

Owl Hall

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The story step by step

- 1 1 Listen to Chapter 1. Complete the table with words you hear. The first one is an example. Check your answers on pp.6–10 or in the answer key.

Parts of a car	<i>window,</i>
Types of road	
Animals	
Colours	

- 2 What does the voice whisper at the end of Chapter 1?

'Kara!' _____

- 2 Listen to Chapter 2 (from 'Dear guests, ...' to 'The Owl Hall team'). Complete the information about Owl Hall below as you listen. The first one is an example. Check your answers on p.12 or in the answer key.

Dear guests,

We hope you enjoy your stay at Owl Hall, the perfect place to ⁽¹⁾ escape from the stress of everyday life. Owl Hall has four holiday ⁽²⁾ _____. Apart from the main house there are three smaller cottages. All our ⁽³⁾ _____ can use the gym and games areas in the main house. You are welcome to ⁽⁴⁾ _____ the grounds, which include a wood and a small lake where you can swim in ⁽⁵⁾ _____. While you are here, we hope you will keep a record of your stay on our own ⁽⁶⁾ _____ blog.

Best wishes,

The Owl Hall team

- 3 Listen to the first part of Chapter 3 (from the beginning to '... the words rushed into her head.'). Complete the sentences with the correct adverbs. The first one is an example. Check your answers on pp.15–17 or in the answer key.

angrily awkwardly calmly quickly silently suddenly

- 1 When Martin finished eating, he got up silently and went into the living room.
 - 2 'I'm allowed some privacy, aren't I?' replied Kara _____.
 - 3 That's a funny word, Kara thought _____.
 - 4 She imagined the letters of the word moving _____ on the fridge door.
 - 5 Mum heard Kara shouting and she came _____ from the kitchen.
 - 6 Mum looked at Kara. 'You're tired, Kara. Go to bed,' she said _____.
- 4 Listen to Chapter 4. Put the events below in the correct order. The first one is an example. Check your answers on pp.21–24 or in the answer key.
- a A message appears on the computer screen. _____
 - b They reach the house and come face to face with the dog. _____
 - c The doorbell rings. _____
 - d Kara thinks about the time when Mum and Dad decided to separate. _____
 - e Kara makes a cup of tea. _____
 - f Martin and Kara walk up the bumpy track. 1
 - g Kara finds Mum jogging on a treadmill. _____
 - h Kara and Martin connect the phone to the laptop. _____
 - i Kara points to a shape in the bushes. _____
 - j A face appears at one of the upstairs windows. _____

- 5 Listen to the first part of Chapter 5 (from the beginning to '... to find my favourite picture here.'). Look at the words in bold below. Circle the words you hear. The first one is an example. Check your answers on p.25 or in the answer key.

Vincent van Gogh painted *The Bedroom* in 1888. Kara knew this because she had ⁽¹⁾ **talked** / **written** about the painting for a school project. Her ⁽²⁾ **Art** / **English** teacher, Mr Howlett, had asked the class to write about a picture that meant something ⁽³⁾ **important** / **special** to them.

Kara had fallen in love with *The Bedroom* from the moment she first ⁽⁴⁾ **found** / **saw** it in a book at school. It was a very ⁽⁵⁾ **simple** / **special** picture of the artist's bedroom in the Yellow House, in a town called Arles in France. The bedroom in the painting was a strange ⁽⁶⁾ **shape** / **size**. One of the things Kara liked about the painting ⁽⁷⁾ **were** / **was** the colours. The walls and doors were pale blue. The wooden bed and the chairs were ⁽⁸⁾ **butter** / **shutter** yellow and the windows were green. The colours made Kara think of the ⁽⁹⁾ **sun** / **sunshine**. She could see herself in the room, looking out of the windows onto the streets of a ⁽¹⁰⁾ **creepy** / **sleepy** French town. She had always wanted a ⁽¹¹⁾ **bedroom** / **room** like the one in *The Bedroom*.

How ⁽¹²⁾ **odd** / **strange**, she thought, to find my favourite picture here.

- 6 Listen to the first part of Chapter 6 (from the beginning to 'Was it *your* voice?'). Complete the sentences with the adjectives you hear. The first one is an example. Check your answers on pp.30–32 or in the answer key.
- 1 Kara woke up early the next morning.
 - 2 Outside it was a _____ fresh morning.
 - 3 Inside the barn everything was _____.
 - 4 He was quite _____ and his face was pale.
 - 5 His hair was brown and _____, and he had large brown eyes.
 - 6 He was holding a _____ book.
 - 7 He looked at her in a _____ way.
 - 8 The boy's expression changed. He looked very _____.
- 7 Listen to Chapter 7 (from the beginning to '... three times since "the incident"'). Tick the sounds that are described. Check your answers on pp.35–37 or in the answer key.
- a a church bell
 - b something heavy falling and hitting the ground
 - c a dog barking
 - d a fire alarm
 - e Kara crying out in pain
 - f a police siren
 - g a woman's voice
- 8 Listen to Chapter 8 (from 'Kara nodded and followed ...' to '... and for Kara and the boy.'). Which is the best description of the way to the island – a, b or c? Check your answers on pp.41–42 or in the answer key.
- a When you leave the barn, take the path towards the house. Follow the path between the trees and cross the field on the side of the hill. There's a bumpy track at the top of the hill that leads to a gate. Open the gate and follow the stream through the wood. On the other side of the wood you will find a lake with hills around it. The island is on the other side of the lake.
 - b Walk round the side of the barn and cross the field behind it. Cross the stream at the end of the field and climb the hill. Follow the path at the top of the hill until you reach a gate. Climb over the gate and continue through the wood. On the other side of the wood you will find a lake on top of a hill. The island is in the middle of the lake.
 - c Walk round the side of the barn and cross the field behind it. Cross the stream at the end of the field and climb the hill. Follow the path at the top of the hill until you reach a gate. Climb over the gate and continue through the wood. On the other side of the wood you will find a lake with hills around it. The island is on the other side of the lake.

9 Look at the reported speech below and write the direct speech. Listen to Chapter 9 (from 'Kara looked quickly around the room ...' to '... we want to help you.') to compare your version. Make any corrections. The first one is an example. Check your answers on p.46 or in the answer key.

1 Kara asked Mum if she had seen Martin.

'Mum?' Kara said. 'Have you seen Martin?'

2 Kara asked what was happening.

' _____?' Kara asked.

3 She shouted at Howard, telling him that he wasn't her dad.

' _____!' she shouted.

4 Mum told Kara not to talk to Howard like that. He was trying to help her.

'Kara, please _____,' she said angrily. 'He _____.'

5 Kara replied that if Howard wanted to help her, then he could tell her where Martin was.

' _____!' Kara said.

6 Howard said that Martin was in a safe place. He added that she didn't have to worry about him.

' _____,' Howard went on.
' _____.'

10 Listen to Chapter 10 (from the beginning to 'We have to find her ...'). Complete the sentences with the correct verbs. The first one is an example. Check your answers on pp.48–50 or in the answer key.

asked cried laughed replied said shouted thanked thought whispered

1 'Is John here?' Kara asked.

2 'I suppose you want to come in,' the man _____ to Kara.

3 Kara _____ him and walked into the cottage.

4 John _____ for a moment.

5 John looked at the picture and _____.

6 'It's Mum!' Kara _____.

7 'I can't be patient!' Mum _____.

8 'You told me that everything would be alright!' Mum _____ at Howard.

9 'It is alright,' Howard _____.

- 11 Listen to Chapter 11 (from the beginning to “Not in front of the kids”). Listen for the missing words in the text. Mark the places where the words are missing and write them down. The first one is an example. Check your answers on p.52 or in the answer key.

‘I don’t know where to start ...’ she said. ‘But I suppose it was *over* six months ago on that Saturday when Mum and Dad told us they were going to separate. They pretended that it was because of work. “Dad has to go as part of his new job,” Mum told me. But I knew – Martin knew – we both knew the reason he was going to Australia. We had heard Mum and Dad arguing and shouting at each other. And we had heard the silences when they hadn’t spoken to each other. I’m not sure which was worse – noise of the arguing or the silence. And while they were arguing or in silence, we both felt we weren’t in the room. Sometimes Mum would say, “Let’s talk about this,” or “Not in front of the kids”.’

- 12 Listen to Chapter 12 (from ‘It was a map ... of an island.’ to ‘Kara did not ask him any more questions.’). Write who says each line – *K* (Kara) or *J* (John). The first one is an example. Check your answers on pp.60–62 or in the answer key.

- 1 K ‘I need to see you!’
- 2 ‘So we’re still friends?’
- 3 ‘You’re crazy.’
- 4 ‘Do you ever want to be someone else?’
- 5 ‘I don’t want you to be anyone else. I think you’re really clever.’
- 6 ‘I knew there was something wrong with this place as soon as I arrived.’
- 7 ‘You *should* be a spy.’
- 8 ‘Why do you call him *sir*?’
- 9 ‘I want to hear your story from you and not from some notes or reports.’
- 10 ‘Words can hurt. Sometimes words can kill.’