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VORSCHAU

A beautiful place to stay

'Hey, Dan, watch out! Alex has got her camera out again!' laughed Matt.

'Alex, how many photos of us do you need?' said Dan.

'My phone can take photos too, you know,' said Matt. He held up his phone and took a photo of Alex.

'Ha! A camera takes much better photos than a phone,' said Alex. 'One day my photographs will be famous.'

'Let her take some photos. It makes her happy,' said Hannah. 'How long is this coach ride anyway?'

'Not much longer,' said Alex. 'I'm really looking forward to this week. I looked at Mayfield House on the Internet. It looks like a beautiful place to stay.'

The four friends were on a coach with a lot of other students. It was Monday morning and they were beginning a week-long school trip. Mayfield House was one of the most famous stately homes in England. Now it was a museum full of historical treasures, with a lodge and study centre for school groups.

'We're not staying in the main house, remember,' said Matt.

'Why not?' said Hannah.

'They can't let a group of school students stay in a nice house like that,' said Dan.

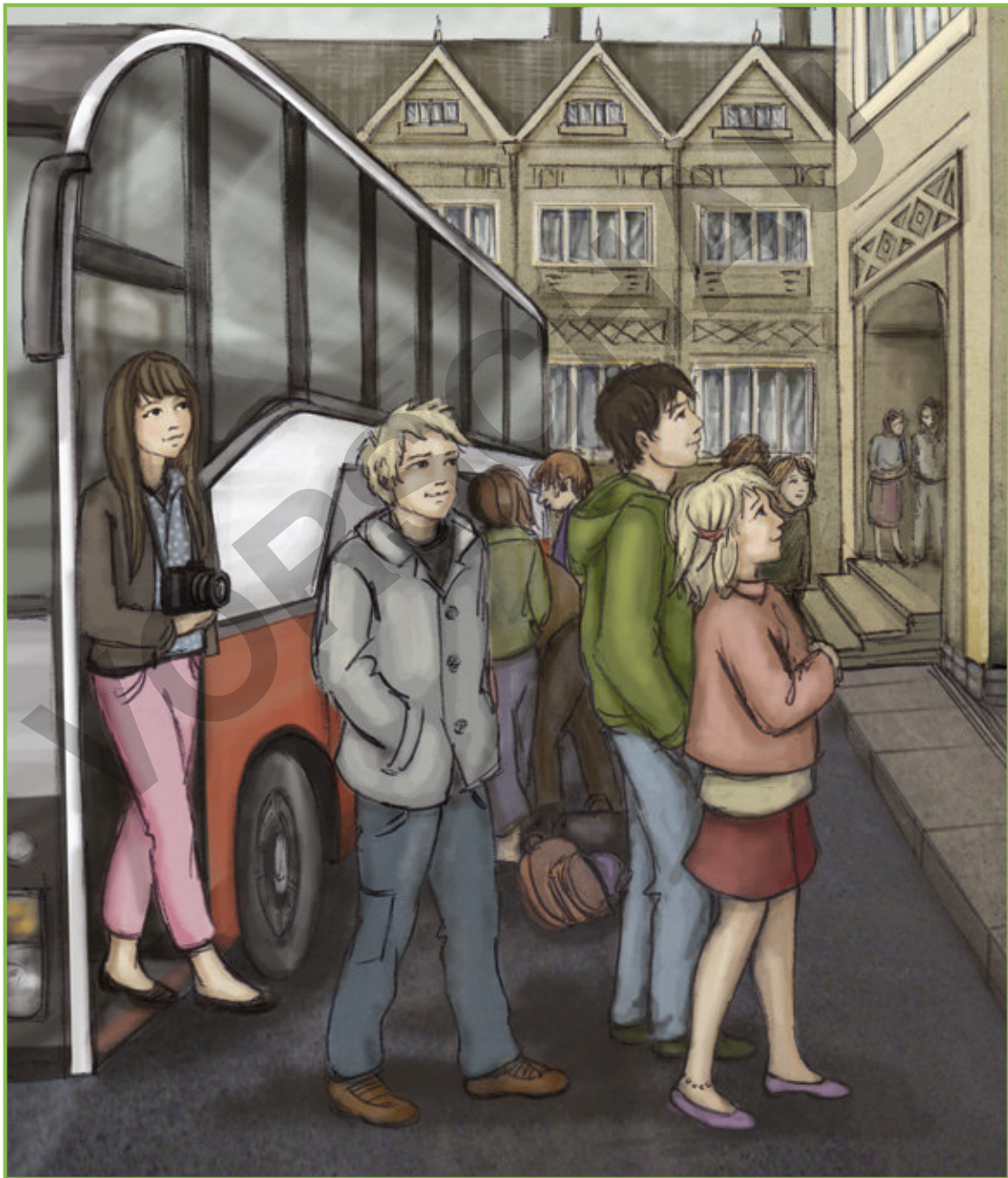
From the seat in front of them, Ethan said, 'Yeah, someone might steal some of the historical treasures!' He turned around and looked over the seat at Dan.

'Shut up, Ethan,' said Matt. He looked at his friend. Dan was standing up, and his face was red with anger.

‘Dan, don’t listen to him,’ Matt said quickly. ‘Forget about it. Sit down.’

Twenty minutes later the coach drove into the grounds of Mayfield House.

Hannah, Alex, Matt and Dan got off the coach and looked up at the house. It was very large. Some steps led



up to a big old wooden door. There were lines of windows on each side of the door. There were more windows on the first floor, and some in the roof.

‘Wow! What a beautiful place,’ said Alex. ‘I can’t wait to –’

‘– take some photos!’ shouted her three friends together.

‘Oh, you guys!’ said Alex.

They all laughed and picked up their bags.

One of the teachers, Mr Jones, stood on the steps of the house with a lady beside him. He called out, ‘Everyone listen, please! I would like to introduce Miss Holt. She’s the director of Mayfield House.’

Miss Holt smiled and said, ‘Good morning. Welcome to Mayfield House. I know you will have a wonderful week here. In a moment, we will take you over to the lodge, where you are going to stay. You’ll have everything you need there. Mayfield House is full of historical treasures. We must ask that you do not enter the house without a teacher. You will have a tour of the house later in the week. I hope you have a wonderful stay.’

‘Thank you,’ said Mrs Turner, another of the teachers. ‘I know we will have a good week.’

Two hours later the students had unpacked and eaten lunch. They were in the dining room of the lodge. Their teachers stood up.

‘Okay, everyone. I hope you are all ready to work hard this week,’ said Mrs Turner. ‘You’ve all got your history projects to work on.’

A few students groaned and everyone laughed.

‘Don’t worry,’ she added. ‘We’ll have lots of fun too.’

In town

On Thursday morning at breakfast, Dan was very quiet.

‘Dan, I’m sorry I said those things yesterday,’ said Hannah. ‘I know things have been difficult for you at home. And I know how hard you are trying.’

‘That’s okay,’ said Dan.

‘I just don’t understand why the police didn’t find anything at the house,’ said Matt. ‘We all saw it there, didn’t we?’

‘Yes. It’s really strange,’ said Hannah.

‘Can we just forget about it?’ begged Alex. ‘We did the right thing. We told the police. That’s all we need to do. We’re going to the cathedral today and we’ve got some free time in town this afternoon. I want to go shopping and have some fun.’

Hannah smiled at her friend. ‘Alex is right, let’s have fun today. Forget about the farmhouse and all that.’

‘I agree,’ said Matt. ‘Dan?’

‘I agree too,’ said Dan.

The students had a tour of the cathedral in the nearby town. Alex took a lot of photos.

They ate their lunch on the grass. When they had finished, Mrs Turner stood to talk to them all. ‘Now, I know everyone wants to do more schoolwork...’ All the students laughed. ‘...but now you get some free time.’

There was a loud cheer.

‘We are going to walk down the hill into the town centre. We will meet under the clock in the square at three

o'clock. So you have two hours of free time. If anyone has any problems, call us on our mobiles.'

All the students walked down the hill.

'Well, what do you guys want to do?' Alex asked her three friends.

'I want to find a computer games shop,' said Dan.

'I want to look in some clothes shops,' said Hannah.

'What's it to be, Matt?' laughed Alex. 'Clothes first, or games?'

'Hmm...I'm going to have to say games!' replied Matt.

They moved away down a small street and looked for a games shop.

Then Matt stopped and said, 'Look over there.' He pointed across the street. 'It's the white van we saw at the farmhouse the other day.'

'Don't all white vans look the same?' asked Hannah.

'It's got the same number plate. JQ54PS,' said Matt.

'Well, what's it doing outside that antique shop?' said Hannah. 'Let's go and have a look.'

'But we agreed to forget about all that,' said Alex.

'We're just looking,' said Matt.

They crossed the street and looked in the window of the antique shop.

'I can't see anyone in there,' said Hannah. 'Let's go in and have a look.'

'No!' said Alex. 'We agreed, remember? Don't go in.'

'Well, let's go around to the back of the shop. Maybe we'll see something,' said Matt.

'Please let's not get into any trouble,' said Dan.

'You two stay here. Matt and I will go,' said Hannah.

'We're not going to do anything. We just want to have a quick look.'

Hannah and Matt walked down a narrow lane to the back of the shops. As they reached the back of the antique shop, they could see two men in a window. They were arguing.

Hannah and Matt hid behind a car.

Matt looked over the car just as one of the men looked out of the window.



Activities

Chapters 1 and 2

Before you read

A. Look at the picture on page 5 and circle the correct answers.

1. Who do you think the people getting off the coach are?
a. students b. farmers c. police
2. What kind of place have they arrived at?
a. a farmhouse b. a big old house c. a police station

B. Find these words in your dictionary. Use them in the sentences.

control van grounds orienteering

1. On weekends the _____ of the school are empty.
2. In _____, people have to race across the countryside.
3. It was hard for the students to _____ their laughter.
4. Two men in a _____ brought the new table to us.

C. Listen to Track 3 on the CD and answer these questions.

1. Who was taking photos with her camera?
a. Alex b. Hannah
2. What did Matt take a photo with?
a. a camera b. a phone
3. Where had Alex seen a picture of Mayfield House?
a. in a book b. on the Internet

After you read

COMPREHENSION

A. Circle the correct answers.

1. How long was the school trip going to be?
a. two days b. a week c. a month
2. Who spoke to Dan about controlling his anger?
a. Mr Jones b. Mrs Turner c. Miss Holt
3. What was the activity on Tuesday?
a. orienteering b. a project c. a tour of Mayfield House
4. Which way did the four friends go after they left the grounds of Mayfield House?
a. left b. straight ahead c. right

Chapter 3

Before you read

A. Look at the picture on page 18 and circle the correct answers.

1. Where do you think the students are?
a. in Mayfield House b. in the old farmhouse
c. in the lodge
2. What are they doing?
a. working on their projects b. orienteering c. having a tour

B. Find these words in your dictionary. Use them in the sentences.

security guard tour guide proof silver

1. The _____ told us a lot about the old town.
2. A big _____ is standing outside the bank.
3. This ring is made of gold and _____.
4. I think Jim took the money, but I don't have any _____.

C. Listen to Track 4 on the CD and answer these questions.

1. On what day did the students have a tour of Mayfield House?
a. Wednesday b. Thursday
2. Who welcomed the students to Mayfield House?
a. Mrs Turner b. Miss Holt
3. How many groups of students were there on the tour?
a. three b. four

After you read

COMPREHENSION

A. Circle the correct answers.

1. What was the name of the tour guide?
a. Sarah b. Rover c. Chris
2. Who joined Sarah's group for the tour?
a. Miss Holt b. Mrs Turner c. Mr Jones
3. After the tour, what did Hannah see in front of Mayfield House?
a. the white van b. a coach c. a police car
4. When did the police come back to Mayfield House?
a. on Wednesday afternoon b. on Wednesday night
c. on Thursday morning

Glossary

adj. adjective; *adv.* adverb; *n.* noun; *v.* verb

activity /æk'tɪvəti/ <i>n.</i>	Veranstaltung
agree /ə'ɡri:/ <i>v.</i>	zustimmen
anger /'æŋɡə/ <i>n.</i>	Ärger, Wut
ankle /'æŋkl/ <i>n.</i>	Fußgelenk
antique shop /æn'ti:k ʃɒp/ <i>n.</i>	Antiquitätengeschäft
argue /'ɑ:gju:/ <i>v.</i>	(sich) streiten
backpack /'bæk,pæk/ <i>n.</i>	Rucksack
barn /bɑ:n/ <i>n.</i>	Scheune
beg /beg/ <i>v.</i>	bitten
bent down /bent daʊn/ <i>v.</i>	bückte sich (<i>past tense</i> von <i>bend down</i>)
candlestick /'kændl,stɪk/ <i>n.</i>	Kerzenständer
case /keɪs/ <i>n.</i>	Fall
cellar /'selə/ <i>n.</i>	Keller
charity /'tʃærəti/ <i>n.</i>	Wohltätigkeitsorganisation
cheek /tʃi:k/ <i>n.</i>	Wange
coach /kəʊtʃ/ <i>n.</i>	Reisebus
countryside /'kʌntri,sɑɪd/ <i>n.</i>	Landschaft
director /dɪ'rektə/ <i>n.</i>	Leiter(in)
drive /draɪv/ <i>n.</i>	Einfahrt
fist /fɪst/ <i>n.</i>	Faust
flash (of lightning) /flæʃ (əv 'laɪtnɪŋ)/ <i>n.</i>	Blitz
footpath /'fʊt,pɑ:θ/ <i>n.</i>	Fußweg
footprint /'fʊt,pɪnt/ <i>n.</i>	Fußabdruck
front desk /frʌnt desk/ <i>n.</i>	Anmeldung
gate /geɪt/ <i>n.</i>	Tor
groan /grəʊn/ <i>n.</i>	Ächzen, Stöhnen
<i>v.</i>	ächzen, aufstöhnen
grounds /graʊndz/ <i>n.</i>	Grundstück
guess /ges/ <i>v.</i>	raten