



Island for Sale

Duncan McTavish lives in a castle with his dog, Jock, on a small island in Scotland. He's unhappy because he can't pay his electricity bill. Can he sell the island? Leaping Larry, an American rock star, wants to buy the island for his girlfriend.



Leaping Larry and his girlfriend are coming to the island by helicopter. They're very late. Duncan and Jock wait a long time.



Then the helicopter arrives. A tall man with long dark hair gets down from it. He's about forty-five years old. There's a girl with him. She's about twenty and has yellow hair. There's a small animal with her. The animal has long white hair.

'Hi,' the man says. 'I'm Leaping Larry. And this is my girlfriend, Roxanne.'

'Hi,' Roxanne says. 'This is my dog, Bobo.'

Larry looks at the castle.

'Look at that old castle, Roxanne,' he says. 'Don't you love it, honey?'

Roxanne doesn't smile. It's only an old castle.

Leaping Larry and Roxanne go into the castle. It's very dark. Leaping Larry can't see. He falls down.

'Where are the lights?' he asks.

'I'm sorry,' Duncan says. 'There isn't any light. The company stopped my electricity this morning.'

'I want some hot food,' Roxanne says.

'I'm sorry,' Duncan says, 'but I can't make hot food. I haven't got any electricity. But there is some cold food.'

'Cold food!' Roxanne says. 'No, thank you! I'm going to bed. But first I want a hot bath.

And Bobo wants a bath too.'

'I'm very sorry,' Duncan says. 'But there's no hot water.'

'No lights! No food! No hot water!' Roxanne says.

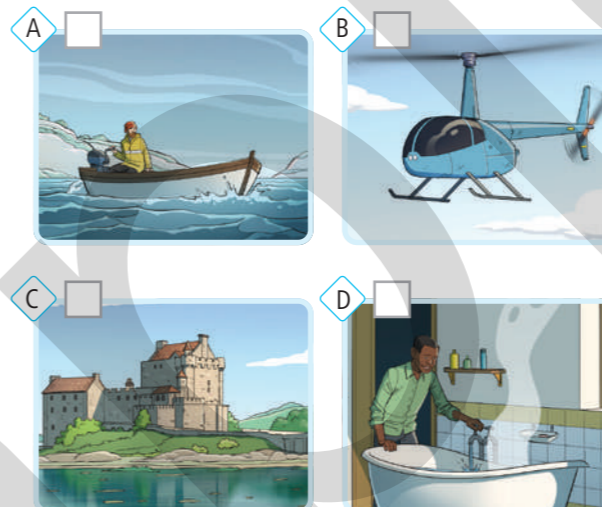
'I don't like this place!'



Before you read

1 Match sentences 1–4 with pictures A–D.

- 1 My family lives in an old castle.
- 2 You can go to the island in a boat.
- 3 I feel relaxed in the bath.
- 4 My uncle can fly a helicopter.



2 Look at the book cover and read the blurb. What do you think happens in the story?

While you read

3 RT1.1 Read and listen to the story. Choose the correct option.

- 1 Leaping Larry *likes / doesn't like* the castle.
- 2 Leaping Larry's girlfriend *likes / doesn't like* the castle.
- 3 There is some *hot / cold* food.
- 4 *Jock / Duncan* is unhappy.
- 5 There is *lots of / isn't any* hot water.

4 Read the story again. Choose the correct answer.

- 1 What information does the author give?
 - a Bobo's age
 - b Larry's personality
 - c Roxanne's appearance
- 2 How does the author make Roxanne a bad character?
 - a She never says thank you.
 - b She doesn't say hello when she arrives.
 - c She says what she wants all the time.
- 3 Which narrative style does the author use?
 - a 1st person narration (e.g. *I smile*)
 - b 3rd person narration (e.g. *she smiles*)

5 Mark the sentences T (true) or F (false).

- 1 Leaping Larry is tall.
- 2 Roxanne has got yellow hair.
- 3 Bobo is a big animal.
- 4 It isn't dark in the castle.
- 5 Roxanne eats some food.
- 6 Duncan is very sorry.

After you read

6 Match words 1–4 with definitions a–d.

- 1 electricity
 - 2 company
 - 3 smile
 - 4 fall down
- a to end up on the ground
b a business that sells you something
c a happy expression on your face
d energy that gives power to machines

7 You can use *very*, *only* and *too* to make your writing more interesting. Find and write the sentences from the story with these words.

very: _____
only: _____
too: _____

8 RT1.2 Roxanne screams. Why? What is wrong? Listen and check.

- a Jock jumps on her bed.
- b There's a mouse under the bed.

9 **WRAP UP** Complete the information about the story.

Title: _____
Type: *scary story / love story / funny story*
Main characters: _____
Important animals: _____
My opinion: ☆☆☆☆☆