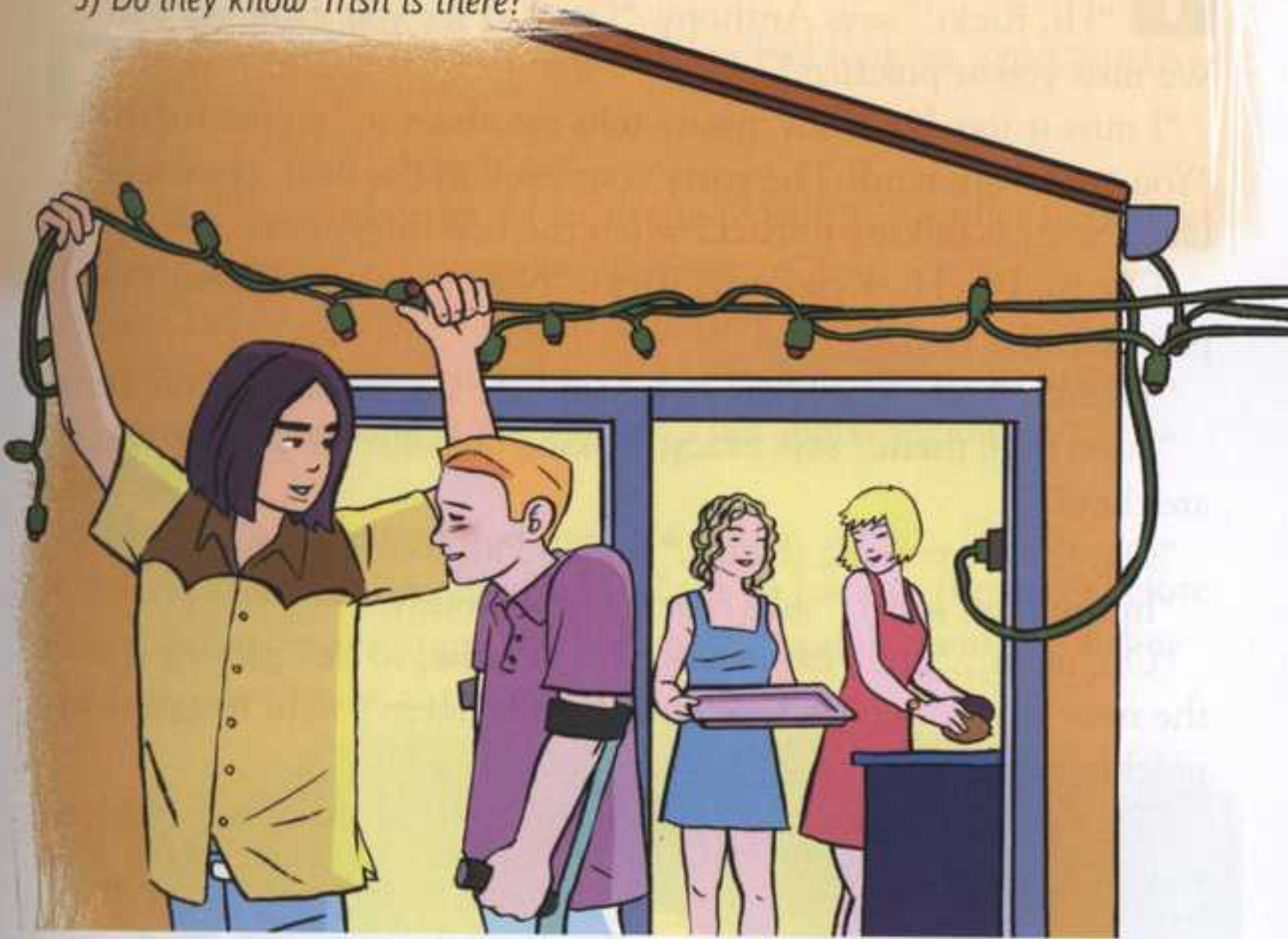
Where : Ricki Anderson's house

495 Columbus Drive

Pictures

2 Look at the illustrations in chapter 8 and answer the questions.

- 1) What does Tony do to prepare for the party?
- 2) What do Trish and Stacy do?
- 3) What is Trish doing in the second picture?
- 4) Who are the two boys?
- 5) Do they know Trish is there?



Friday night comes at last. Everything is prepared for the party. There are hot dogs, burgers, salads and chips. Tony brings the Cokes and sodas. Ricki walks with his crutches out into the back yard. Tony is putting up lights and setting up the CD player.

"Sorry that I can't help much," says Ricki.

"Hey, don't worry. You have to rest so you can get better quickly, then you can play basketball again."

The doorbell rings.

"Oh! Here is our first guest!" says Ricki. "I want to answer the door. Remember our plan, everybody." The others nod. They are going to try and find out about Caper by talking to the players during the party. They need to know who is jealous of Ricki and Tony and who drives a red Subaru. They also need to find out who uses e-mail

a lot. Could the name “Caper” be a code word for something? The friends all feel excited and tense. What’s going to happen tonight?

Two of the basketball players from the team are at the door. “Hi, Ricki!” says Anthony. “Good to see you. How are you? We miss you at practice.”

“I miss it too, but Tony always tells me about it,” replies Ricki. “You guys work hard! The party’s out back in the yard. Have fun!” Later Stacy is talking to Ricki when the bell rings again.

“Oh, hi, Pat. Hi, Kyle,” says Ricki. “Nice to see you! Come in – the party’s in the yard.”

“Thanks, Anderson. We’re here with Eric Caplin and John Roberts.”

“I don’t see them,” says Stacy, looking out into the street. “Where are they?”

“Oh, they’re parking the car,” replies Pat, looking away.

“In the next street?” asks Stacy, incredulously.

“Oh, umm... Eric’s car makes a lot of noise, so he’s parking it in the next street,” replies Kyle quickly. “He doesn’t want to annoy your neighbors.”

“That doesn’t sound like Eric Caplin at all,” thinks Stacy. “He’s not usually so considerate!”

Eric and John arrive soon after and join the rest of the party. The music is playing loudly and a lot of people are dancing. Trish notices Eric and Pat talking together in a dark corner of the garden. She looks around to see if anyone is watching her, then goes around the trees behind them so that they can’t see her. She goes nearer and listens to them.

“They don’t suspect anything,” Eric is saying. “They’re too stupid.”

“Well, it was a risk to bring the car tonight. That wasn’t clever, Eric,” replies Pat.

“I parked it in the next street so they can’t see it and the mechanic is going to change the wheel on Monday. No one will recognize my car then,” says Eric.

“I hope not. We could get into trouble,” Pat is nervous.

“Hey, don’t worry, Pat. Anderson isn’t going to play basketball again, and we’re going to stop Caruso, too,” replies Eric.

"Mmm. Let's go back to the party before someone notices us," Pat says. Trish quietly comes out of the shadows and goes over to Tony.

"Tony, quick! Get Stacy and Ricki and meet me in Ricki's room in five minutes. I have something important to tell all of you."

The four friends are sitting on Ricki's bed looking expectantly at Trish.

"What is it, Trish?" asks Stacy.

"I think I know who the driver of the red car is!" replies her friend.

"Who?" asks Ricki.

"Eric Caplin. Now he wants to stop Tony too."

Tony's face is white. "How do you know that, Trish?" he asks.

"I heard them talking in the garden. They didn't see me," she explains.

"What are we going to do now?" asks Stacy, afraid.

"I don't know yet," replies Ricki. "Let's go back to the party before they notice we're not there. Perhaps we can catch them out if they think we don't know anything."





Ricki's Plan

Check your comprehension

3 Complete each sentence with the correct option.

- 1) Ricki helps / can't do anything to prepare for the party.
- 2) All of / some of the basketball team comes to the party.
- 3) Eric parks his car in front of / far from Ricki's house.
- 4) Trish listens to / talks to Eric and Pat when they talk about the accident.
- 5) Ricki wants to tell the principal everything / catch Eric and Pat.

Words

4 Match each word/s to its picture.

- 1) sodas
- 2) salad
- 3) lights
- 4) crisps
- 5) compact discs
- 6) hot dog



Characters

5 Match each character to an action from the story.

- | | |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1) Ricki... | a) puts up lights for the party. |
| 2) Trish... | b) does the shopping for the party. |
| 3) Tony... | c) parks the car. |
| 4) Staey... | d) talks to Eric about the car. |
| 5) Eric... | e) knows who knocked Ricki down. |
| 6) Pat... | f) walks on crutches. |

The story so far

6 Use the following words to complete the summary.

plan invitations car prepare
party noise Eric talk lights
friends CD player basketball corner

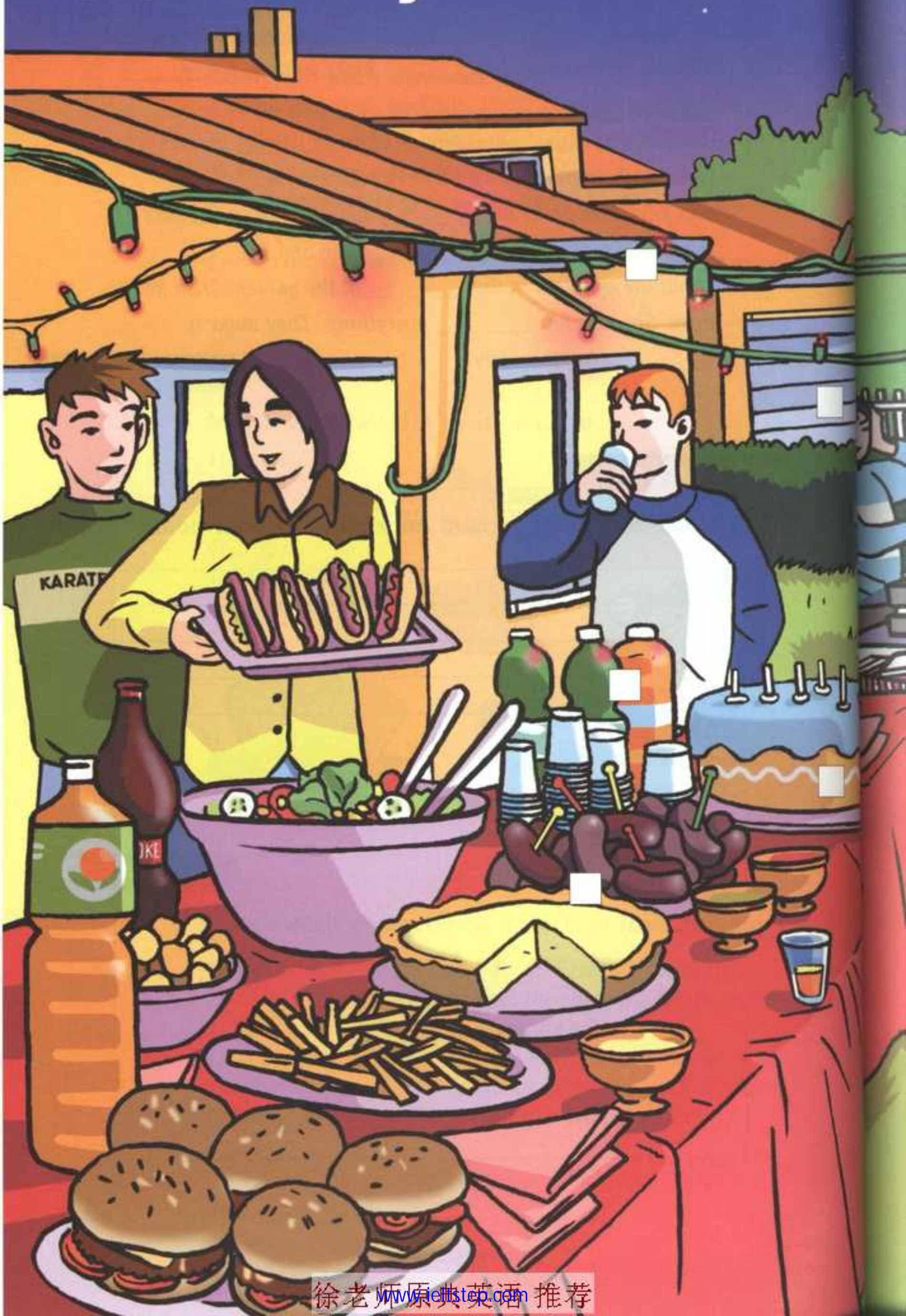
The four friends plan a _____. Ricki sends out _____.
Trish and Stacy _____ the food. Tony puts up the _____
and sets up the _____. Not all of the _____ players
come to the party, but Kyle and Pat come with _____
and John. Eric parks his _____ down the street because
Pat says it makes a lot of _____. Eric and Pat _____
about the accident in the _____ of the garden. Trish hears
them. She tells her _____ everything. They make a
_____ after the party.

Beyond the story

7 Write an invitation card for a party at your home.

Date: _____
Time: _____
Place: _____
From: _____

Ricki's Party



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

- | | |
|--------------|------------------|
| 1) CD player | 6) garage |
| 2) speaker | 7) soft drinks |
| 3) lights | 8) party food |
| 4) guests | 9) birthday cake |
| 5) trees | 10) swing seat |



Words

I Match the words for each activity to its picture.

- 1) clear up
- 2) put away
- 3) take down
- 4) wash
- 5) vacuum

a)



b)



c)



d)



e)



CHAPTER 9

The Caper Mystery Is Solved

It's 1:00 a.m. and the party is finished. The last guests leave and the four friends start clearing up.

"The party was a success," Tony is saying, "and so was our plan. Now we know the driver of the car but the seniors don't think we know anything. Trish, you're a good detective! I'm going to call you Miss Marple!" They all laugh.

"Yes, you are like Agatha Christie's detective, Miss Marple!" jokes Ricki. Trish smiles.

"Sorry, everyone," says Stacy with a serious face, "but in fact we don't know Eric is the driver, all we know for sure is that the red car is his. Maybe another person drives it sometimes. We need more information."

"And we need more proof to connect Eric with 'Caper'," adds Tony. They sit in silence, thinking.

"There must be a clue in the e-mails that can lead us to the culprits," says Stacy. "Caper. C-A-P-E-R ... hmmm. Eric Caplin. But where's the connection?" She writes the name "Eric Caplin" on a piece of paper and studies it.

| | | | |
|-------------|-------------|--------|-------|
| Eric Caplin | Caplin Eric | E C | C E |
| E Caplin | Eric C | Er Cap | CapEr |

Pictures

2 Look at the illustrations in chapter 9 and answer the questions.

- 1) Where are the friends in the first picture?
- 2) What are they doing?
- 3) What happens in the second picture?
- 4) Who is driving the car?



“Look!” she shouts suddenly, “Caper!”

Stacy shows them the paper. “Look at Eric’s name. Eric Caplin. Do you see the connection?”

“I don’t see anything,” says Tony, puzzled.

“Stacy, you’re right!” shouts Ricki. “Look, Tony, Trish, she’s right! ‘Caper’ is Eric’s user name on the computer. He uses the initial parts of his name for his user name. In this case the first three letters of his last name, and the first two letters of his first name: C-A-P-E-R.

Congratulations, Stacy! You’re too clever to go out with an idiot like me!”

“Good work, Stacy!” says Trish, “Now, let’s catch ‘Caper’!”

“How, Trish?” asks Tony.

“We’re going to send him an e-mail,” she replies.

“But he mustn’t know it’s from us,” says Ricki.

“Yes, you’re right, but we can send the message from my dad’s computer and use a false user name,” replies Trish. “He’s going to think the message is from Pat!”

“How?” asks Stacy. “We don’t have Pat’s password.”

“We can **trick** Eric. We can write to him with a new user name and tell him that it’s Pat’s new user name. We can say that he has a new user name now because the old one isn’t safe.”

“What are we going to write in the message?” asks Tony.

“It’s too late to write the message now,” replies Trish.

“We have to think about it carefully. Let’s meet tomorrow afternoon at my house to prepare the message. Tony, can you give Stacy and me a **ride** home?”

“Sure, I have my mom’s car tonight. It’s parked outside. Come on, girls, let’s go. Ricki, see you tomorrow.”

“Okay, guys, ’bye. See you,” replies Ricki sleepily.

On the way home in Tony’s car, Tony and the girls are talking about the party. Tony comes to a red light and puts his foot on the **brake**. But something is wrong. The car doesn’t stop. Tony pushes and pushes on the brake pedal, but nothing happens.

“Tony! Tony! What are you doing? Stop the car!” shouts Stacy.

“I can’t!” cries Tony. “The brakes aren’t working!”

Another car is coming towards them very fast. Tony turns the wheel hard to avoid the other car. The girls see the black post of the traffic lights in front of them. Stacy screams as the car smashes violently into the traffic lights. They all fall from their seats. A few minutes pass. They sit immobilized with shock. Trish recovers first and turns to look at her two friends. Tony is slumped over the steering wheel. He isn't moving. His eyes are shut. He looks very pale.

"Tony!" cries Trish. "Oh my God! Tony! Tony!"





The Caper Mystery Is Solved

Check your comprehension

3 True or false? Indicate T or F.

- | | T | F |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1) The friends discuss Caper's identity during the party. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2) Stacy discovers that Caper is the code name of Eric Caplin. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3) Ricki thinks they need more proof of Caper's identity. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4) Trish wants to send a letter to Caper. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5) Tony drives home alone. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6) Tony crashes into another car. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Now rewrite the false statements with the correct information.

Words

4 Match each term to its opposite.

- | | |
|-----------|--------------|
| 1) easy | a) receive |
| 2) true | b) stupid |
| 3) send | c) difficult |
| 4) clever | d) right |
| 5) wrong | e) false |

Characters

5 Match each character to a detail from the story.

- | | |
|----------|--|
| 1) Ricki | a) The red car is his. |
| 2) Tony | b) She discovers who the red car belongs to. |
| 3) Stacy | c) He has the party at his house. |
| 4) Trish | d) He gives the girls a ride home. |
| 5) Eric | e) She discovers who Caper is. |

Language

6 Match the two sentences, as shown in the example.

Example: *It's difficult. I can't do it.*
It's too difficult for me to do.

- 1) *It's expensive. I can't buy it.*
- 2) *He's slow. He can't win the race.*
- 3) *She's sick. She can't go to school.*
- 4) *The dress is small. I can't wear it.*
- 5) *They're poor. They can't buy a house.*

TOO... INFINITIVE

You're *too* clever to go out with an idiot like me!
It's *too* late to write the message now.

Story summary

7 Put the sentences in the correct order.

- ☐ Tony drives the girls home in his mom's car.
- ☐ Stacy discovers who Caper is.
- ☐ Tony has an accident.
- ☐ Trish suggests using a false user name.
- ☐ The friends think Eric was the driver.
- ☐ The brakes don't work.
- ☐ The car crashes into the traffic lights.
- ☐ Trish hears Eric and Pat talking about Ricki's accident at the party.
- ☐ Stacy says they need more proof to connect Eric to Caper.
- ☐ The friends decide to send an e-mail to Eric the next day.

The story so far

8 Do you remember what has happened in each chapter so far? Write two important events from each chapter.

Example: Chapter 1: Ricki gets ready to try out for the basketball team.
There is an article about crime in schools in the local newspaper.



Words

I Match each term to its definition.

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| 1) an e-mail | a) regulate traffic |
| 2) traffic lights | b) is a message sent by computer |
| 3) brakes | c) protects the identity of an e-mail user |
| 4) a user name | d) slow down and stop a car |

CHAPTER 10

A Close Call

Tony, Tony, are you all right?" repeats Trish, shaking him. At first Tony doesn't react. Then, slowly, he lifts his head. "Trish? What... what happened?"

"We hit the traffic lights," says Stacy. "Are you okay?"

"The brakes!" says Tony. "The brakes don't work... it's strange. Oh, look at my mom's car! It's a wreck!"

"Don't worry about that now, Tony. Let's leave the car here and call a taxi. We all need to go home and rest."

"Caper said I was next," says Tony, slowly. "This situation is getting really dangerous. I'm scared."

"Don't think about it now," says Stacy. "Let's just go home."

The next day Tony, Ricki and Stacy arrive at Trish's house after lunch. Trish is sitting at the computer. She types a new user name and starts writing the message to Eric Caplin.

To: _ HYPERLINK

caper@whosemail.com

From: _ HYPERLINK

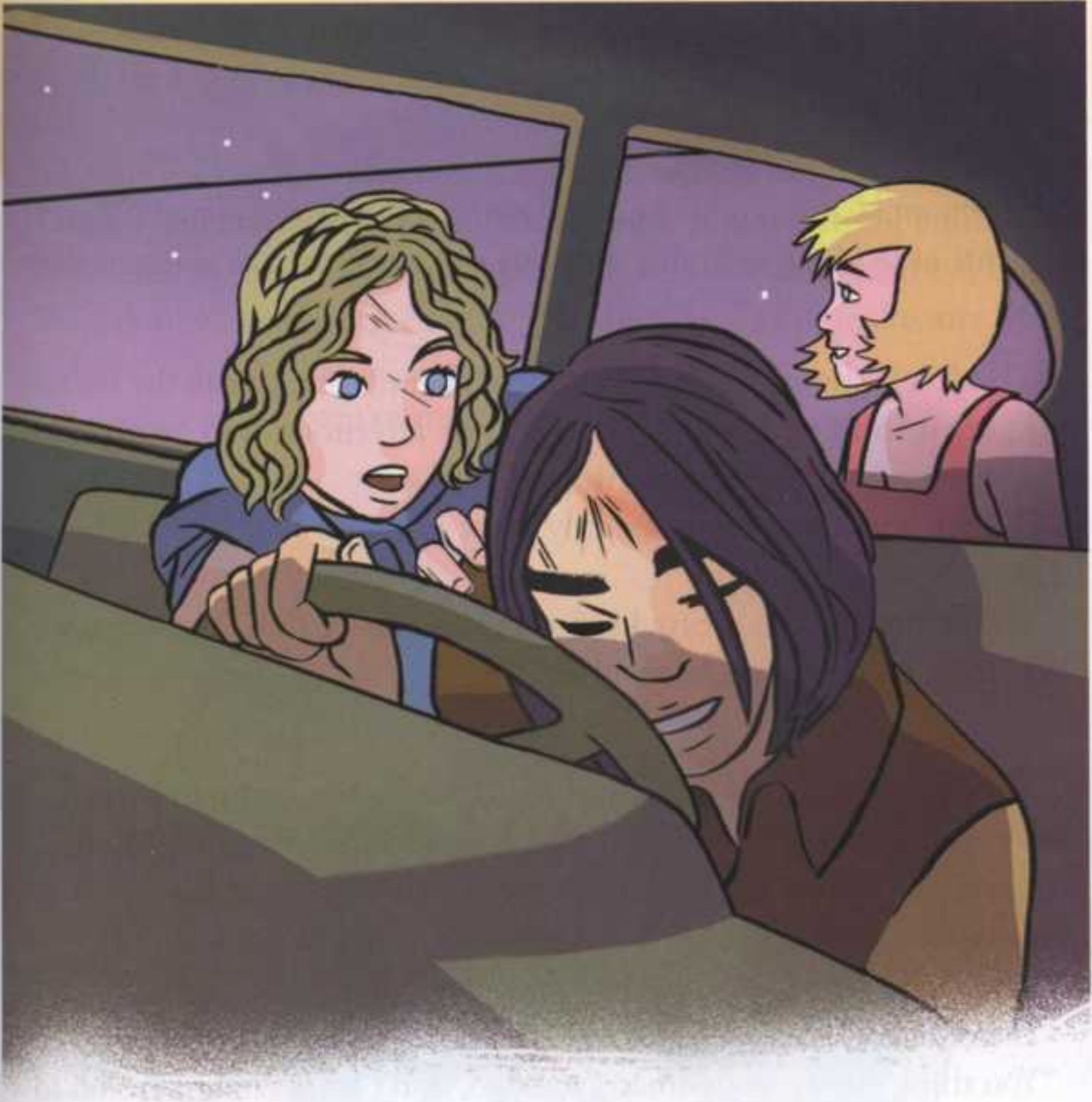
coolguy@whosemail.com

Subject: Change of user name

Pictures

2 Look at the illustrations in chapter 10 and answer the questions.

- 1) Who is talking to Tony in the first picture?
- 2) How does he feel?
- 3) What is Eric doing in the second picture?
- 4) What do you think is going to happen to Ricki?



Eric,
It's P. I have a new user name – the old one wasn't safe any more. We must be very careful. No one must be able to connect us to the accidents.
C and A aren't going to do anything – they're too scared, they're ready to quit the team I think – but we need to cover our tracks. Let's talk tomorrow after school.
Cool Guy.

“There,” says Trish. “Now let’s see if Eric, or “Caper,” replies and gives us some written proof.”

She sends the e-mail. The friends go to make some coffee. When they come back there is a reply to their message. It says:

To: _HYPERLINK

coolguy@whosemail.com

From: _HYPERLINK

caper@whosemail.com

Subject: Change of user name

Cool Guy,

Anderson and Caruso don't know anything. No one can connect the accidents to us. Quit worrying – no one can touch us. See you tomorrow.
Caper

“That’s it!” shouts Trish. “We’ve got them!” She **prints** the message and puts it in her school bag. “Tomorrow afternoon we can go and see Mr Stockton and tell him everything we know.”

“But we still don’t know exactly what Eric and Pat did, or who helped them,” says Ricki.

“You’re right, but Mr Stockton can **investigate** that,” says Stacy. “We don’t want any more trouble.”

The next morning Tony and Ricki are in the computer room at school working on a maths problem. Suddenly Pat, Kyle and Eric come into the room. They close the door and Kyle puts a chair in front of it so no one can come in. Tony is nervous.

“What do you want, Pat?” he asks.

“Don’t move, Caruso!” says Eric **sharply**. “Sit down. *Now!*”

“You think you’re really smart, you two, don’t you? Well, **we’re on to you,**” says Pat.

“I don’t know what you’re talking about,” replies Ricki, **defiantly**.

“Now, Anderson, that’s not very honest for a good little boy scout like you,” sneers Eric.

“Yeah, a boy that’s always **top of the class** and **sucks up to** Coach Bergman to get on the team!” adds Pat.

Eric shows them a print-out of their e-mail with the false user name.

"Kyle was at my house yesterday when I got this. He went to play billiards with Pat. He asked Pat about his new user name, but Pat didn't know anything."

Tony and Ricki say nothing. They feel scared.

"I suppose now you want to go **blab** to old Stockton, eh, Anderson? Well, we're going to **teach you a lesson**. You have to understand we **mean business**."

Ricki stands up but Eric steps forward and pushes him to the ground. He's very angry. Ricki tries to get up but Eric pushes him again.

He pulls Ricki's hair and lifts his arm to **punch** him.

"Get off the basketball team, Anderson. I'm going to fix you!"

Tony tries to catch Eric's arm, but Kyle and Pat hold him back.

"Eric, don't!" he shouts. "That's not the way. Don't make any more trouble."

"**Shut up**, Caruso, you're next!" shouts Eric.





A Close Call

Check your comprehension

3 Choose the correct option to complete each sentence.

- 1) Trish sends an e-mail to Mr Stockton / Caper / Pat / her father.
- 2) Eric's user name is Coolguy / Caper / Eric Caplin.
- 3) The message says Pat's new user name is Coolguy / Caper / Pat Jones.
- 4) A reply comes back from Mr Stockton / Caper / Coolguy / Trish.
- 5) It contains proof that Eric and Pat / Kyle and Pat / Trish and Stacy are involved in Ricki's and Tony's accidents.
- 6) Eric doesn't like Ricki because he's rich / clever / young.
- 7) Eric fights with Ricki / Tony / Mr Stockton.

Characters

4 Match each character to an event from this chapter.

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 1) Tony... | a) invents the user name Coolguy. |
| 2) Trish... | b) tells Eric not to hurt Ricki. |
| 3) Pat... | c) is at Eric's house when the message arrives. |
| 4) Eric... | d) fights with Ricki in the computer room. |
| 5) Kyle... | e) plays billiards with Kyle. |

Words

5 Choose the correct synonym.

- | | | | |
|------------------|---|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1) to quit | <input type="checkbox"/> to enter | <input type="checkbox"/> to give up | <input type="checkbox"/> to help |
| 2) to block | <input type="checkbox"/> to open something | <input type="checkbox"/> to start something | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> to stop something | | |
| 3) to suck up to | <input type="checkbox"/> to be too friendly to | <input type="checkbox"/> to be unkind to | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> to drink | | |
| 4) nasty | <input type="checkbox"/> very good | <input type="checkbox"/> friendly | <input type="checkbox"/> very bad |
| 5) a commotion | <input type="checkbox"/> a noisy event | <input type="checkbox"/> a quiet event | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> a competition | | |
| 6) stole | <input type="checkbox"/> bought something | <input type="checkbox"/> returned something | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> took something that wasn't yours | | |

Language

6 Complete the sentences with the adverbial forms of the following adjectives.

sharp slow sad happy
nervous careful quiet quick

ADVERBS

"Don't move, Caruso!" says Eric *sharply*.
"That wasn't a good idea, Anderson," adds Kyle, *quietly*.

- 1) This is very important. Please listen _____.
- 2) Don't run in the hall. Please walk _____.
- 3) This is a hospital. Please speak _____.
- 4) "I passed the exam!" she said _____.
- 5) "I'm sorry, but you haven't made the team," the coach said _____.
- 6) "I'm going to hit you!" he said _____.
- 7) The police are coming. He is waiting _____ by the door.
- 8) Don't eat your food _____. It's not good for you.

Story summary

7 Use the following words to complete the summary.

killed e-mail worried accidents proof
hits computer problems traffic lights quit

Tony's brakes don't work and he crashes his car into some _____. Everyone is all right. Tony is _____. He thinks he is going to get _____. He wants to _____ the team. Ricki tells Tony not to be afraid. He thinks they can find _____ that Eric, Kyle, and Pat are causing the problems. The friends meet at Trish's house. Trish sends a fake _____ to Eric. She wants Eric to think the e-mail is from Pat. Eric sends a reply. In the reply he says that no one can connect them to the _____. Trish prints the e-mail. The friends are happy because they have proof that Eric is causing the _____. The next day Eric, Pat, and Kyle see Tony and Ricki in the _____ room. Eric pushes Ricki to the floor and _____ him. Someone tries to open the door to enter the room, but Pat holds the door closed.



Words

I Find the odd one out.

- 1) basketball / soccer / tennis / swimming
- 2) classroom / locker room / bedroom / gym
- 3) text book / e-mail / user name / Internet
- 4) reporter / students / teachers / principal

Now explain why the odd words do not belong in each group.

Example: 1) Swimming isn't a game.

CHAPTER 11

Return to the Team

Suddenly they hear voices in the corridor outside. Ricki sees Stacy's face at the glass panel in the door. Someone tries to open the door from the other side. Kyle shouts to Pat to help him keep it shut. Eric is too angry to notice. He hits Ricki on the head. Ricki is on the floor. He can't get up because of his leg. Then he sees his crutches next to the computer table. If he can **reach** one of them...

He grabs Eric's leg and pulls him down. Eric falls and, at that moment Ricki grabs the crutch and **pins him down** with it.

The door opens with a crash and Mr Stockton and some of the senior boys **burst** into the room.

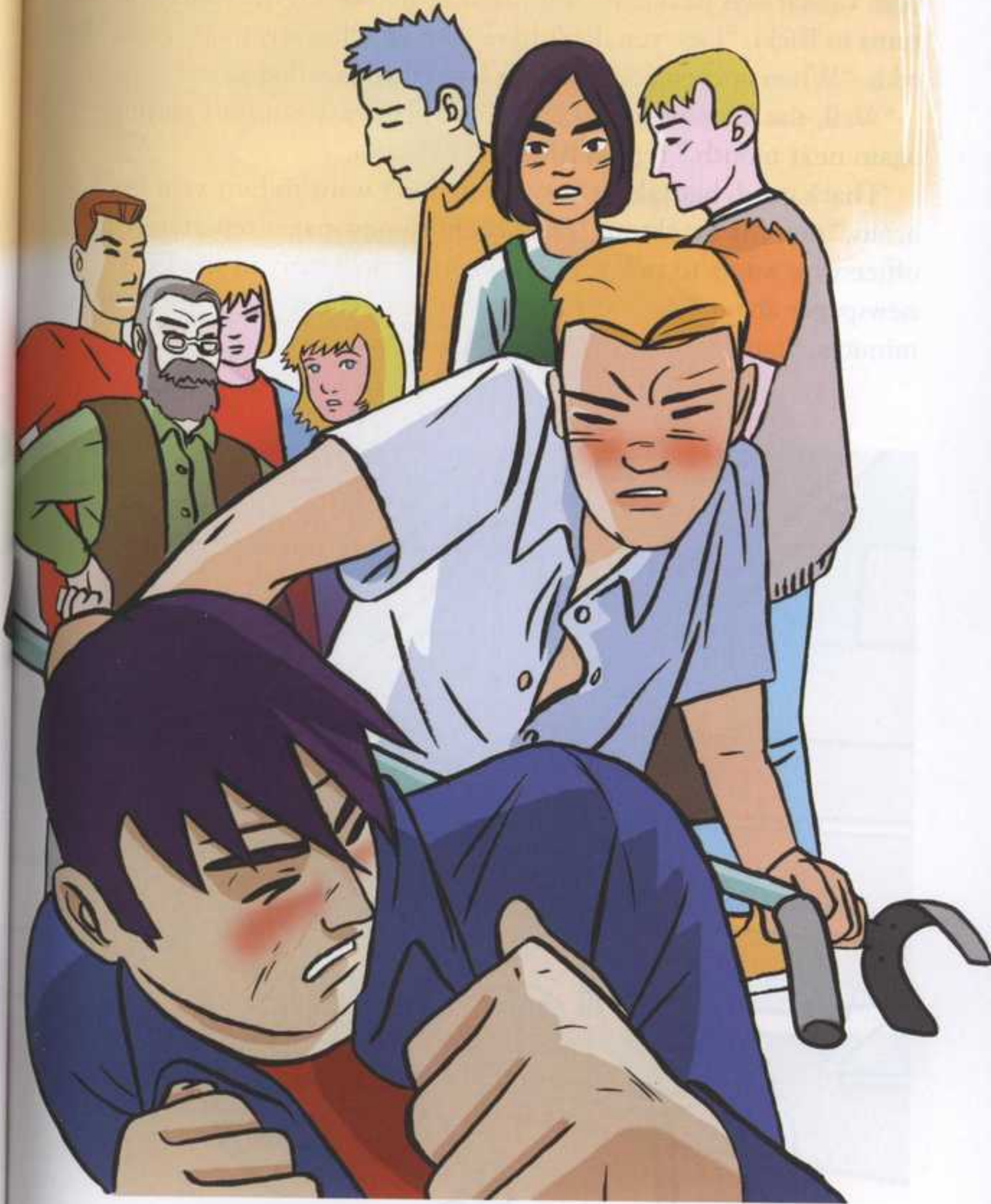
"**That's enough**, boys!" he shouts. "Caplin, Martin, Jones – go to my office immediately. You're in serious trouble. The police are coming for you."

Eric is furious. As the seniors lead him and the others away, he shouts at Ricki and Tony, "I'm going to finish you! I'm going to break your other leg, Anderson – and yours too, Caruso!"

Pictures

2 Look at the illustrations in chapter 11 and answer the questions.

- 1) Who does Stacy bring to the computer room to stop the fight?
- 2) Who is winning the fight when they arrive?
- 3) How is Ricki holding Eric down on the floor?
- 4) How do you think Ricki feels in the second picture?
- 5) Why?



Later the four friends are in the lunch room at school when Mr Stockton walks over to the table. He smiles at the four students.

“Kyle, Pat and Eric are not going to be in school for **a while**. The police are investigating their part in Ricki’s accident and the problems with Tony’s mom’s car. Kyle and Pat aren’t going to play basketball this year. Coach says he doesn’t want **trouble-makers** on the team.” He turns to Ricki, “I see you don’t have your crutches any more, Ricki,” he adds. “When are you going to start basketball practice again?”

“Well, the doctor says my leg is much better. I can start playing again next month,” replies Ricki.

“That’s good, but **take it easy** – you don’t want to hurt your leg again,” says Mr Stockton. “Now, there’s a newspaper reporter in my office who wants to talk you. He wants to do a story in the local newspaper about Eric and your accidents. Come to my office in thirty minutes. Stacy, Trish – you two girls, too.”



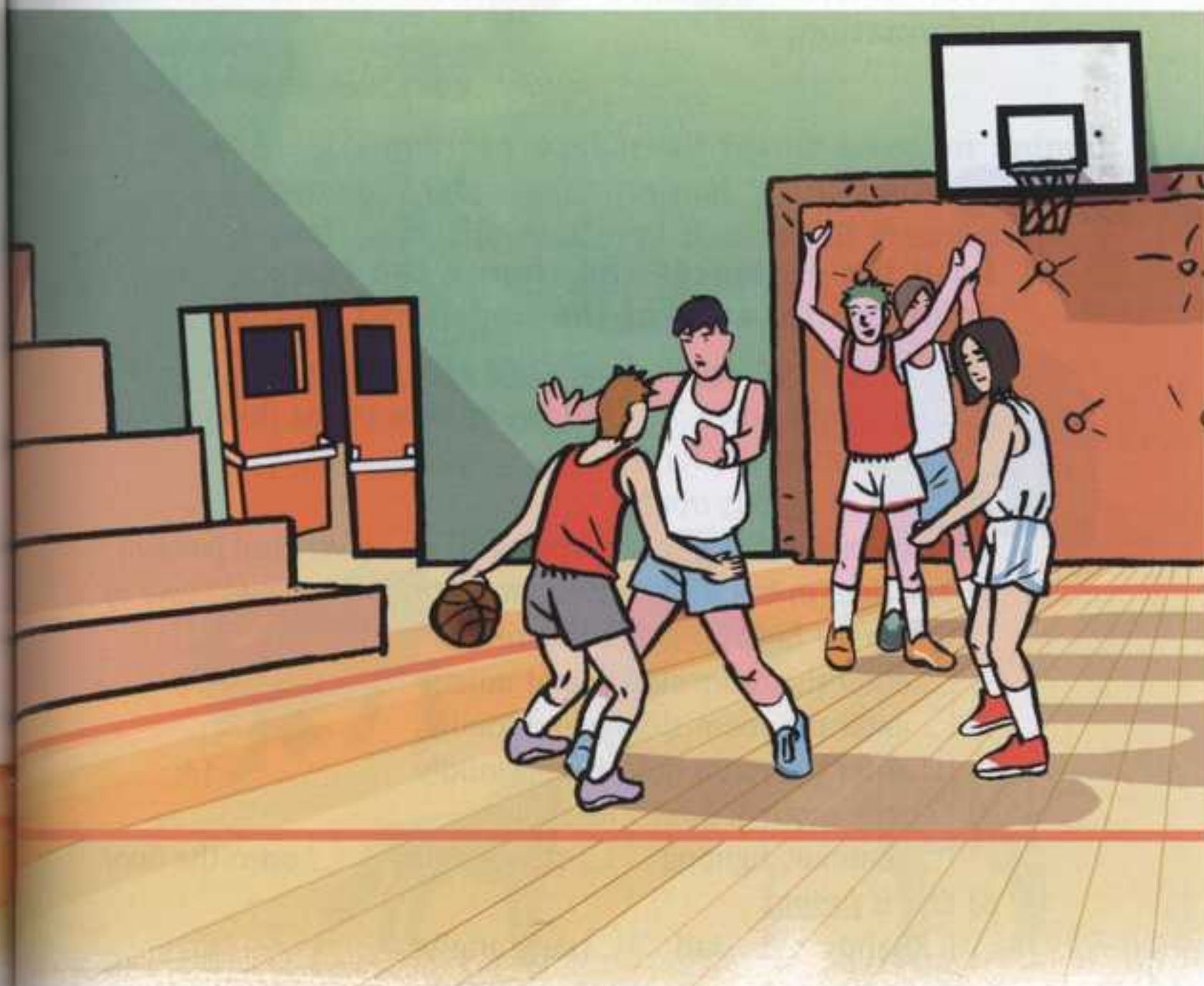
Later in the afternoon, Ricki and Tony are in the locker room. Tony is getting ready for practice when Anthony comes in and talks to them.

"Kyle Martin and Pat Jones are off the team. Coach says I'm on the team! I'm going to play in the game on Friday night!"

"That's great, Anthony – you're a good player, you deserve it," says Ricki, smiling.

"I hope your leg gets better and you can start playing again soon, Ricki," replies Anthony. "We're going to be a fantastic team this year!"

They walk out onto the basketball court. Ricki sits down to watch the practice session. He thinks, "Now all the trouble is finished, I just want to play basketball!"





Return to the Team

Check your comprehension

3 True or false? Indicate T or F.

- 1) Ricki holds Eric down with his school bag.
- 2) Stacy arrives with Mr Anderson.
- 3) Eric and the others are in a lot of trouble.
- 4) Mr Stockton calls the doctor.
- 5) Coach Bergman takes Kyle and Pat off the team.
- 6) Ricki can play basketball again next week.
- 7) The reporter wants to do a story about Eric and the other trouble-makers.
- 8) Ricki wants to play baseball.

| T | F |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Now rewrite the false statements with the correct information.

Words

4 Read the sentences and choose the correct definition for each of the underlined words.

- 1) He grabs Eric's leg and pulls him off balance.
☐ Eric falls down ☐ Eric pulls Ricki to the floor
☐ Eric shouts at Ricki
- 2) You're in serious trouble.
☐ no problem ☐ a small problem ☐ a very bad problem
- 3) The door opens with a crash and Mr Stockton and some of the senior boys burst into the room.
☐ enter the room slowly and quietly
☐ enter the room slowly and loudly
☐ enter the room quickly and loudly
- 4) "That's enough, boys!" he shouts.
☐ continue fighting ☐ stop fighting ☐ open the door
- 5) Eric is furious.
☐ happy ☐ sad ☐ very angry

Language

SIMPLE PRESENT AND PRESENT CONTINUOUS

Ricki and Tony *are telling* them about Kyle, Pat and Eric when Mr Stockton *walks over*.

Tony *is getting dressed* for practice when Anthony *comes in*.

5 Complete each sentence with the correct form of the verb in parentheses.

- 1) Peter (write) _____ a letter when I (tell) _____ him the news.
- 2) As Ricki (cross) _____ the road, a car (knock) _____ him down.
- 3) While Eric and Pat (talk) _____ at the party, Trish (listen) _____ to them.
- 4) My mother (work) _____ while my brother (watch) _____ television.
- 5) While I (talk) _____ the telephone (ring) _____.

Beyond the story

6 Most American basketball teams have an animal mascot. Match each animal with the appropriate team from the National Basketball Association.

- 1) Chicago Bulls
- 2) Atlanta Hawks
- 3) Minnesota Timberwolves
- 4) Vancouver Grizzlies
- 5) Milwaukee Bucks





Words

I Look up the following words in a dictionary.

championship practice game try-outs



CHAPTER 12

Ricki's Long Shot

Four weeks later the basketball championship starts. The boys from Howard High are in the gym practicing for their first game on Saturday.

Ricki is back! It's his first practice since the accident. He wants Coach Bergman to choose him to play on Saturday. He tries to run fast but his leg hurts a bit.

"Take it easy, Anderson!" shouts Coach Bergman. "Don't force your leg. We need you for the game on Saturday night!"

Ricki is pleased. He is going to play in the game! He works hard during practice. He shoots well, he plays intelligently in the practice game, he plays well with the other players. After practice, he and Tony walk to the showers.

"You played great tonight, Ricki," says Tony. "If you play like that on Saturday, Redwood High doesn't have a chance!"

Coach Bergman comes into the locker room to talk to Ricki. "Anderson," he says, "I think you're ready to play in a real match. I want you there on Saturday. You and Caruso are a great duo!"

"Thanks, Coach, that's fantastic!" replies Ricki.

"Oh, and Ricki, I'm sorry for what happened to you and Tony. Caplin and the others were really out of control but they're going to be punished. I hope now they understand their behavior was very wrong. You can't become a good basketball player by threatening other players or hurting them. You and Tony are not only better players but you're better sportsmen than they are."

Pictures

2 Look at the illustrations in chapter 12 and answer the questions.

- 1) How does Ricki feel at basketball practice?
- 2) Are there a lot of people at the game?
- 3) What are the girls in red doing?
- 4) What is the score near the end of the game?
- 5) Who scores the final basket?



"Thanks, Coach," says Tony. "We're going to work hard. We appreciate that you chose us to be on the team, even if we're juniors," says Tony sincerely.

"Okay, boys. Show me I was right – win the match against Redwood High on Saturday!" laughs Coach Bergman.

It's Saturday night and the arena is full. There are a lot of people watching the game. The band is playing loud music and the cheerleaders are dancing with their pompoms. The two teams run onto the court. They practice shooting and throwing the ball. Then the buzzer sounds and the game begins. Coach Bergman calls his players into a group.

"Well, guys, this is our first game of the year. Redwood has a good team. It's going to be a tough match. Do your best."

All the players nod. They join hands in a circle and shout, "Go, go, go! Fly high, Howard Hawks!!!"

The crowd jumps to its feet. Everyone is clapping and shouting, "Go Hawks!" Some people wave flags with pictures of hawks on them. The team feels the energy of the crowd. They are excited and tense. They want to win.

At half time, the score is 46-40 for Redwood. Both teams are playing very well. At the end of the second half the score is even at 63-63. There are only 15 seconds left. The crowd is wild with excitement. Coach Bergman calls a timeout.

"Okay, boys. We only have one more shot. Anderson, do you want to take the shot?"

"You bet, Coach," Ricki replies.

"Okay, then. Do all of you remember the set-up?"

"Yes, Coach," the players say. The buzzer sounds. They go back onto the court.

Tony passes the ball to Anthony who throws it to Don. Don dodges two Redwood players and passes to Ricki. Ricki jumps, takes aim quickly and throws the ball at the basket. Is the shot too short? He's still a long way from the basket. It doesn't go in. Ricki's heart sinks but the referee is blowing his whistle. Ricki has two free shots!

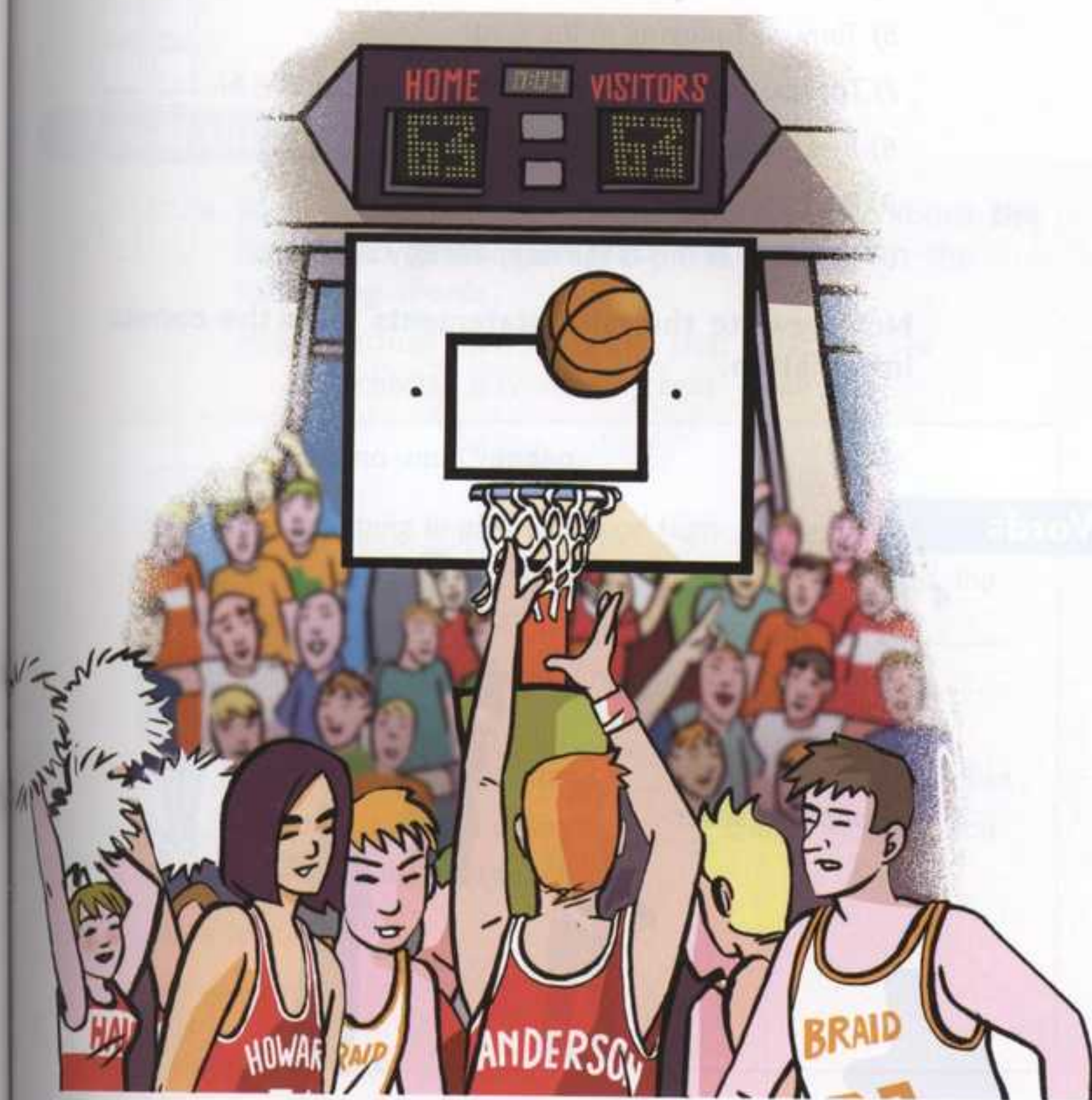
He goes to the free-throw line. He takes aim and shoots. The ball hits the basket but it doesn't go in. He misses the shot!

"I have to make this second shot," he thinks to himself. "It's our last chance!"

This is the longest shot of his life. He takes a deep breath, fixes his

eye on the basket, and shoots. The ball goes around the edge of the basket twice. He thinks, "Go in, please go in!" Then, the ball drops – it's in! Ricki scores! The crowd goes crazy! The Hawks win the game by one point!

The players carry Ricki on their shoulders around the arena and the crowd shouts and cheers. He sees his parents standing, waving to him – they are very proud. He sees Stacy jumping and cheering and Trish next to her. He knows that this is the happiest moment of his life. After all the difficulties he had before this game, now he knows it was worth it – the day he played the long shot.





Ricki's Long Shot

Check your comprehension

3 True or false? Indicate T or F.

| | T | F |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1) Coach Bergman doesn't want Ricki to play in the basketball game on Saturday. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2) Coach thinks Eric and the others are nice boys. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3) Ricki's team is playing against Redwood High School. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4) Howard High School's mascot is a hawk. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5) There aren't many people watching the game. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6) Tony isn't playing in the game. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7) The two teams have the same number of points – 61. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8) Ricki misses the first free throw. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 9) Ricki misses the second free throw. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10) Ricki thinks this is the happiest day of his life. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Now rewrite the false statements with the correct information.

Words

4 Match each profession to its picture.

- 1) cheerleader
- 2) referee
- 3) band
- 4) popcorn seller



Story summary

5 Put the sentences in the correct order.

- ☐ Ricki's team is going to play Redwood High on Saturday.
- ☐ The score at half-time is 46-40 for Redwood.
- ☐ Ricki scores a basket on the second throw.
- ☐ The crowd is frantic with excitement.
- ☐ The referee blows his whistle for two free throws.
- ☐ Fifteen seconds from the end the score is even.
- ☐ Coach Bergman chooses Ricki to be on the team for the game.
- ☐ Don throws the ball to Ricki.
- ☐ Ricki's team wins the game.
- ☐ Ricki misses his first free throw.

Beyond the story

6 Ricki writes a letter to his grandparents about the basketball game. Complete the letter with the following words.

Hawks school team watch Dear practice see
cheers play tough beat hope

_____ Grandma and Grandpa,

Tonight we are going to play Redwood High _____. They are a very good _____ but our team, the _____, is very good, too.

Tony and I _____ most of the game. Our coach is very _____ and he makes us _____ hard. I hope we are going to _____ Redwood High tonight!

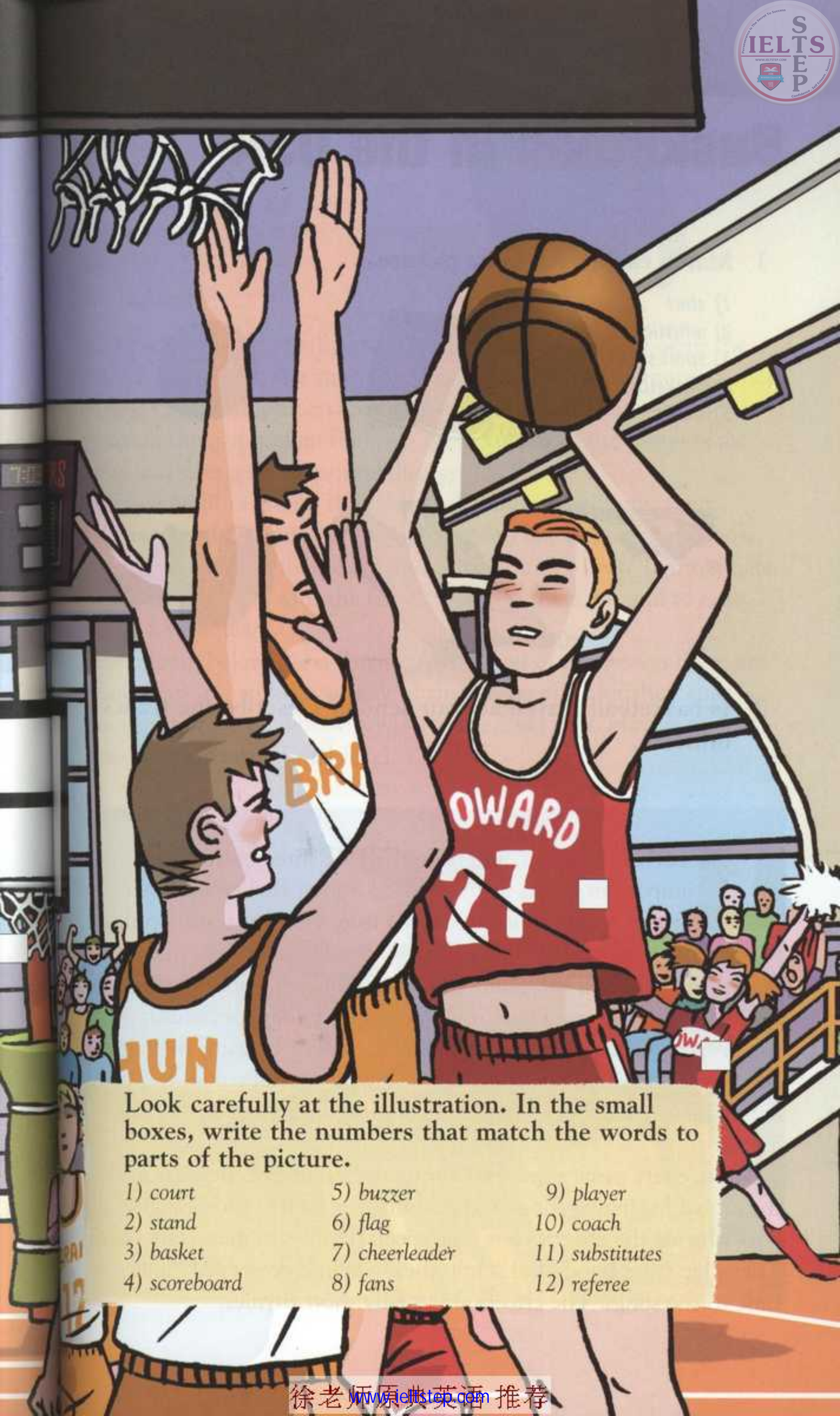
Mom, Dad, and Stacy are coming to _____ the game. They like to _____ me play. Mom always _____ a lot! I _____ you can come and see me play soon too!

Lots of love,

Your grandson,
Ricki

The Basketball Game





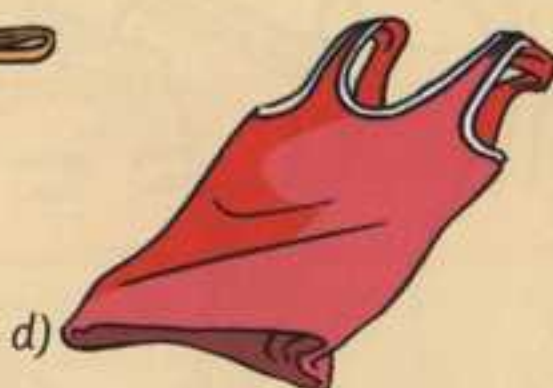
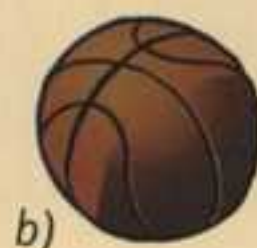
Look carefully at the illustration. In the small boxes, write the numbers that match the words to parts of the picture.

- | | | |
|---------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 1) court | 5) buzzer | 9) player |
| 2) stand | 6) flag | 10) coach |
| 3) basket | 7) cheerleader | 11) substitutes |
| 4) scoreboard | 8) fans | 12) referee |

Basketball in the USA

1 Match each word to its picture.

- 1) shirt
- 2) whistle
- 3) sport shoes
- 4) basketball
- 5) shorts



2 Is basketball played at your school? Describe the team's uniform.

Football, baseball, and basketball are three of the most important sports in the United States. Basketball is played in the winter months, usually from October until April. Every school and college in the United States has at least one basketball team and the games are important social and sporting events. Basketball games are usually held on Fridays or Saturdays in the evening. The whole school comes to watch the game and cheers for its team. Each school team wears its own special colors and has a particular name. For example, the Chicago Bulldogs or the Salem Tigers.

Before every game starts and during the game, cheerleaders lead the crowd in singing songs and cheering for their team. The girls and boys who are the cheerleaders wear special clothes in their team colors. They clap their hands and stamp their feet and do special dances in time to the songs. The cheers are usually short rhymes.

For example:

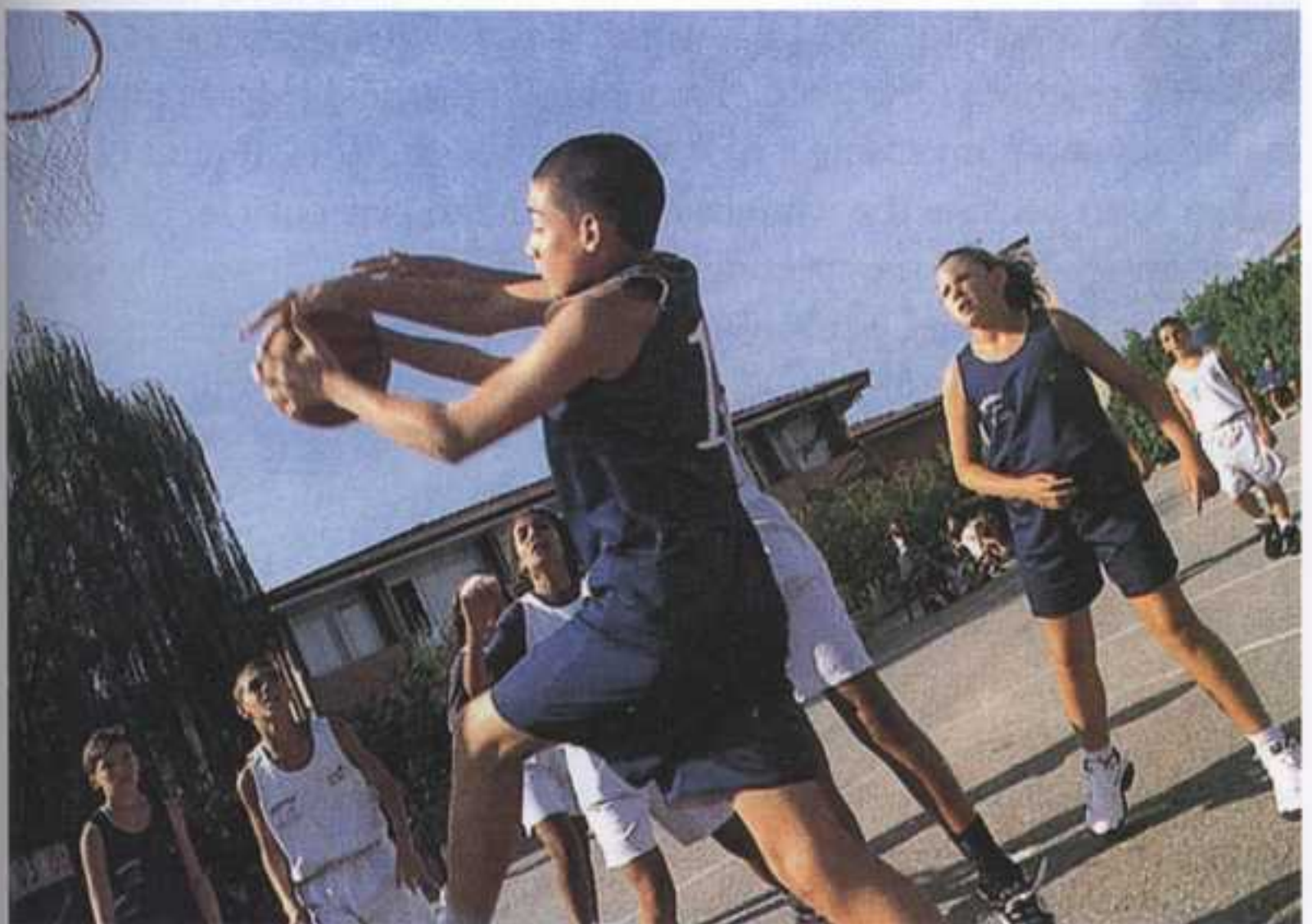
"Two four six eight
Who do we appreciate?
The Bulldogs!
Who?
The Bulldogs!"



The school band usually plays at the games, too. They open the event by playing at the start of the game, and at the intermission they often give a short concert. Sometimes the band marches up and down on the gymnasium floor, on the court, or in the center of the arena and does a synchronised display.

Whole families attend the basketball games – children, their parents, and their grandparents. People can buy popcorn and sodas, hot drinks, burgers, chocolates and other things to eat. T-shirts, hats and other souvenirs with the team's name on them are sold to raise money for the team.

Each team belongs to a league. At the end of the season there are championships, and the winner of the league plays for their state against other states. The winners at state level then play in a championship at national level.



James Naismith and the History of Basketball

1 Read the article, then match each event to its corresponding date.

- | | |
|---|---------|
| 1) Naismith invents basketball. | a) 1939 |
| 2) Backboards are introduced. | b) 1949 |
| 3) Basketball becomes an Olympic sport. | c) 1893 |
| 4) The National Basketball League is formed. | d) 1891 |
| 5) Naismith dies. | e) 1937 |
| 6) The National Basketball Association is formed. | f) 1936 |

2 Answer the questions.

- 1) Where does Naismith invent basketball?
- 2) Why does Naismith invent basketball?
- 3) What do the early basketball players wear?

James Naismith was born in 1861 in Almonte, Ontario, Canada. In 1891 he is working as a physical education teacher at the YMCA school in Springfield (Massachusetts). He thinks about inventing a new sport for the students. It must be an indoor sport because the winters are too cold to play outside. He thinks about using some of the sporting ideas he learned in Canada. He tries organizing soccer and lacrosse games inside but it is too difficult; the players need more space. Then, Naismith thinks of something different. He attaches two peach baskets to the balconies at both ends of the gymnasium. He invents thirteen rules for the game. There are two teams with nine players on each team. Each team must run and pass a soccer ball between them and try to throw it into the basket hanging on the wall. The new game is called "basketball". In 1895 Naismith moves to Denver to work at another YMCA school and starts basketball teams there. Later, he directs the physical education department at the University of Kansas (UK), where he lives for 36 years. He dies in Lawrence, Kansas, in 1939.

Naismith's indoor sport becomes very popular very quickly. The rules begin to change and players use new equipment. For example, in 1893, backboards become a part of the game. They keep the fans away from the baskets. The first backboards are made of wire, but by 1904, backboards are made of wood.

By 1909, backboards are made of glass.

Fans of basketball in the nineteenth century may not recognize this sport today. First, the clothes are different. Naismith's first team wore black woolen jerseys and long grey pants, but today players wear sleeveless T-shirts and shorts and have specially designed shoes. The game is also different. The early games were brutal and violent. Players often got hurt in fights, too! In fact the games were so violent that wire cages surrounded the basketball court to protect the players from angry fans when their team lost! Fans often threw bottles and nails onto the court and the referees sometimes had guns to keep the fans and players under control!

By the 1930s basketball is so popular that it becomes an Olympic sport in 1936. Soon, many ordinary people are playing the game. In 1937, the National Basketball League (NBL) is formed, and the Basketball Association of America (BAA) is formed soon after. In 1949, these two leagues join to form the current National Basketball Association (NBA).

In the USA today, basketball is still a very popular sport, but it's a lot less violent!

3 Match each sentence to its picture.

- 1) Cages surround the court to protect players from fans.
- 2) Early players wear long-sleeved woolen jerseys.
- 3) The first basketball nets are baskets for fruit.
- 4) Referees carry guns for protection.



Famous American Basketball Players

1 Match each player to his or her paragraph below.

1) Shaquille O'Neal

☐

2) Jennifer Azzi

☐

3) Michael Jordan

☐

A

I am probably the most important basketball player of all time. I was born in North Carolina. I have five brothers and sisters. My coach in high school doesn't want me to play basketball. He doesn't think I am very good. I go to college at Chapel Hill in North Carolina. I play very well there because I am very competitive. My new coach in college advises me to become a professional. I play for the Chicago Bulls for many years. I am their best player ever. The sports clothes company Nike names a pair of basketball shoes for me. Many young boys want to be like me. Now I'm retired. I own a basketball team in the state of Washington in the USA. I am one of the top 50 basketball players of the century. Now I like to play golf. I'm in the movie *Space Jam*.



B

I am a very tall player. I am 7 feet one inch tall. I weigh 315 pounds. I play for the Los Angeles Lakers. My childhood isn't happy. My father leaves our family when I am only a little boy. My mother and I are very close.



I also like to rap. I record five rap albums. *Shaq Diesel* and *You Can't Stop the Reign* are two of them.

I'm also in the movies *Kazaam* and *He Got Game*. I own a record company and a clothes shop. I give free toys at Christmas time to poor children in Central Florida, USA.

C

I start to play basketball at the age of 4. I am not very tall – 5 foot eight inches – and I weigh 147 pounds. I graduate from Stanford University in California. I like to work out, read, water ski, and spend time with my family. I also like photography. I play in the WNBA with the Detroit Shock. Our basketball league is growing. We have more professional teams every year. We also have more fans. I think basketball is great, but I don't think individual statistics are important. I do charity work with children in schools, teaching them basketball. My favorite city is Paris.



2 Who is it?

- 1) Who is in the movie *Kazaam*?
- 2) Who was born in North Carolina?
- 3) Who likes photography?
- 4) Who does not play basketball any more?
- 5) Who is not very tall?
- 6) Who has an unhappy childhood?
- 7) Who likes to sing rap music?
- 8) Who likes to play golf?
- 9) Who likes to work out?
- 10) Who does charity work with children?

3 Reread the paragraphs and indicate three things that these players have in common.

Mysteries!

1 What type of story is *The Long Shot*?

- 1) a romance 3) a war story
2) a mystery 4) a fairy story

2 In the story, Ricki says that Trish is a fine detective like Miss Marple. Which of the following writers invented the character Miss Marple?

- 1) Ruth Rendell
2) Agatha Christie
3) Arthur Conan Doyle
4) Ian Fleming



3 Read the article about the life of Agatha Christie and match the paragraphs (A-D) with the following titles.

1) Characters

☐

3) Life as an adult

☐

2) Work

☐

4) Life as a child

☐

A

I was born in Devon, England, in 1890. I am the youngest of three children. My family is very rich. I am very shy. I don't go to school. I have a teacher at home. I like music. I also like to write.

B

In 1914, I marry Archie Christie. He is a pilot and flies during World War I. I work as a nurse. I like working in a hospital because it gives me many good ideas for writing stories. I start writing detective novels.

In 1926, Archie tells me that he wants a divorce because he loves another woman. My mother dies in the same year and I am very depressed. I leave my house and friends and I don't see anyone for three weeks. No one knows where I am. My disappearance becomes a big mystery in England – where is the famous detective writer, Agatha Christie? It's like one of my novels! Later, I fall in love again with an archaeologist called Max Mallowan.



C

My first novel is published in 1920. It is called *The Mysterious Affair at Styles*. My stories are intriguing and full of suspense. They become very popular and the publishers ask me to write more. In total I write 30 novels during my life. My most famous books are *Murder on the Orient Express* (1934) and *Death on the Nile* (1926). My books often become movies. When I die, I am perhaps the most famous detective writer ever. I write 66 novels and many short stories, screenplays, and romantic novels during my career.

D

The main character in many of my books is an amateur detective called Miss Jane Marple. She is an elderly spinster who lives in an English village called St. Mary Mead. She likes to solve all types of mysteries. Because she is a sweet old lady, people trust her and she often finds out clues or information which professional detectives miss. She appears in twelve of my novels.

- 4 What do you consider the characteristics of an intriguing story? Does *The Long Shot* have these characteristics or not?

1 Match each word to its definition.

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 1) avoid | a) not certain about something; confused |
| 2) bully | b) attractive or very beautiful |
| 3) creep | c) feeling afraid because you think something bad will happen |
| 4) enough | d) sufficient, no more |
| 5) gorgeous | e) to hit someone or something |
| 6) frightened | f) to force someone to do something |
| 7) puzzled | g) a name that means someone is unusual or stupid |
| 8) punch | h) keep away from; try not to do something |

A

to add – _____
to advise – _____
agreement – _____
aloud – _____
amateur – _____
to annoy – _____
to appreciate – _____
to avoid – _____
a while – _____

B

back yard – _____
backboard – _____

badly – _____
basket – _____
to be like – _____
beat (v. past), to beat – _____

behavior – _____
to blab – _____
to bleed – _____
blood – _____
to blow a whistle – _____

both – _____
brake – _____
to breathe – _____
broke (v. past), to break – _____

bully – _____
to burst – _____

C

cage – _____
cast – _____
to call – _____
carefully – _____
to catch out – _____
cell phone – _____
championship – _____
chance – _____
changing room – _____
charity – _____
to check – _____
cheer – _____
cheerleader – _____
to choose – _____
to clap your hands – _____
to clear up – _____
to click – _____
clue – _____

2 Complete the sentences with the following expressions.

Shut up! Good luck! Don't mention it! Here's to us!

Get well soon! Come on!

- 1) The cheerleaders shout _____ at a basketball game.
- 2) You are ill. Your friend sends you a card. It says: _____
- 3) You are angry. You want your friend to stop talking. You say: _____
- 4) Your friend is going to take a test. You say: _____
- 5) You help your teacher. The teacher says: Thank you. You say: _____
- 6) You and your friend passed an English test. You are drinking orange juice. You touch your glasses together and say: _____

connection – _____

cool – _____

court – _____

to cover your tracks – _____

creep – _____

culprit – _____

curb – _____

D

damage – _____

daydreaming – _____

dead – _____

defiantly – _____

disappearance – _____

display – _____

to disqualify – _____

to dodge – _____

Don't mention it! – _____

to dribble – _____

to drop – _____

E

edge – _____

elderly – _____

enough – _____

equipment – _____

even – _____

even if – _____

expectantly – _____

F

to fall in love – _____

far-reaching – _____

fight – _____

fitter (*adj. comp.*) – _____

to fix – _____

to flash – _____

to forget – _____

to frighten – _____

to frown – _____

G

gate – _____

to get better – _____

to get into trouble – _____

to get mad – _____

3 See how fast you can find the following words in the glossary.

- 1) Find a word that means to talk. _____
- 2) Find a word that means to smile. _____
- 3) Find a phrase that means the best student in the class. _____
- 4) Find a word for a telephone you can take out of the house. _____
- 5) Find the past tense of choose. _____
- 6) Find a word that is the opposite of to smile. _____
- 7) Find the past tense of to do. _____
- 8) Find the superlative form of happy. _____
- 9) Find a word which means a place to keep your school books. _____
- 10) Find a word that means to get very angry. _____
- 11) Find a word which means a place to do gym. _____
- 12) Find a word that means you think something good is going to happen. _____

to get ready - _____

Get well soon! - _____

gorgeous - _____

to graduate - _____

to grin - _____

to groan - _____

H

hanging - _____

has been (v. past), to be - _____

to hate - _____

to have a look - _____

Have fun! - _____

Here's to us! - _____

hit (v. past), to hit - _____

hit-and-run - _____

honey - _____

hug - _____

hurt - _____

I

indoor - _____

injury - _____

to investigate - _____

J

jealous - _____

jersey - _____

to join - _____

joke - _____

to joke - _____

to jump - _____

4 Choose the correct synonym.

1) annoy

- ☐ make someone happy ☐ make someone sad
☐ make someone angry

2) best friend

- ☐ a bad friend ☐ a very good friend ☐ a boy scout

3) crowd

- ☐ one person ☐ creeps ☐ many people in a group

4) daydreaming

- ☐ happy thoughts when awake ☐ sad thoughts when awake
☐ nasty thoughts when asleep

5) kindly

- ☐ badly ☐ slowly ☐ nicely

6) Keep your fingers crossed

- ☐ Good luck! ☐ Bad luck! ☐ Take it easy!

7) nod

- ☐ say no ☐ say yes ☐ say I don't know.

K

Keep your fingers crossed! -

kid -

to kneel -

to knock down -

L

lacrosse -

to lead someone to -

less -

to let -

to lift -

to lock -

locker -

lost (v. past), to lose -

loudly -

lunchroom -

M

to make the team -

match -

to mean business -

N

to name -

nasty -

to nod -

noise -

Not yet! -

noticeboard -

5 Complete the crossword puzzle with words from the glossary.

Across

- 1) A driver who hits someone but doesn't stop.
- 4) If you are hurt you have an _____.
- 6) He loses blood. He _____.
- 7) To go down on your knees.

Down

- 1) To embrace someone.
- 2) If you are naughty, you will be in _____.
- 3) "He's asleep. Don't make a _____".
- 5) "I failed the exam. I'm very _____".

O

on the rebound – _____
 on the way home – _____
 ones – _____
 own – _____
 to own – _____

P

parked (*v. past.*), to park – _____
 parking lot – _____
 peach – _____
 to pick up – _____
 to pin someone down – _____
 Play it cool! – _____
 to point – _____
 pompom – _____
 pool – _____
 post – _____
 prettiest (*adj. sup.*) – _____
 principal – _____
 to print – _____

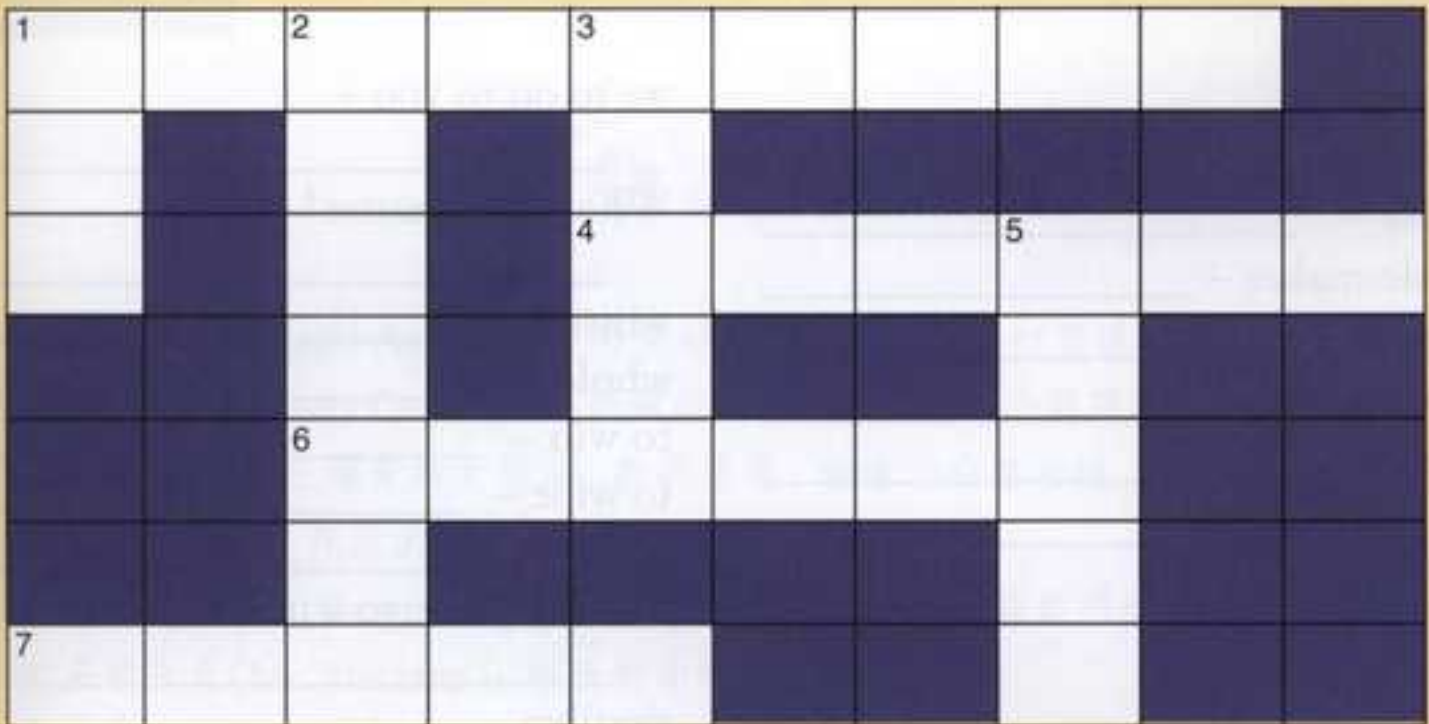
proof – _____
 proud – _____
 to prove – _____
 punch – _____
 puzzled – _____

Q

to quit – _____

R

to raise money – _____
 to reach – _____
 received, (*v. past*) to receive – _____
 to record – _____
 to recover – _____
 recovery – _____
 to rest – _____
 retired – _____
 ride – _____
 roughly – _____



S

- scared – _____
 score – _____
 to scream – _____
 set-up – _____
 to set up – _____
 shadow – _____
 to shake – _____
 sharply – _____
 to shoot – _____
 shot – _____
 to show – _____
 to shrug – _____
 Shut up! – _____
 to sink – _____
 slumped – _____
 to smash – _____
 soda – _____
 to sound like – _____
 Sounds fun! – _____
 souvenir – _____
 speaker – _____
 to speed – _____
 spinster – _____
 to stamp your feet – _____
 steering wheel – _____

- to step off – _____
 stolen – _____
 stretcher – _____
 to suck up to – _____
 sucker – _____
 surrounded – _____
 suspect – _____
 to switch on – _____

T

- to take a deep breath – _____
 to take aim – _____
 to take it easy – _____
 to tamper – _____
 to teach someone a lesson – _____
 tense – _____
 That's enough! – _____
 There you go! – _____
 to threaten – _____
 tiring – _____
 top of the class – _____
 tough – _____

training – _____
to trick – _____
trouble – _____
trouble-maker – _____
truancy – _____
to trust – _____
to try out – _____
to type in – _____

U

upset – _____

V

van – _____
vandalism – _____
voice – _____

W

Watch out! – _____
to wave – _____
weakly – _____
weird – _____

we're on to you – _____

What's the matter? – _____

whistle – _____
whole – _____
to win – _____
to wipe – _____
wire – _____
won (*v. past*), to win – _____

woollen – _____
to work out – _____

worried – _____
Would you like? – _____
wreck – _____
wrote (*v. past*), to write – _____

X

X-ray – _____

Y

You bet! – _____

译文

人物简介

瑞奇·安德森(Ricki Anderson): 哈沃特中学学生, 酷爱打篮球。

托尼·卡鲁索(Tony Caruso): 瑞奇最好的朋友, 也是一个篮球迷。

丝达希(Starcy): 瑞奇的女朋友, 聪明漂亮, 瑞奇十分喜欢她。

特蕾希(Trish): 托尼的女朋友, 丝达希的好朋友。

伯格门先生(Mr. Bergman): 哈沃特中学的篮球教练, 非常严厉。

斯多顿先生(Mr. Stockton): 哈沃特中学的校长。

安德森先生(Mr. Anderson): 瑞奇的父亲。

安德森太太(Mrs. Anderson): 瑞奇的母亲。

艾瑞克·卡伯林(Eric Caplin), 帕特·琼斯(Pat Jones), 凯勒·马丁(Kyle Martin), 约翰·罗伯特(John Robert): 哈沃特中学学生, 常威胁低年级同学。

第1章 瑞奇的重要日子(p. 4-7)

瑞奇睁开眼, 透过卧室的窗户, 看了看外面, 天空晴朗蔚蓝, 这是一个阳光明媚的早晨。他从床上坐起来, 记起今天对他来说可是个重要的日子。“今天终于到了!” 他自言自语道: “今天, 我要参加篮球队的选拔赛!”

瑞奇的学校——哈沃特中学, 有着全州最好的篮球队, 他们参加的比赛是每场必胜。而且, 他们有着最好的教练——伯格门先生, 和伯格门教练一起训练既辛苦又麻烦。每天放学后, 他都要对球队进行训练, 周末训练两次。他是个严厉的训练, 那正是“哈沃特之鹰”无往不胜的原因所在。

男孩们都梦想着进入这个球队。今天, 伯格门教练将要为下一季挑选选手。瑞奇是个不错的选手, 但他仅仅是个低年级学生, 还有很多高年级的男孩们也想加入比赛。

瑞奇的母亲打断了他的沉思。

“瑞奇, 该起床了!” 她在厨房喊道。

“好的, 妈妈!” 瑞奇回答。

他迅速从床上跳起来, 冲个澡就下楼去了。他父亲在火炉旁做早餐, 母亲在煮咖啡。早上好, 瑞奇。早餐来两个鸡蛋和吐司怎么样? 父亲问道。“儿子, 今天是个重要的日子, 你要参加球员选拔赛! 你需要一顿丰盛的早餐!”

“是的, 我要两个鸡蛋, 谢谢爸爸。” 瑞奇答道, 咧嘴一笑。“我好紧张!” 他又加了一句。

他从冰箱里取了些牛奶，在餐桌旁坐下。

“别紧张，瑞奇，你是个好选手，我知道你会进入球队的。”他母亲笑着说道。
“你练得够多了！”

“谢谢，妈妈，”瑞奇说，“但我只有 16 岁。不要忘了，我只是个晚辈，还有很多学长们也想加入。他们身材高大，而且强壮。”

安德森先生把鸡蛋和吐司放到桌上。“吃吧，瑞奇。再来些橙汁——今天你要全力以赴！”

瑞奇吃下鸡蛋，把橙汁喝了。

门铃响了，瑞奇最好的朋友托尼卡鲁索走进来。“你好，瑞奇！您们好，安德森先生、安德森太太！还吃着呢，瑞奇？”托尼问道，在他朋友旁边坐下。

“你好，托尼。今儿对你来说也是重要的一天！”安德森太太说道，“你也要参加选拔，是吗？喝点橙汁还是咖啡？”

“是的，谢谢，我喝点橙汁，”托尼答道。“对，今天我们都要全力以赴！今天下午，伯格门教练要真正厉害起来了！”托尼笑道。

“你和瑞奇都是有天赋的选手，你们比一些学长们更合适入选，你们会做得很好，”安德森太太说。

“谢谢，”托尼说，他看着瑞奇的父亲，“您在看什么，安德森先生？报纸头版上是哈沃特中学的图片吗？文章说什么了？”

“《中学生犯罪活动在增加》，”瑞奇的父亲念道。“上面说昨晚有人打碎了中学的三扇玻璃。他们认为我们地区的校内暴力事件和犯罪活动在增加。”

这时，电话铃响了，安德森太太去接。“是的，他在，请稍等。瑞奇，找你的，是丝达希。”丝达希是瑞奇新交的女朋友。她也在哈沃特中学，与瑞奇同班。在他们这一届学生中，她是最漂亮的，而且，她很聪明，瑞奇非常喜欢她。“嗨，丝达希！”瑞奇笑着说，“什么？哦，谢谢！我们要碰碰运气，好的，学校见。再见！”

“丝达希是个好女孩。瑞奇，你真幸运，”托尼说。

瑞奇有点尴尬。他不太喜欢在父母面前谈起他的女朋友。

“唔，是，我知道。托尼，你女朋友，特蕾希，呃，也很棒，”瑞奇说，“听着，这周末我们想去看电影，你和特蕾希要一起去吗？”他问。

“这个主意听起来不错！但是我们今天得想想篮球了，不是电影！”托尼说。他拿起装有橙汁的玻璃杯。“来，为我们自己干杯！我们今天要像迈克尔·乔丹一样打球！”男孩们碰杯，喝下饮料。

瑞奇看了看钟。“啊！要迟到了，我们得走了！”他说。

他拿起盘子，放到洗碗机里，背上书包。

“谢谢！妈妈、爸爸，一会儿见！”他喊道。

“再见，亲爱的，祝你好运！”他母亲叫道。

“好运，儿子！”父亲大喊。

第2章 神秘信件(p. 10-13)

瑞奇和托尼从校车上下来,朝哈沃特中学走去。他俩既紧张又激动,一路上都在谈论选拔赛。

“今天我学不进去了,”瑞奇说。“我太激动了,今天早上我们还有英语测验呢。”

“是啊,我知道,肯定会很难的,”托尼说。他们走到存物柜去取课本。

“嗨,托尼!看啊,”瑞奇说,“我的柜门上有张纸条。”

“写什么了?”托尼问。

瑞奇打开纸条,大声念起来。

“今天不许参加篮球训练——否则,你将发生不幸!”

瑞奇迷惑地看着他的朋友,“什么意思?托尼?”

“我不知道,”托尼说,“可能只是个玩笑,也许有人想恐吓你,也许有人想加入球队,又不想让你来参加选拔。别在意,瑞奇。”

托尼打开柜子,一张纸条掉下来,落在地板上。“嘿,瑞奇!我这儿也有一张纸条!”他吃惊地说道,并念给瑞奇听:“篮球是成人的事,不是小孩子的。不许参加球队选拔,否则,你将发生不幸!”

“这些纸条是谁放的?谁想威胁咱们?”瑞奇问。

“我不知道,但我不喜欢这种把戏。”托尼回答。

“嗨,瑞奇!”一个友好的声音传来。丝达希·詹森来到存物柜前,她个子很高,头发金黄,眼睛碧蓝,正冲着瑞奇微笑。

“嗨,瑞奇!嗨,托尼!你们好吗?”她一边说,一边拥抱瑞奇。

“哦,嗨,丝达希!”托尼回答,“好极了,你怎么样?”

“怎么了?”看到瑞奇一副烦恼的表情,她问,“出什么事了?”

“哦,可能没事。”瑞奇说。

“我们在柜子里发现两张纸条,”托尼说,“我觉得可能是个玩笑,但……”

“我能看看吗?”丝达希问,拿过纸条看起来,“我认为这不是玩笑,我们去告诉校长!”

“嘿,等等,”瑞奇回答,“我们不要那样做,我认为托尼说得对,这只是个玩笑。我不怕,别理它们。”

“瑞奇,这些纸条不是开玩笑!”丝达希说,“有人想恐吓你,但是,为什么呢?好吧,不告诉校长,但得告诉伯格门教练。”

这时,第一节课的上课铃响了。

“该走了,”瑞奇说。“瞧,丝达希,别担心,这些纸条没什么大不了的,午餐时见。”

“哦,好吧,午餐见!”丝达希走出大厅,满脸愁容。

托尼和瑞奇去了机房,上课前,他们打开了电脑。“我想看看昨晚篮球赛的比分。”他上网搜寻。“哇!洛杉矶湖人队获胜,他们赢了,他们打败了芝加哥公牛队!”他高呼起来。

“我要查查我的邮件，”瑞奇笑着说。

瑞奇输入他的邮件密码。

“你有新邮件。”电脑语音提示。瑞奇打开第一封邮件，是丝达希发的。

发件人: Stacyj@hhs.k-12.il

收件人: Rickia@hhs.k-12.il

主题: 好运!

邮件: 嗨, 瑞奇! 只想发封邮件, 祝你今天比赛好运! 学校见!

爱你的, 丝达希

他打开第二封邮件。

发件人: Caper@whosemail.com

收件人: Rickia@hhs.k-12.il

主题: 警告

邮件: 不许参加今天的比赛, 否则, 你将发生不幸!

“托尼, 看!” 因为老师进来了, 瑞奇小声说道, “又有一封神秘邮件!”

“哇, 这太奇怪了!” 托尼回答。“‘卡伯’是谁?”

“不知道, 看邮件地址, 不是我们学校的。快, 查查你的, 看看有没有来自‘卡伯’的邮件。”

托尼输入他的密码。

“你有新邮件。”电脑语音提示。

瑞奇和托尼互相望了望, 托尼点击新邮件。

“啊, 天哪, 也是来自‘卡伯’的!” 说着他打开了那封邮件。

发件人: Caper@whosemail.com

收件人: Tonyc@hhs.k-12.il

主题: 警告

邮件: 不许参加今天的篮球选拔赛。这是给你的最后警告!

“我们该怎么办?” 瑞奇问。

“我不知道,” 托尼说, “但我知道一件事——这些愚蠢的邮件阻止不了我们。我们要参加今晚的篮球训练, 也要参加球队选拔, 没人能阻止我们!!!”

第3章 篮球选拔赛(p. 16-19)

“该吃午饭了, 谢天谢地! 我饿死了!” 瑞奇对托尼说, 他们一起走出英语教室, 向存物柜走去。

“我也是! 英语太难了, 上完英语课我总是很饿!” 托尼答道。

“不难，很容易，”瑞奇笑着说，“但你得做完家庭作业，托尼！”

“哦，好吧，我知道了。”托尼回答。

他们把书放进去，锁好柜子，向餐厅走去。

嘿，丝达希和特蕾希在那儿，咱们去跟他们一块儿吃。”托尼说。

他们走到两个女孩坐的桌子旁。

“嗨，怎么了，姑娘们？”看到她们担心的表情，瑞奇问道。

“瑞奇，我们很担心。”丝达希回答道。

“担心什么？”瑞奇问。

“担心你和托尼在柜子里发现的那些纸条。”特蕾希说。

“给校长看吧，”丝达希说，“要不会有麻烦的。”

“哎，姑娘们，没什么，”托尼说，“不过是个恶意的玩笑。”

这时，两个高年级男孩挡在他们桌前。

“嘿，安德森！嘿，卡鲁索！你们今天要去参加球队选拔吗？”凯勒·马丁问他们。

“没错，而且我们一定会进入球队的！”瑞奇笑着回答。

“哦，是吗？好吧，小心点，小毛孩，你们不想发生不幸吧，呃？”另一个高年级学生帕特·琼斯说，脸上挂着邪恶的笑容。帕特和凯勒笑着走开了，在另外一张桌子旁坐下。

“我不喜欢凯勒·马丁和帕特·琼斯。他们简直就是恶霸，总是惹事生非。”特蕾希不安地说。

“你觉得会不会是他们写的那些神秘纸条？”丝达希问。

“记得帕特刚说过的话吗——‘今天你不想发生不幸吧’——与纸条上的话一样，瑞奇。”

“不，我觉得不是他们写的，”瑞奇回答，“他们是够讨厌的，但他们只不过是打篮球而已，写纸条、发邮件不是他们的作风。”

“发邮件威胁……？你指什么？”丝达希看着他问道。

“哦，亲爱的，没什么，别在意。”看到托尼的表情，瑞奇马上回答。

“咱们说点儿别的，”托尼说，“周末想看什么电影，姑娘们？”

放学后，瑞奇和托尼去更衣室为篮球选拔做准备。他们刚穿好运动衣，帕特·琼斯进来了，他粗暴地推开瑞奇，瑞奇向后跌靠在储物柜上。

“嗨，小心点，帕特！”瑞奇生气地嚷道。

“哦？那你想怎么样？”帕特笑着走出更衣室。

“别在意，瑞奇，”托尼冷静地说，“他想激怒你，他想让你打不好球，这样你就进不了球队了。”

“是，你说得对，托尼，他是个大傻瓜。”瑞奇过了一会儿说道，“加油！咱们就要去，让他们看看谁才是最棒的！”

瑞奇和托尼来到篮球场，露齿而笑。

“好了，孩子们，到球场上来！”伯格门教练喊道。25 个男孩起身跑到篮球场，这 25 个男孩都想进入球队，但只需要 12 个人。每个人都很紧张。选手们练了一个小时，最后，伯格门教练喊道：“好了，现在我们来进行一场比赛，我要看你们的表现来选择谁能进入校队。努力打，好好打，孩子们！祝你们好运！”

托尼、瑞奇和另外三个男孩在 A 队，他们穿白色 T 恤。帕特·琼斯、凯勒·马丁和他们的一些朋友在 B 队，穿红色 T 恤。

伯格门教练吹响口哨，大喊：“比赛开始！”当他再次吹响口哨时，比赛开始了。

托尼接过球，把它传给瑞奇。瑞奇在球场上带球绕过对手，来到篮筐下，他带球相当好。看到帕特朝他跑来，他试着投篮，球投得不错，但离篮筐太远，没有投中。托尼抢下篮板球，投篮，嗖！篮球径直进入篮筐，A 队得两分。凯勒·马丁抢过球，撒腿就跑，一头撞向托尼，把托尼撞倒在地。

“嘿，马丁，注意点！”伯格门教练大喊。

“对不起，教练。”凯勒喊道。但瑞奇看见他冲他朋友帕特龇牙一笑。

比赛打了 15 分钟，最后，A 队以 16 比 12 获胜。

“你觉得怎样？”瑞奇用毛巾擦着脸问道。

“我不知道，对伯格门教练来说，很难做决定。我真的希望我们能进入球队，瑞奇！”托尼回答。

“我也是，”瑞奇说，“不管怎样，托尼，有件事可以肯定——那些神秘邮件不过就是个玩笑。选拔赛上没有发生不幸。”

“对，是还没发生。”托尼说。

第 4 章 肇事逃逸 (p. 24-27)

第二天瑞奇和托尼早早来到学校，一辆当地报纸的货车停在学校前面。大门外，两名记者正在采访一群学生。

“新闻记者怎么会在这儿？”瑞奇吃惊地问道。

“我不知道。”托尼回答。“看，特蕾希、丝达希和斯多顿先生在跟他们谈话呢，去看看发生什么事了。”

“斯多顿先生，我们正在撰写另一则关于日益增多的中学生犯罪问题的新闻。在哈沃特中学有很多犯罪行为吗？”一名记者在采访校长。斯多顿先生说：“不，我们这里没有什么犯罪活动。当然，我们有些暴力事件，也有一些轻微的纪律问题。一些学生有旷课行为，但没什么重大的事情，我认为学生在这里是安全的。”

“特蕾希、丝达希，你们在这所学校感觉安全吗？”另一名记者向姑娘们提问。

“是的，通常我们都感觉很安全，”特蕾希回答，“但学校里有些恶霸学生。”

“你具体是指什么？他们做什么了？”记者问。

“嗯，有些学生用纸条和邮件……”

丝达希打断了她朋友的话，“不，学校没有什么犯罪行为，先生。我们在这儿感觉很安全。”

她朝特蕾希皱皱眉，悄声说：“还不行，我们没有任何证据，特蕾希。”

特蕾希点点头，她朝记者笑了笑。

“是的，总之我们在哈沃特中学感觉很安全——这是所好学校。”

“好的，谢谢你们，特蕾希、丝达希、斯多顿先生。”记者说着，合上笔记本。

“不用谢。”校长回答。

“不用谢。”特蕾希和丝达希说。

托尼和瑞奇跑过去追上特蕾希和丝达希。

“嘿，他们想知道什么？”瑞奇问。

“他们在撰写另外一则关于中学生犯罪的新闻，就像昨天报纸上的那篇一样。记得前些天有人打碎学校的玻璃吗？”特蕾希说，“他们想调查发生了什么事，谁在恶意搞破坏，还有他们为什么要这样做。”

“那他们为什么要问你们？”托尼问。

“我不知道，可能因为我们太漂亮了！”特蕾希开玩笑说。

“瑞奇，你和我交了两个有名的女朋友！”托尼说，他们都笑了起来。

“嘿，昨天的选拔赛怎么样？”丝达希问，“你们俩进球队了吗？”

“中午我们去看看结果。”瑞奇说。

“到时候在体育馆见。”特蕾希说。

“好的，到那儿见！”瑞奇回答。

不久这四个朋友在体育馆碰面了。托尼和瑞奇看见有两个男孩在教练的门口站着，他们耷拉着脑袋，没有一丝笑容。

“哦，不！”瑞奇说，“艾瑞克·卡伯林和约翰·马克米兰没进球队。看看他们的表情！他们也是高年级学生，我觉得他们是很好的选手。”

“嗯，很明显教练不这么认为，祈求好运吧，”托尼说，“让我们祈祷能进球队。”

他们来到伯格门教练门外的布告牌前，焦急地查看队员名单。

“吔，恭喜你们，瑞奇、托尼！”特蕾希突然大叫起来，“你们进球队了！快看，有你们的名字！”

“嘿，太好了！”丝达希紧紧抱住瑞奇喊道，“你是最棒的！”

艾瑞克·卡伯林走了过来。“这次你们走运了，卡鲁索、安德森。”他气愤地说，“但是记住，你们还是小毛孩，教练犯了个严重的错误。”说完他就走开了。

“他干嘛这么生气？”特蕾希问。

“我猜因为他是高年级学生，却没能进球队。”托尼回答，耸了耸肩。

“那倒是，不过他为什么这么凶？他真的很有敌意。”特蕾希疑惑地说。

“嘿，别想艾瑞克·卡伯林了——他是个白痴！”丝达希说，“伙伴们，咱们去庆祝！中午去吃比萨！”

瑞奇、托尼、丝达希和特蕾希走出校门，朝比萨店走去，一路上谈笑风生。瑞奇踏过围栏，转向丝达希，正想跟她说点什么，突然，一辆有着黑色窗玻璃的小汽车从街角那边开过来，它向瑞奇加速驶来，而且越来越快，谁也不知道那是谁的车，他们看不清司机。

“瑞奇，小心！”托尼大喊，丝达希尖叫起来。但已经太晚了，小汽车撞上瑞奇，把他撞倒在马路上，而后不做任何停留就呼啸而去。瑞奇躺在地上，脸色苍白。朋友们围住他。

“瑞奇，瑞奇，你怎么样？”丝达希哭了出来。

“瑞奇，能听见我说话吗？”托尼喊道。

瑞奇脑袋下面流出一小滩血，他双眼紧闭，没有回应。

第5章 紧急事件(p. 30-33)

“瑞奇，瑞奇，能听见我说话吗？”斯多顿先生问。

校长在瑞奇旁边蹲下，用手摸了摸他的头，瑞奇躺在地上，丝毫不动，双眼紧闭。

“丝达希，通知瑞奇父母，告诉他们出事了。托尼和特蕾希，叫辆救护车，瑞奇得去医院。”

丝达希用手机给安德森先生和安德森太太打电话。

特蕾希冲进学校去给医院打电话，但她找不到电话，于是拦住一个学生，说：“请帮帮我，有紧急情况，我们需要一辆救护车——我能用下你的手机吗？”

女孩惊呆了，把电话给了特蕾希。

“喂，急救中心吗，这里是哈沃特中学，我们需要一辆救护车，马上。这里发生了交通事故，情况紧急，请快点！”

“瑞奇，能听见我说话吗？”斯多顿先生再次问道。他看着丝达希，“丝达希，你来试试，他认得你的声音。”他说。

这时正有很多学生从学校出来，他们围在一起，指着瑞奇，议论纷纷。

“出什么事了？”一个女孩问。

“瑞奇·安德森出了交通事故，他被汽车撞了。”另一个女孩回答。

“死了吗？”第一个女孩问。

“哦，天哪，我不知道，但他不动了。”

丝达希试图跟瑞奇说点什么，她在哭，但是她尽力让他能听见她的声音。

“瑞奇，能听见我说话吗，亲爱的？瑞奇，是我啊，丝达希，求你了，说话啊！”

斯多顿先生仔细端详瑞奇，“他呼吸正常，我认为除了头部出血外，伤得不太重，可能是脑震荡。”斯多顿先生看着这群好奇的学生。

“你们有人目击这场事故吗？”他问道。

“是的，我看见了。”查理·贝尔说，“一辆红色小汽车从停车场出来，径直驶向瑞奇，把他撞倒。”

“司机呢？”斯多顿先生问，“司机是谁？”

“我不知道，汽车玻璃是黑色的，但我觉得车里坐着两个人。”查理回答。

“你认出他们了吗？”斯多顿先生问。

“没有，对不起，斯多顿先生！”查理答道。

突然，瑞奇动了一下，他呻吟着。“啊，我的头好痛。”他说。

“啊，瑞奇，你好了！”丝达希喊道，抓住他的手，大声哭起来。

“我的腿，我的腿没知觉了。”瑞奇虚弱地说，“请帮帮我。”

托尼在瑞奇身旁蹲下。

“瑞奇，听着，别动，救护车马上就到。你爸妈也会去医院。”他说。

瑞奇非常虚弱。他说不出话来，但他点了点头。

救护车的警报器闪烁着驶进学校，两个医护人员走下来。

“让一让，孩子们，”其中一个说，“我们得同这男孩谈谈。”

“你叫什么名字？”一个医护人员问，他的同事在一旁仔细做着检查。

“瑞奇……安德森。”瑞奇轻轻地回答。他试着想挪动一下，却疼得叫起来。

“不，别动，孩子，哪儿痛？”医护人员问。

“我的头，还有腿。”瑞奇回答。

“发生什么事了？”另一个医护人员看着斯多顿先生问道。

“是一场交通肇事逃逸事故。”斯多顿先生说，“一辆小汽车把他撞倒，然后跑掉了。”

“要是那样的话，我们得通知警察。”医护人员回答，说着在他手机上按下一串号码。

他们把瑞奇放在担架上，抬进救护车，丝达希跟了进去。

“瑞奇，别担心，你会没事的，我和你一起去医院。”她握住他的手。

“你是家属吗？小姐？”一个医护人员问。

“不……但……”丝达希开口说。

“对不起，小姐，你不能上车。”医护人员说。

丝达希下了车，十分不安。

“别担心，丝达希，我们也去医院。”托尼说，“来吧，我们坐公共汽车去。”

特蕾希、托尼和丝达希为瑞奇的故事而震惊。公共汽车上，他们沉默不语，都在想，这也许不是一场交通事故那么简单。

“我们必须找到那辆红色小汽车的司机，”丝达希说，“我敢肯定他和那些你们收到的纸条以及邮件有着某种联系。纸条不是玩笑，有人想要伤害瑞奇。托尼——你是下一个！”

第6章 医院里(p. 36-39)

救护车到达医院，安德森先生和太太已经到了。他们焦急地看着医护人员从救护车里把担架抬出来。

“啊，瑞奇，你还好吗？”安德森太太跑到儿子身边问道。

“妈妈，我没事，”瑞奇回答，“别担心。”

“出什么事了，儿子？”他父亲问。

“一会儿再告诉你父母事情经过，”一个医护人员说，“现在你必须休息，一会儿医生会来看你。”

他们把瑞奇抬到事故急救室，放在床上。在把瑞奇从担架上挪下来的时候，他的腿疼得厉害。看到儿子脸上痛苦的表情，父母担心极了。瑞奇的腿怎么了？

“医生马上就来。”医护人员告诉他们，然后就离开了，房间里只剩一家人了。

瑞奇开始向父母讲述事情的经过。“我们正走出学校大门，一秒钟前我和托尼还在谈论篮球队，一秒钟后我就被一辆小汽车撞倒了。以后的事情我就都不知道了。”他说。

“篮球队？”安德森太太问。

“哦，对啦，妈妈——我进校队了！我们的名字都在伯格门教练的名单上。”瑞奇说。

他笑了，然后因为腿疼又呻吟起来。他妈妈握住他的手。

“别担心，宝贝儿，医生就来了。”她说。

这时，特蕾希、托尼和丝达希来了。

“瑞奇，你怎么样了？”丝达希问。她来到床边，握住他的另一只手。

“我没事，丝达希。谢谢。”瑞奇笑着说。

“医生马上就来给他做检查，丝达希。”安德森太太告诉她。

“我们都知道了，”安德森先生对托尼说，“你觉得那个小汽车司机可能会是谁？”

“对不起，安德森先生，我不知道，我没认出那辆车。”托尼回答。

“车窗是黑色的，”特蕾希补充说，“但查理·贝尔觉得里面有两个人。”

“肯定是恨瑞奇的人。”丝达希难过地说。

“恨瑞奇？谁会恨他呢？”安德森太太吃惊地问。

托尼朝丝达希挤挤眉，他不想让她告诉瑞奇父母关于神秘信息的事。

过了一会儿，一个护士走进来，并自我介绍。

“你好，我叫朱·卡鲁森，是你的护士。瑞奇，请把体温计放到胳膊下面，我要给你打止痛针，然后医生会给你的腿做些检测。”他转向其他人，“对不起，你们必须在外面等几分钟。”

医生进来了。

“你好，瑞奇，我是布朗医生，感觉怎么样？”她和蔼地问。

“不太糟糕，医生，但我的腿痛得很。”瑞奇回答。

“唔……让我们来看看。”她说，摸了摸瑞奇的左腿，瑞奇疼得叫起来。

“我要给那条腿做X光。”医生对卡鲁森护士说。

“请把瑞奇带到 X 光室，我觉得你左腿可能骨折了，瑞奇。但别担心，这不严重，我们可以接好。”

“我还能打篮球吗，医生？今天我进校队了，我想去打今年的锦标赛。”瑞奇说。

“祝贺你！”布朗医生回答。“但我认为你在一段时间内不能再打篮球。我们必须在你腿上装个石膏夹，你得休息几个星期。”

“但我们星期一就开始篮球训练了！”瑞奇说道，失望极了。

“对不起，瑞奇，”布朗医生说，“现在我得跟你父母谈谈。”医生把他单独留在房间里。

瑞奇的朋友们又进来了。

“瑞奇，我们在谈论你和托尼在学校收到的那些纸条。纸条说中了——不幸的事情确实发生了。”丝达希说。

“但谁在幕后恐吓我们呢？”特蕾希问。

“我不知道，”托尼说。“是‘卡伯’吧，邮件上就是这个名字。”

“我认为我们必须找到小汽车司机，”特蕾希说，“我们学校谁有红色小汽车？”

“找到的可能性不大，特蕾希，那是辆斯巴鲁，可是在咱们市有很多红色斯巴鲁，而且汽车有可能是偷来的。”

“等等，我想起点事儿，”丝达希慢慢地说，“这辆车有一个轮子不寻常，右后轮跟其他的不一样。”

“这是个重要线索，”托尼说，“我肯定‘卡伯’和红色小汽车有关系，我们找到卡伯，也就找到了那个神秘的司机！”

“别担心，瑞奇，我们会找出是谁干的。”特蕾希对她的朋友说。丝达希和托尼赞同地点点头。

“那还用说！”

第 7 章 更多来自卡伯的邮件(p. 42-46)

第二天瑞奇出院回家，他的朋友们从学校打来电话，丝达希把手机设置成免提状态，这样他们都能和瑞奇说话，也能听到他说话了。

“嗨，瑞奇，是我们，你怎么样了？”丝达希问。

“我很好，”瑞奇说，“但我的腿打了石膏，必须待在床上。我真想回到学校和你们在一起，自己待在家里真无聊。”

“你需要休息，这样你的腿才能好起来，”托尼说，“今天我要去和伯格门教练谈谈，我觉得他会让你待在队里的，他人很不错。”

“谢谢，托尼，”瑞奇回答。“对了，待会儿有个记者要来我家，她想就这次事故采访我，我要上电视了！”

“斯多顿先生今天也要见我们。我们想告诉他关于卡伯的事。”丝达希说。

“我觉得不妥，他会认为我们只是些笨小孩，”瑞奇说，“我们得先查明更多关于卡伯的事，我们需要更多的证据，然后才能告诉校长。”

“好吧，”稍稍迟疑了一会儿，托尼同意了，“但我不喜欢这样做，这些人很危

险——看看他们对你干了什么，瑞奇！”

瑞奇听见学校铃声响了。

“现在我们得去上课了。”特蕾希说，“放学后见！再见！”

那天过了一会儿，瑞奇家的门铃响了。安德森太太领着一位新闻记者、一位音响师和一位摄像师来到客厅。瑞奇躺在沙发上，摄像师开始拍摄采访过程，音响师把麦克风举到他们头顶，录下他们的谈话。新闻记者向瑞奇介绍了自己，问了他很多问题，关于校园犯罪、这次事故以及他的伤势，她认为瑞奇的故事也许能够和学校的暴力事件联系起来。瑞奇并不肯定，他谈了谈关于篮球队的事，以及在腿好以前他不能够打篮球锦标赛的事，但没有提及卡伯和邮件，也没有告诉她自己在怀疑一些篮球队员。他知道他还证明不了他们和这次事故之间有着某种联系，至少现在还不行。

趁学校午饭时间，托尼、特蕾希和丝达希去了机房。托尼打开他的邮箱，里面又有一封奇怪邮件。上面写道：

发件人：超级链接——Caper@whosemail.com

收件人：超级链接——Tonyc@hhs.k-12.il

主题：警告

邮件：安德森的事故不是意外，卡鲁索，你是下一个！

“托尼，我不喜欢这样，”特蕾希说，“咱们现在就去告诉斯多顿先生。”

“还不行，特蕾希，这次我要给我们的卡伯朋友一个回复，”托尼说，他按下“回复”键，写下留言：

发件人：超级链接——Tonyc@hhs.k-12.il

收件人：超级链接——Caper@whosemail.com

主题：挑战

邮件：我不怕，我们会把你揪出来的，赶紧逃吧，你这个家伙！

“托尼，你觉得这个办法行吗？”丝达希问，“如果把卡伯惹怒了，谁知道他会干出什么来？”

“我就是要激怒他，”托尼回答，“我想知道‘卡伯’是谁，我想，他若是发火就会犯错误，那样我们就能认出他来。”

“放学后咱们去瑞奇家，跟他说说这事，”丝达希建议，“我们可以制定一个计划。”

“好主意，”特蕾希赞同道，“三个臭皮匠赛过一个诸葛亮！”

放学后，他们来到瑞奇家。

“你的腿怎么样了，瑞奇？”托尼问。

“真的很痛，不知道什么时候才能走路，更别说打篮球了。”瑞奇沮丧地回答。
“学校那边怎么样？”

“托尼又收到一封卡伯发的邮件，”特蕾希告诉他，“我们很担心。”

托尼跟瑞奇说了邮件以及回复的事。

“我们必须找出卡伯是谁，”瑞奇说，“这是关键。”

“我觉得他是个篮球选手，”丝达希说，“他想伤害你和托尼，因为你们进了球队，如果你们俩不能打了，伯格门教练就还需要两名队员，也许卡伯希望通过这种方式进球队。”

“可能是凯勒！”特蕾希说，“记得吗？训练的时候他把你撞倒了，托尼。”

“记得，但也可能是帕特。在餐厅里他说将有不幸的事发生。”瑞奇回答。

“或者，也许是艾瑞克，或者琼斯。他们是高年级学生，也没进球队。”托尼补充。

“我们怎样才能找出卡伯？有太多种假设了。”丝达希说。

“听着，我有个主意。”瑞奇回答。

第8章 瑞奇的计划(p. 48-51)

朋友们仔细听瑞奇解释他的计划。“我要举行一个聚会，邀请所有参加选拔赛的人，也许他们中有人知道一些关于邮件和事故的事！”他说。

“你觉得‘卡伯’会来吗？”丝达希问。

“如果他是一名选手的话，他会受到邀请的。”瑞奇回答。

“我觉得这想法很冒险，”特蕾希说，“这个卡伯是个危险人物，聚会时他可能会做一些伤害你和托尼的事。”

“但我们必须找出谁是卡伯，”托尼回答。“他想阻止我们打篮球，但我不会让他得逞。”

几个朋友开始计划这次聚会。他们要准备很多食物和饮料，当然也会有音乐和舞蹈。聚会将在瑞奇家的后院举行，托尼说他可以把他的新CD播放机带来，特蕾希和丝达希将去买吃的。瑞奇列了一张25个人的名单，要给他们发请柬。朋友们一起撰写请柬的内容。上面写道：

兹邀请你参加瑞奇的“康复会”和生日聚会！

时间：星期五，2月4日，晚上9点

地点：瑞奇·安德森的家

哥伦布 德瑞伍 495 号

星期五晚上终于到了。聚会的一切准备就绪，吃的有热狗、汉堡、沙拉和薯片。托尼带来了可口可乐和汽水。瑞奇拄着拐杖走进后院，托尼正在安置彩灯，摆CD机。

“对不起，我帮不上什么忙。”瑞奇说。

“嘿，别想那么多，你需要休息才能快点好起来，这样你就又能打篮球了。”

门铃响了。

“啊，咱们的第一个客人来了！”瑞奇说。“我去开门，各位要记住我们的计划。”大家点点头。他们想在聚会上通过与队员们聊天找出卡伯，他们得知道谁在嫉妒瑞奇和托尼，又是谁开着一辆红色斯巴鲁，他们还得找出是谁经常使用电子邮件，‘卡伯’这个名字是否是一个代号？他们既紧张又激动，今天晚上会发生什么呢？

两个篮球队员来到了门口。

“嗨，瑞奇！”安索尼说，“见到你真高兴。你好吗？我们训练时都想死你了。”

“我也好想参加训练，托尼老跟我说，”瑞奇回答，“你们练得很辛苦。在后院聚会，要玩得开心啊！”

丝达希正和瑞奇聊天，这时门铃又响了。

“啊，嗨，帕特。嗨，凯勒，”瑞奇说，“很高兴见到你们！请进——在院子里聚会。”

“谢谢，安德森。我们跟艾瑞克·卡伯林和约翰·罗伯特一起来的。”

“我没看见他们呀，”丝达希说着朝街上望去，“他们在哪儿？”

“哦，他们去停车了。”帕特回答，眼睛朝别处看。

“在另一条街上吗？”丝达希怀疑地问道。

“哦，嗯，艾瑞克的汽车噪音很大，所以他把车停在下一条街了，”凯勒赶紧回答，“他不想打搅你的邻居。”

“听起来一点都不像艾瑞克·卡伯林，”丝达希心想，“他可不会这么替别人着想。”

不一会艾瑞克和约翰进来了，加入到聚会当中。

音乐响起来了，声音很大，很多人都在跳舞。特蕾希注意到艾瑞克和帕特在花园里一个黑暗的角落里谈话。她环顾四周，看是否有人在注意她，然后就绕到他们身后的树丛里，这样他们就发现不了她，她向他们靠近，想听听他们在说什么。

“他们没有起疑心，”是艾瑞克在说话，“他们真笨！”

“哎，今晚太冒险了，这样一点也不明智，艾瑞克。”帕特回答。

“我把车停在另一条街上，他们不会发现的，机械工星期一就会换掉那只轮子，到时候没人会认出我的车。”艾瑞克说。

“希望不会，要不然我们就麻烦了。”帕特有些紧张。

“嘿，别担心，帕特，安德森再也打不了篮球了，我们还会阻止卡鲁索的。”艾瑞克回答。

“嗯，趁没人注意，我们赶紧回到聚会中去。”帕特说。

特蕾希悄悄地从阴暗处走出来，去找托尼。

“托尼，快！叫上丝达希和瑞奇，五分钟后咱们在瑞奇的房间碰面。我有重要的事情要告诉你们。”

四个朋友坐在瑞奇的床上，他们仨期待地望着特蕾希。

“什么事？特蕾希？”丝达希问。

“我想我知道谁是那辆红色小汽车的司机了！”特蕾希回答。

“谁？”瑞奇问。

“艾瑞克·卡伯林。现在他也想阻止托尼。”

托尼的脸都白了。“你怎么知道的，特蕾希？”他问。

“我听到了他们在花园里的谈话，他们没看见我。”她解释道。

“我们现在该怎么办？”丝达希害怕地问道。

“还不知道，”瑞奇回答，“在他们发现我们不在之前，咱们赶紧回到聚会上去。如果他们以为我们什么都不知道的话，也许我们就能把他们揪出来。”

第9章 揭开卡伯的神秘面纱(p. 56-59)

凌晨一点，聚会结束了，最后的客人离开后，四个人开始收拾整理。

“聚会办得太成功了，”托尼说，“还有我们的计划，现在我们知道汽车司机是谁了，而这些学长们却以为我们什么都不知道。特蕾希，你真是个优秀的侦探！我都想叫你珍·马波小姐了。”他们哄堂大笑。

“是的，你就像阿加莎·克里斯蒂笔下的侦探珍·马波小姐！”瑞奇开玩笑说。

特蕾希也笑了。

“各位，请注意，”丝达希一脸严肃地说，“事实上我们并不清楚艾瑞克就是那辆车的司机，我们所能确定的就是那辆红色小汽车是他的，也许另有其人开车出去。我们需要更多信息。”

“我们还需要更多证据把艾瑞克和‘卡伯’联系起来，”托尼补充道。

他们坐着，沉默不语，陷入思考。

“邮件里一定有线索可以引导我们找出肇事者，”丝达希说。“Caper. C-A-P-E-R……嗯，艾瑞克·卡伯林，有何联系呢？”她把 Eric Caplin 的名字写在一张纸上，仔细研究起来。

Eric Caplin Caplin Eric EC CE

E Caplin Eric C Er Cap CapEr

“看，”她突然叫起来，“Caper！”

丝达希给他们看这张纸。“看艾瑞克的名字，艾瑞克·卡伯林，你们看出联系了吗？”

“我什么也没看出来。”托尼疑惑地说。

“丝达希，你对了！”瑞奇喊，“看，托尼，特蕾希，她对了！卡伯是艾瑞克在电脑上的用户名，他用他名字的前面部分作为用户名，这样的话他的姓的前三个字母和名字的前两个字母就拼成：C-A-P-E-R。恭喜你，丝达希！你太聪明了，以后再也别跟我这样的傻子一起出去了！”

“干得好，丝达希！”特蕾希说，“咱们现在就去抓住‘卡伯’。”

“怎么抓，特蕾希？”托尼问。

“我们给他发电子邮件。”她回答。

“但不能让他知道是我们发的。”瑞奇说。

“你说得对，我们可以从我爸爸的电脑上给他发信息，用一个假的用户名，让他以为这是帕特发的邮件。”

“怎么做？”丝达希问，“我们没有帕特的密码。”

“我们可以骗艾瑞克，用一个新的用户名给他发邮件，告诉他这是帕特的新用户名，还告诉他因为那个旧的不安全，他得用一个新的。”

“咱们在邮件上写些什么呢？”托尼问。

“今天太晚了，别写了，”特蕾希回答，“我们得仔细想想，明天下午去我家，咱们再来拟邮件。托尼，你能送我和丝达希回家吗？”

“当然可以，今晚我开了我妈的车来，就停在外面。来，姑娘们，走吧。瑞奇，明天见！”

“好的，伙伴们，再见！”瑞奇打着哈欠说。

在回家的路上，托尼和两个姑娘在车上谈论着聚会。前面是红灯，托尼脚踩刹车。但好像哪儿出问题了，车停不下来。托尼在刹车踏板上踩了又踩，但是仍然没有反应。

“托尼，托尼！你在干什么？停车！”丝达希大喊。

“停不了！”托尼喊，“刹车失灵了！”

另一辆小汽车朝他们疾驰而来，托尼使劲扭转方向盘想避开那辆车。两个姑娘看见黑色的交通灯柱屹立在他们面前。车猛地撞上灯柱，丝达希尖叫起来，他们都从座位上跌落下来。几分钟过去了，他们一动不动地坐着，都惊呆了。特蕾希先醒过来，转身看看两个朋友。托尼伏在方向盘上，一动不动，双眼紧闭，脸色惨白。

“托尼！”特蕾希大叫，“啊，天啊，托尼！托尼！”

第10章 千钧一发(p. 62-65)

“托尼！托尼！你没事吧？”特蕾希摇晃着他，一遍一遍地叫着。

一开始托尼没有反应，后来，慢慢地，他抬起头来。

“特蕾希，发生……发生什么事了？”

“我们撞上了灯柱，”丝达希说，“你没事吧？”

“刹车！”托尼说，“刹车失灵了。这太奇怪了。啊，看看我妈的车，都撞坏了。”

“现在别想这个了，托尼，咱们先下车，去叫辆出租车，我们得回家休息。”

“卡伯说我是下一个，”托尼慢慢地说，“情况越来越危险，我害怕极了。”

“现在先别想这个了，”丝达希说，“咱们回家！”

第二天午饭后，托尼、瑞奇和丝达希来到特蕾希家。特蕾希正坐在电脑前。她输入新的用户名，开始给艾瑞克·卡柏林发邮件。

收件人：超级链接——Caper@whosemail.com

发件人：超级链接——Coolguy@whosemail.com

主题：用户名更换

艾瑞克：

我是帕特，我使用了新的用户名——那个旧的已经不安全了。我们必须小心谨慎，没有人会把这些事故与我们联系起来。卡鲁索和安德森不会采取任何行动，他们吓坏了，我想他们该准备退出球队了——但是我们不能留下蛛丝马迹，明天放学后再接。

冷酷的人

“好了，”特蕾希说，“现在让我们看看艾瑞克，或者说是‘卡伯’，会不会回复，给我们提供一些书面证据。”

她把邮件发出去了。朋友们出去喝咖啡，回来的时候，已经有回复的新邮件了。上面写道：

收件人：超级链接——Coolguy@whosemail.com

发件人：超级链接——Caper@whosemail.com

主题：用户名更换

冷酷的人：

安德森和卡鲁索什么事也不知道，没有人会把这些事故与我们联系起来。别担心，没人能发现我们。明天见！

卡伯

“成功了！”特蕾希喊道，“我们找到他们了！”她把邮件打印出来，放进书包。“明天下午咱们就去见斯多顿先生，把我们知道的一切告诉他。”

“但我们还是不知道艾瑞克和帕特具体都干了些什么，或者有谁帮了他们？”瑞奇说。

“你说得很对，但是斯多顿先生会调查的，”丝达希说，“我们不想再出任何麻烦了。”

第二天早上托尼和瑞奇在机房做数学题，突然帕特、凯勒和艾瑞克闯进来，他们把门关上，凯勒用一把椅子顶住门不让别人进来。托尼紧张极了。

“你想干什么，帕特？”他问。

“别动，卡鲁索！”艾瑞克厉声说，“坐下！”

“你们觉得自己真的很聪明吗？你们俩，是不是？哼！我们识破了你们的计谋。”帕特说。

“我不知道你在说些什么。”瑞奇挑衅地回答。

“安德森，你这个小毛头侦探可一点也不诚实。”艾瑞克讥讽道。

“对，这小子在班里一直最优秀，为了进球队巴结伯格门教练！”帕特补充说。艾瑞克扬了扬手中那封用假用户名发的邮件的打印稿。

“昨天当我收到这封邮件的时候，凯勒正在我家。他和帕特去打台球，他问起新用户名的事，但帕特却什么都不知道。”

托尼和瑞奇什么也没说，他们很害怕。

“我猜你们现在想去老斯多顿那里告密吧，呃？安德森？好，我们要给你点颜色看看，让你知道我们可不是说着玩的。”

瑞奇站起来，但是艾瑞克上前一步把他推倒在地。艾瑞克生气极了。瑞奇试图站起来，但艾瑞克再次把他推倒。

他揪起瑞奇的头发，抡起胳膊猛打。

“滚出球队，安德森，我要好好地修理你！”

托尼想去拖住艾瑞克的胳膊，但被凯勒和帕特给押了回来。

“艾瑞克，不要！”他喊道。“别这样，别再惹事了。”

“闭嘴，卡鲁索，马上就轮到你了！”艾瑞克吼道。

第 11 章 重返球队(p. 68-71)

突然他们听见走廊外面有说话声，瑞奇从门上的玻璃嵌板看到丝达希的脸。有人设法从外面把门打开。凯勒大声呼喊帕特来帮忙顶门，艾瑞克由于气恼至极根本没听到凯勒的喊声，他用力击打瑞奇的头，把瑞奇打倒在地，瑞奇由于腿受了伤根本就站不起来，这时他看见他的拐杖正好放在电脑桌旁，如果够得着的话……

他抓住艾瑞克的腿，把他拉倒，就在艾瑞克倒下的时候，瑞奇抓起拐杖，并用拐杖将艾瑞克按住。

门轰地一声被打开，斯多顿先生和几个高年级的学生冲进来。“够了，孩子们！”斯多顿高声喊道，“卡伯林、马丁、琼斯——立即去我办公室。你们犯大事了，警察正来找你们。”

艾瑞克发疯了，当几个高年级学生把他和其他人拽出去的时候，他冲瑞奇和托尼大吼，“我要灭了你！我要把你的另一条腿打断，安德森——还有你的，卡鲁索！”

后来当他们四个朋友在学校餐厅吃饭的时候，斯多顿先生朝他们的餐桌走过来，他冲这四个学生微笑。“凯勒、帕特和艾瑞克要离开学校一段时间，警察正在调查他们关于瑞奇的事故和托尼母亲汽车的问题，今年凯勒和帕特肯定不能打篮球了，教练说球队里不要闹事者。”他转向瑞奇说：“我看见你不用再拄拐杖了，瑞奇，”接着又补充道，“你什么时候可以回去参加篮球训练？”

“医生说我的腿好多了，下个月我就又可以打篮球了。”瑞奇回答。

“好极了，但是要当心——你不想再让你的腿受伤吧，”斯多顿先生说，“现在，有个新闻记者在我办公室想跟你谈谈，他想在当地报纸上写一则关于艾瑞克和你的事故的新闻，30 分钟后来我办公室。丝达希、特蕾希——你们俩也来。”

下午晚些时候，瑞奇和托尼来到储物室。托尼正在做训练准备，这时安索尼进来说道：

“凯勒·马丁和帕特·琼斯被开除出队，教练说我入选了！星期五晚上我就可以打比赛！”

“太好了，安索尼——你是个好选手，这是你应得的。”瑞奇笑着说。

“我希望你的腿快点好起来，好上场打球，瑞奇，”安索尼说，“我们一定会成为一支了不起的球队！”

他们从储物室出来，来到篮球场。瑞奇坐下看他们训练，他想：“现在所有的麻烦都结束了，我只想打篮球！”

第12章 瑞奇的远投(p. 74-77)

四个星期后，篮球锦标赛开始了。哈沃特中学的男孩们在体育馆里为星期六举行的第一场比赛进行训练。

瑞奇落后了！这是他出事后的第一次训练，他希望星期六的比赛伯格门教练能够安排他上场，他想快点跑，可是腿却有点疼。

“放松些，安德森！”伯格门教练大喊，“不要逼迫你的腿，我们需要你打星期六晚上的比赛！”

瑞奇高兴极了，他能打比赛了！训练时他相当卖力，投篮准确，运球机智，和其他球员配合紧密。训练结束后，他和托尼一起去冲澡。

“今晚你打得棒极了，瑞奇，”托尼说，“如果星期六晚上你也能打得这么好，赤林中学就没机会了！”

伯格门教练来到储物室和瑞奇谈话。“安德森，”他说，“我想你已经能打一场真正的比赛了。我们需要你打星期六的比赛，你和卡鲁索是最佳搭档！”

“谢谢，教练，太棒了！”瑞奇回答。

“哦，对了，瑞奇，你和托尼发生的事我很难过。卡伯林和那些人简直就是失去了理智，他们一定会受到惩罚。我希望他们现在能明白自己的行为有多么愚蠢！如此威胁或伤害其他选手的人根本就不是一个好篮球运动员！和他们比起来，你和托尼不仅是好选手，而且是优秀的运动员。”

“谢谢，教练。我们会努力的，我们还是低年级学生，可是您却让我们加入球队，非常感谢。”托尼真诚地说。

“好了，孩子们，让我看看我的选择是正确的——星期六，打败赤林中学！”伯格门教练笑道。

星期六晚上，比赛场上座无虚席，很多人都来观看比赛。乐队高声演奏着音乐，拉拉队员们挥动着塑料丝球起舞助威。两支球队跑入球场，他们练习扣篮、投球。然后哨声响起，比赛开始了。伯格门教练把队员们叫到一起。

“好了，孩子们。这是今年的第一场比赛。赤林中学有支不错的球队，这是一场势均力敌的比赛。加油！”

所有的队员都点了点头，他们围成圈交掌呐喊，“加油，加油，加油！飞起来吧，哈沃特之鹰！！！”

人群欢呼雀跃，大家都在击掌呐喊。“飞吧，雄鹰！”有些人在他们面前挥动着雄鹰旗帜，球队队员们感觉到了观众们的激情，他们既激动又紧张。他们志在必得！

上半场，赤林队以 46 比 40 暂时领先。两支球队都表现得相当不错。下半场比赛接近尾声，63 比 63 平，比赛还剩 15 秒。观众兴奋得发疯，伯格门教练请求暂停。

“好了，孩子们，我们只有一次投篮的机会了，安德森，你想抓住这次机会吗？”

“当然，教练。”瑞奇回答。

“好，那么，你们都记得我们的战术安排吗？”

“是的，教练。”队员们说，哨声响起。他们重新回到球场。

托尼把球传给安索尼，安索尼又传给董，董闪身躲开赤林队员，把球传给瑞奇，瑞奇一跃而起，迅速瞄准目标，投篮。投得太近了吗？他的投球离篮筐太远了，球没有进。瑞奇的情绪陷入低谷，忽然，裁判员吹响口哨，瑞奇赢得两个罚球的机会！

他走到罚球线，瞄准目标，投篮。球撞到篮筐，却没有进，这一投失败了！

“第二投一定要进，”他对自己说，“成败在此一举！”

这是他生命中最艰难的一投。他深呼吸，瞄准篮筐，投篮。球在篮筐边缘旋转两圈，他暗自祈祷，“进吧，求你了，进去！”然后，球掉了进去！瑞奇得分了！观众疯狂了！雄鹰队以一分之差赢得了比赛！

队员们扛起瑞奇绕球场走了一圈，观众在呐喊欢呼。瑞奇看见父母站在那边，冲他挥手——他们非常自豪，他还看见丝达希在欢呼雀跃，特蕾希在她旁边。他体会到这一刻是他生命中最幸福的时刻。他明白了：赛前所经历的这些磨难是值得的——今天他远投成功了。

背景知识

美国的篮球运动

足球、棒球和篮球是美国最重要的三项运动。篮球运动在冬季进行，通常是从十一月到次年四月。美国的每所中学和大学至少都有一支篮球队，而且篮球比赛也是非常重要的社会和体育赛事。周五或周六晚上通常举行篮球赛，而且全校师生都会来观看比赛，为自己的球队欢呼。每支球队都有自己独特的服装颜色，而且队名也很特别，比如说芝加哥公牛队和塞勒姆老虎队。

每场比赛开始前以及比赛过程中，拉拉队带领观众为他们的球队唱歌欢呼。拉拉队的男孩和女孩们穿着与他们的球队同样颜色的特制服装，跟着音乐的节奏鼓掌、跺脚、跳很独特的舞蹈。他们的加油歌通常都韵律简短。

例如：

“二四六八

我们喜欢谁？

公牛队！

谁？

公牛队！”

学校乐队通常也跟随比赛演奏，并通过他们在比赛开始时的演奏启动赛事。中场休息时，他们往往也会简短地演奏一场，有时乐队在体育馆、球场或赛场中心来回行走进行同步演奏。

全家——孩子们、父母、祖父母，都来观看篮球比赛。人们可以买上一些爆米花、苏打水、热饮料、汉堡、巧克力和其他东西来吃。T恤衫、帽子以及其它一些纪念品都会写上球队的名字，通过售卖为球队筹集资金。

每支球队都参加一个联赛，赛季结束有锦标赛，联赛冠军参加本州与其他州的对抗赛，州赛冠军则参加国家级别的锦标赛。

詹姆斯·奈史密斯与篮球史

詹姆斯·奈史密斯于1861年出生于加拿大安大略省阿尔蒙特市。1891年，他在斯普菲尔德(马萨诸塞州)基督教青年会中学当体育老师，他想要为学生们发明一种新的体育运动，这种运动必须是一种室内运动，因为冬天在室外运动的话太冷。他思索着引进一些他在加拿大学到的运动方式，尝试着加入一些英式足球和长曲棍球比赛的内容，这太难了，运动员们需要更多的空间。后来，奈史密斯想了其他一些不同的办法，他将两支桃木篮筐分别固定在体育馆两端的阳台上，并为比赛制定了十三条规则。比赛分两队，每队九名队员，每支球队必须在跑动中传递一只足球，并设法将球投入悬挂在墙上的篮筐中。这项新运动就叫“篮球”。1895年，奈史密斯迁到丹佛的另一所基督教青年会中学任教，并在那里组建篮球队。后来，

他在堪萨斯州大学管理体育部工作，并在那里生活了 36 年。1939 年，于堪萨斯州罗伦斯市去世。

奈史密斯发明的室内运动迅速流行起来，规则开始发生变动，球员们也使用了新器材。例如，1893 年，篮板成为这项运动的一部分，以此让球迷们距离篮筐远一些。第一块篮板是由铁丝制成的，但到 1904 年时，则用木头制作篮板。

到 1909 年，开始用玻璃制作篮板。

19 世纪的篮球迷们可能不会认出今天的这项运动。首先，服装变了，奈史密斯的第一支球队穿着羊毛运动衫和灰色长裤，但今天的运动员们穿无袖 T 恤、短裤和特殊设计的球鞋。其次，比赛不同了，早期的比赛野蛮且暴力，运动员们经常在竞赛中受伤，事实上，因为比赛十分暴力，为了保护运动员，防止球队失利时愤怒的球迷们对运动员造成伤害，不得不用铁丝围栏围住球场！球迷们经常向球场投掷瓶子和铁钉，裁判有时不得不使用枪支来让球迷和运动员保持秩序！

到 20 世纪 30 年代时，篮球运动如此盛行，以致 1936 年成为一项奥林匹克运动项目。不久，很多普通人也开始进行篮球比赛。1937 年，成立了国家篮球联盟，随后全美篮球协会成立。1949 年，两家联盟合并形成了现在的美国国家职业篮球联赛(NBA)。

在美国，篮球运动仍然非常流行，但远没有过去那么暴力了！

著名的美国篮球运动员

A

我可能是有史以来最重要的篮球运动员。我出生于北卡罗来纳州，有五个兄弟姐妹。读中学时，我的教练不想让我打篮球，他认为我不适合打球。我是在北卡罗来纳州教堂山市上的大学，在那里我球打得很棒，因为我很好强。我大学里的新教练建议我成为一名职业运动员，我在芝加哥公牛队打了很多年比赛，是该队有史以来最好的队员。耐克运动服装公司为我命名了一种篮球鞋。很多年轻男孩们也都希望能跟我一样。现在我退役了，在美国华盛顿州拥有一支篮球队。我是本世纪最优秀的 50 名篮球运动员之一。现在我喜欢打高尔夫，我还出演了电影《太空大灌篮》。

B

我是一名身材高大的运动员。身高 85 英寸，体重 315 磅，在洛杉矶湖人队打球。我的童年很不幸，我很小的时候，父亲离开了家，我和母亲关系密切。

我喜欢说唱音乐，录制了五张说唱专集。*Shaq Diesel* 和 *You Can't Stop the Reign* 是其中的两个。我也出演过电影，它们是 *Kazaam* 和 *He Got Game*。我拥有一家唱片公司和一家服装店。圣诞节时，我会给美国佛罗里达那些穷困的小孩子们送去免费的玩具。

C

我四岁就开始打篮球。我身材不高，68 英寸，体重 147 磅。我毕业于加利福尼

亚斯坦福大学。我喜欢锻炼、读书、滑水橇以及和家人待在一起，我也喜欢摄影。我在底特律震动队打美国女子职业篮球赛，我们的篮球联盟在慢慢壮大，每年都有更多的职业球队和更多的球迷。我认为篮球很棒，但并不认为个人的得分有多重要。我致力于学校的儿童慈善事业，教孩子们打篮球。我最喜欢的城市是巴黎。

推理小说

A

1890 年我出生于英国德文郡，我是家中三个孩子中最小的一个，我的家庭非常富有。我很害羞，我不用去上学，家里有老师教我。我喜欢音乐，也喜欢写作。

B

1914 年，我和阿瑞奇·克里斯蒂结婚，他是个飞行员，在一战中飞行。我是个护士，我喜欢医院里的工作，因为它为我提供了很多写作的好素材，我开始写侦探小说。

1926 年，阿瑞奇告诉我他想离婚，因为他爱上了另一个女人。我母亲于同年去世，这段时间我很消沉。我离开家，离开朋友，三个星期没见任何人，没人知道我在哪儿。我的消失在英国成为一个巨大的谜团——著名的侦探小说家阿加莎·克里斯蒂到哪去了？这就像是我的一部小说！后来，我再次陷入爱河，对方是一位叫马克思·马洛温的考古学家。

C

我的第一部小说出版于 1920 年，书名叫《斯泰尔斯庄园奇案》。我的故事离奇有趣，充满悬念，因此迅速流行起来，出版商们都要求我再多写些。在我的一生中，我总共写了 30 部小说，我最出名的小说是《东方快车谋杀案》(1934)和《尼罗河上的惨案》(1926)，我的小说经常被拍成电影。到我去世时，我可能是有史以来最著名的侦探小说家。我一生中写了 66 部小说，还有许多小故事、电影剧本和浪漫小说。

D

在我的很多书中，主人公都是一位叫珍·马波小姐的业余侦探，她是一位老处女，住在英国一个叫圣·马里马德的小村庄，她喜欢去破解各种类型的迷团。她是一个待人亲切的老女士，人们都很相信她，她总是能找出专业侦探们遗漏的线索和信息，她在我的 12 部小说里都出现过。

词汇表

A

to add *vt.* 补充说, 又说
to advise *vt.* 劝告, 忠告
agreement *n.* 同意, 一致
aloud *adv.* 大声地
amateur *adj.* 业余的
to annoy *vt.* 骚扰, 使苦恼
to appreciate *vt.* 感激
to avoid *vt.* 避免; 消除
a while *n.* 一会儿

B

back yard *n.* 后院, 后庭
backboard *n.* 篮板
badly *adv.* 糟糕地; 恶劣地
basket *n.* 球篮
to be like 像...一样
beat (*v. past*), to beat *v.* 打, 打败
behavior *n.* 举止, 行为
to blab *v.* 泄漏(秘密); 胡扯
to bleed *v.* 流血; 使出血, 放血
blood *n.* 血, 血液
to blow his whistle 吹口哨
both *pron.* 双方, 两者
brake *n.* 闸, 刹车
to breathe *v.* 呼吸
broke (*v. past*), to break: 打破
bully *n.* 恶霸, 欺凌弱小者
to burst *vi.* 突然地出现、发生或到达

C

cage *n.* 笼
cast *n.* 铸件
to call *v.* 呼叫, 召集, 称呼
carefully *adv.* 小心地, 谨慎地
to catch out 发现
cell phone *n.* 手机

championship *n.* 锦标赛
chance *n.* 机会
changing room *n.* 更衣室
charity *n.* 慈善, 施舍
to check *vt.* 检查
cheer *n.* 欢呼
cheerleader *n.* 拉拉队队长
to choose *v.* 选择, 选定
to clap your hands 拍手
to clear up 整理, 收拾
to click *v.* 点击; 发出滴答声
clue *n.* 线索
connection *n.* 关系, 联系
cool *adj.* 冷静的
court *n.* 球场; 法院; 庭院
to cover your tracks 掩盖痕迹
creep *n.* 【俚语】讨厌的家伙
culprit *n.* 犯人, 罪犯
curb *n.* 路边

D

damage *n.* 损害, 伤害
daydreaming *n.* 白日梦
dead *adj.* 死的; 无感觉的
defiantly *adv.* 挑战地, 对抗地
disappearance *n.* 不见, 消失
display *n.* 表演
to disqualify *vt.* 使丧失资格
to dodge *v.* 避开, 躲避
Don't mention it! 不用谢!
to dribble *v.* 运球, 盘球
to drop *v.* 落下, 滴下

E

edge *n.* 边缘
elderly *adj.* 过了中年的, 稍老的
enough *adv.* 足够地, 充分地

equipment *n.* 器材, 设备, 装备
even *adj.* 平的; 一致的
even if *conj.* 即使
expectantly *adv.* 期待地, 期望地

F
to fall in love 爱上
far-reaching *adj.* 深远的
fight *n.* 比赛, 战斗
fitter (*adj. comp*) 更合适的, 更恰当的;
更健康的
to fix *vt.* 治疗; 修理; 安装
to flash *vi.* 闪光
to forget *vi.* 忘记; 忘形, 忘乎所以
to frighten *vt.* 吓唬, 使惊吓
to frown *vi.* 皱眉, 蹙额

G
gate *n.* 大门
to get better 转好
to get into trouble 陷入困境, 招致不幸
to get mad 发火, 生气
to get ready 准备好
Get well soon! 很快康复!
gorgeous *adj.* 漂亮的, 华丽的, 灿烂的
to graduate *v.* (大学)毕业
to grin *v.* 露齿而笑
to groan *vi.* 呻吟

H
hanging *present participle*, 悬挂着的
has been (*v. past*), to be 是, 处于...状态
to hate *vt.* 憎恨, 恨
to have a look 看一看
Have fun! 玩得开心!
Here's to us! 为我们干杯!
hit (*v. past*), to hit 碰撞; 打, 打击
hit-and-run *n.* 肇事逃逸
honey *n.* 宝贝; 可爱的东西
hug *n.* 拥抱

hurt *n.* 伤痛, 伤害

I
indoor *adj.* 户内的, 室内的
injury *n.* 伤害; 侮辱
to investigate *v.* 调查, 研究

J
jealous *adj.* 妒忌的, 嫉妒的
jersey *n.* 运动衫
to join *vt.* 参加, 加入
joke *n.* 玩笑, 笑话
to joke *v.* (和...)开玩笑
to jump *vi.* 跳跃, 跳起

K
Keep your fingers crossed! 祈祷, 乞求
好运!

kid *n.* 小孩
to kneel *vi.* 跪下
to knock down 撞倒

L
lacrosse *n.* 长曲棍球
to lead someone to 把某人引向
less (*adj. comp*) 较少, 较小
to let *vt.* 允许, 让
to lift *vt.* 举起, 升高, 提高
to lock *v.* 锁, 锁上, 锁住
locker *n.* 有锁的存物柜, 有锁的橱
柜, 锁扣装置
lost (*v. past*), to lose 失败, 输球
loudly *adv.* 响亮地, 大声地
lunchroom *n.* (美)(学校等的)餐厅

M
to make the team 加入球队
match *n.* (足球, 棒球, 篮球)比赛
to mean business [口]是当真的, 不是
随便说说的

N

to name *vt.* 命名; 提名
 nasty *adj.* 险恶的, 凶相的, 威胁的;
 污秽的, 肮脏的, 令人厌恶的
 to nod *v.* 点头
 noise *n.* 噪声, 噪音
 Not yet! 还没有!
 noticeboard *n.* 布告牌, 公告牌

O

on the rebound (从地上, 墙上, 篮板上
 等)弹回之际或之后
 on the way home 在回家的路上
 ones (*pron. pl*) 这些(事物), 那些(事物)
 own *adj.* 自己的, 特有的
 to own *vt.* 拥有

P

parked (*v. past*), to park 停放(汽车等)
 parking lot *n.* 停车场
 peach *n.* 桃木, 桃树
 to pick up 捡起; 获得; 使恢复精神
 to pin someone down 摁住某人
 Play it cool! [美俚]压住感情! 冷静处理!
 to point *vi.* 指, 指向
 pompon *n.* 绒球, 丝球, 大丽花
 pool *n.* 池
 post *n.* 柱; 岗位, 职位; 邮政
 prettiest (*adj. sup*) 最漂亮的, 最可爱
 的, 最优美的, 最机灵的
 principal *n.* 校长; 负责人, 首长
 to print *v.* 打印
 proof *n.* 证据
 proud *adj.* 自豪的, 得意的, 骄傲的
 to prove *vt.* 证明, 证实
 to punch *v.* 用拳头猛击
 puzzled *adj.* 迷惑不解的

Q

to quit *vt.* 离开; 放弃

R

to raise money 筹钱
 to reach *vt.* 够到, 触及
 received (*v. past*), to receive 收到, 接
 到, 接收
 to record *vt.* 将...录音; 记录
 to recover *vt.* 苏醒; 恢复
 recovery *n.* 恢复, 痊愈
 to rest *vi.* 休息; 睡眠
 retired *adj.* 退役的
 ride *n.* 乘车
 roughly *adv.* 粗鲁地

S

scared *adj.* 害怕的, 恐惧的
 score *n.* 比分, 得分
 to scream *v.* 尖声叫, 尖声喊叫
 set-up *n.* 计划, 安排
 to set up 装配, 架起
 shadow *n.* 隐蔽处; 阴暗
 to shake *v.* 摇动, 摇; 颤抖, 震动
 sharply *adv.* 严厉地, 严酷地
 to shoot *vi.* 射门; 射出, 射击; 发出
 shot *n.* 投篮
 to show *v.* 出示, 显示; 指示, 引导,
 说明
 to shrug *v.* 耸肩
 Shut up! 闭嘴! 住口!
 to sink *vi.* 感到巨大的失望或泄气
 slumped *adj.* 瘫倒的, 倒塌的
 to smash *v.* 撞击; 重撞
 soda *n.* 苏打, 碳酸水
 to sound like 听起来像
 Sounds fun! 很好! 听起来很好玩!
 souvenir *n.* 纪念品
 speaker *n.* 电话的免提通话状态; 扬
 声器, 喇叭
 to speed *v.* 速飞, 飞跑
 spinster *n.* [律]未婚妇女, 老处女
 to stamp your feet 踩你的脚

steering wheel *n.* 方向盘
to step off 走开, 离开
stolen *vbl.* steal 的过去分词: 偷盗, 盗窃
stretcher *n.* 担架
to suck up to 奉承某人
sucker *n.* 【非正式用语】笨蛋, 雏儿, 笨鸟
surrounded *adj.* 被包围的
suspect *n.* 嫌疑犯
to switch on 打开; 接通

T

to take a deep breath 深深吸一口气
to take aim 瞄准
to take it easy 从容, 不紧张, 轻松
to tamper *vt.* 篡改
to teach someone a lesson 教训某人
tense *adj.* 紧张的; 拉紧的
That's enough! 够了!
There you go! 你吃吧!
to threaten *vt.* 恐吓, 威胁
tiring *adj.* 引起疲劳的, 累人的
top of the class 班里最优秀的学生
tough *adj.* 强硬的; 吃苦耐劳的; 凶恶的, 粗暴的
training *n.* 训练, 练习
to trick *vt.* 欺骗, 哄骗
trouble *n.* 烦恼, 麻烦; 动乱, 纠纷
trouble-maker *n.* 制造麻烦者, 闯祸者
truancy *n.* 逃学, 逃避
to trust *vt.* 信任, 信赖
to try out 选拔; 试验, 考验
to type in 键入

U

upset *adj.* 心烦意乱的; 极其烦恼的

V

van *n.* 有篷货车
vandalism *n.* 故意破坏艺术的行为
voice *n.* 声音, 嗓音

W

Watch out! 当心, 注意点!
to wave *vt.* 摇动
weakly *adv.* 虚弱地, 软弱地
weird *adj.* 怪异的, 神秘的, 不可思议的
We're on to you. 我们识破了你们的计谋。
What's the matter? 怎么了? 出什么事了?
whistle *n.* 口哨, 口哨声
whole *adj.* 所有的, 完整的, 完全的
to win *v.* (获)胜, 赢得, 取得胜利
to wipe *v.* 擦, 揩, 擦去
wire *n.* 金属丝, 铁丝网
won (*v. past*), to win (获)胜, 取得胜利
woolen *adj.* 毛纺的
to work out 锻炼身体
worried *adj.* 闷闷不乐的
Would you like...? 请你吃(喝)点... 好吗?
wreck *n.* 残骸
wrote (*v. past*), to write 写, 书写

X

X-rays *n.* X 光照片

Y

You bet! [俗]当然! 真的! 的确!

参考答案

第1章

p. 4

1 4) basketball

2 3) the USA

p. 5

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

p. 8

4 1) F They are friends.

2) F They want to be on the basketball team.

3) T

4) F They are friends.

5) F He is on the NBA team.

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

6 1-a 2-b 3-d 4-c

p. 9

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

8 1) taller 2) shorter

3) faster 4) prettier

5) happier 6) fatter

第2章

p. 10

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

p. 11

2 1) a note 2) surprised

3) in school

4) checking his e-mail

p. 14

3 1) Stacy

2) in their lockers

3) on their computers

4) Caper

5) the principal

6) Don't try out for the basketball team

4 1) From: Rickia@hhs.k-12il

2) From: tonyc@hhs.k-12il

p. 15

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

6 1) are going to have

2) is going to check

3) is going to tell

4) is going to stop

5) is going to drink

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

第3章

p. 16

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

p. 17

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

p. 20

3 1) F It has no sign.

2) F She think they could mean trouble.

3) F He doesn't know.

4) F They are not nice players.

5) T

6) T

4 1) salad

2) steak

3) pizza

4) ketchup

5) chip

6) burger

p. 21

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

6 1) run

2) show

3) pass

4) play

7 school; excited; notes; joke; principal; mystery; e-mails; message; practice

第4章

p. 24

- 1) news reporter
- 2) crime in high schools
- 3) car accident
- 4) Eric Caplin

p. 25

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

p. 28

3 1, 3, 8, 2, 6, 4, 7, 5

- | | |
|---------------|------------|
| 4 1) gorgeous | 2) hostile |
| 3) truant | 4) safe |
| 5) hugs | 6) kid |

p. 29

- | | |
|-------------|---------|
| 5 1) tastes | 2) hear |
| 3) feels | 4) see |
| 5) smell | |

6 junior; speeding; list; basketball;
try-outs; celebrate; pizzeria; road; car;
stop; identify; windows; principal;
accident

第5章

p. 31

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

p. 34

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------|
| 3 1) he has a concussion | 2) leg |
| 3) call 911 | 4) two |
| 5) not to move | |
| 6) the police | |

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

p. 35

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

- | | |
|------------|----------|
| 7 1) broke | 2) found |
| 3) was | 4) read |
| 5) ate | 6) won |

8 5, 3, 8, 7, 4, 6, 1, 2

第6章

p. 36

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

p. 37

- 2 1) In the hospital.
- 2) Drew Carlson nurse.
- 3) Dr. Brown.
- 4) Ricki's left leg is fractured.

p. 40

- 3 1) F He is a nurse.
- 2) F The nurse gives Ricki an injection.
- 3) F The doctor wants to do some tests on Ricki's leg.
- 4) T
- 5) F He can't play for some time.
- 4 ambulance; pain; thermometer; crutches; leg; injection
- 5 1) threat 2) hurt
- 3) upset 4) clue

p. 41

- 6 1) could; must
- 2) could; must
- 3) could; could; must
- 7 car; hurts; ambulance; hospital; temperature; tests; fractured; x-rays; rest; crutches; month; upset

第7章

p. 42

1 1-b 2-a 3-c

p. 43

- 2 1) No.; He is hurt in an accident.
- 2) News reporter.
- 3) The accident.
- 4) At computer room.
- 5) Tony's e-mail.

p. 46

- 3 1) F He stays at home.
- 2) F A news reporter interviews him about the accident.
- 3) F He didn't tell her about Caper.
- 4) F Tony gets an e-mail from Caper.
- 5) F She doesn't tell him.
- 6) T

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

6 How are you?

Could you tell me how the accident happened?

Is there much crime at your school?

Are you afraid to go to school?

- 7 Redwood → Howard; entering → leaving; five → three; bicycle → car; arm → leg; a taxi → an ambulance; back → leg; was → is; years → weeks

第 8 章

p. 48

1 1-b 2-a 3-c

p. 49

- 2 1) He brings the cokes and sodas, puts up lights and sets up the CD player.
- 2) They buy the food.
- 3) She is listening what Pat and Eric are talking.
- 4) Pat and Eric.
- 5) No, they don't.

p. 52

- 3 1) Ricki can't do anything to prepare for the party.
- 2) Some of the basketball team comes to the party.
- 3) Eric parks his car far from Ricki's house.
- 4) Trish listens to Eric and Pat when they talk about the accident.

5) Ricki wants to catch Eric and Pat.

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

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

p. 53

- 6 party; invitations; prepare; lights; CD player; basketball; Eric; car; noise; talk; corner; friends; plan

第 9 章

p. 56

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

p. 57

- 2 1) They are at Ricki's house.
- 2) They are studying the connection between "Caper" and Eric Caplin.
- 3) A car accident.
- 4) Tony.

p. 60

3 1) T

2) T

3) F Tony thinks they need more proof of Caper's identity.

4) T

5) F Tony drives with Trish and Stacy.

6) F Tony crashes into the post of traffic lights.

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

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

p. 61

- 6 1) It is too expensive for me to buy.
- 2) He is too slow to win the race.
- 3) She is too sick to go to school.
- 4) The dress is too small for me to wear.
- 5) They are too poor to buy a house.
- 7 7, 4, 9, 5, 2, 8, 10, 1, 3, 6

第 10 章

p. 62

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

p. 63

2 1) Trish.

2) He feels scared.

3) He is punching Ricki.

4) (略)

p. 66

3 1) Caper

2) Caper

3) Coolguy

4) Caper

5) Eric and Pat

6) young

7) Ricki

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

5 1) to give up

2) to stop something

3) to be too friendly to

4) very bad

5) a noisy event

6) took something that wasn't yours

p. 67

6 1) carefully

2) slowly

3) quietly

4) happily

5) sadly

6) sharply

7) nervously

8) quickly

7 traffic lights; worried; killed; quit;
proof; e-mail; accidents; problems;
computer; hits

第 11 章

p. 68

1 1) swimming

2) bedroom

3) text book

4) reporter

p. 69

2 1) Mr. Stockton.

2) Ricki.

3) He grabs his leg and pulls him
down.

4) (略)

5) (略)

p. 72

3 1) F With his crutch.

2) F With Mr. Stockton.

3) T

4) F He calls the police.

5) T

6) F Next month.

7) F He wants to do a story about
Eric and Ricki's accidents.

8) F He wants to play basketball.

4 1) Eric falls down

2) a very bad problem

3) enter the room quickly and loudly

4) stop fighting

5) very angry

p. 73

5 1) is writing; tells

2) is crossing; knocks

3) are talking; listens

4) is working; is watching

5) am talking; rings

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

第 12 章

p. 75

2 1) He feels nervous and a little
worried.

2) Yes.

3) They are dancing and cheering.

4) It is even at 63-63.

5) Howard High School.

p. 78

3 1) F He wants Ricki to play.

2) F He thinks they are bad boys.

3) T

4) T

5) F There are a lot of people
watching the game.

6) F Tony is playing in the game.

- 7) F The point is 63.
8) T
9) F He makes the second free throw.
10) T
4 1-b 2-d 3-a 4-c

p. 79

- 5 1, 3, 8, 10, 6, 4, 2, 5, 9, 7
6 Dear; school; team; Hawks; play;
tough; practice; beat; watch; see;
cheers; hope

背景知识

p. 82

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

p. 84

- 1 1-d 2-c 3-f 4-e 5-a 6-b
2 1) He invents basketball at the YMCA
school in Springfield.
2) Because the winters are too cold to
play outside.
3) They wear black woolen jerseys and
long fray pants.

p. 85

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

p. 86

- 1 1-B 2-C 3-A

p. 87

- 2 1) Shaquille O'Neal
2) Michael Jordan
3) Jennifer Azzi
4) Michael Jordan
5) Jennifer Azzi
6) Shaquille O'Neal
7) Shaquille O'Neal
8) Michael Jordan
9) Jennifer Azzi
10) Jennifer Azzi

p. 88

- 1 2) a mystery
2 2) Agatha Christie
3 1-D 2-C 3-B 4-A

词汇表

p. 90

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

p. 91

- 2 1) Come on!
2) Get well soon!
3) Shut up!
4) Good luck!
5) Don't mention it!
6) Here's to us!

p. 92

- 3 1) joke 2) grin
3) top of the class 4) cell phone
5) chose 6) threaten
7) did 8) happiest
9) locker 10) get mad
11) court 12) get well soon

p. 93

- 4 1) make someone angry
2) a very good friend
3) many people in a group
4) happy thoughts when awake
5) nicely
6) Good luck!
7) say yes

p. 94

- 5 Across
1) hit-and-run 4) injury
6) bleeds 7) kneel
Down
1) hug 2) trouble
3) noise 5) upset

| 序号 | |
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| | B2 |
| | B1 |
| | A2 |
| | A1 |



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