

THE BLACK CAT- SECOND PART

1. Listen to the audio and fill-in the blank spaces.

I remember that night very well. I came home late, full of drink again. I could not understand why Pluto was not pleased to see me. The cat was staying away from me. My Pluto did not want to come near me! I caught him and picked him up, holding him strongly. He was afraid of me and bit my hand.

Suddenly, I was not myself any more. Someone else was in my (1)_____ : someone evil, and mad with (2) ____ ! I took my knife from my (3)_____, held the poor animal by his (4)____ and cut out one of his eyes.

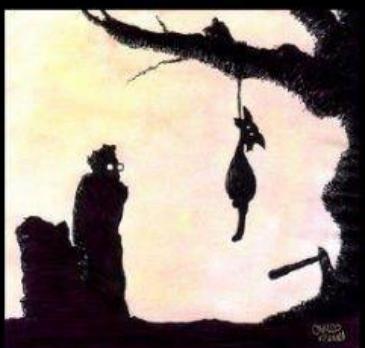
The next morning, my mind was full of (5) _____ and horror when I woke up. I was (6)_____ sorry. I could not understand how I could do such an (7)_____ thing. But drink soon helped me to forget.

Slowly the cat got (8)_____. Soon he felt no more pain. There was now only an (9)_____ dry hole where the eye once was. He began to go round the house as usual again. He never came (10)____ me now, of course, and he ran away when I went too close.

2. Keep on listening and choose the correct option

I (1)know/knew he didn't love me any more. At first I was sad. (2)Then/But, slowly, I started to feel (3)hungry/ angry, and I did another terrible thing . . .

I had to do it — I could not stop (4)meself/myself. I did it with a terrible (5)sandness/sadness in my heart — because I knew it was evil. And that was why I did it — yes! I did it *because I knew it was evil*. What did I do? I caught the cat and (6)hung/hang him by his neck from a tree until he was dead.



3. Choose the most appropriate word from the box to complete the sentences (drag and drop) For this activity you don't need to listen, just infer from the context.

Nothing – shape – shouting – lucky – crowd – except – plaster – fire – burned – hanging – cut

That night I woke up suddenly — my bed was on (1)_____. I heard people outside (2)_____, 'Fire! Fire!' Our house was burning! I, my wife and our servant were (3)____ to escape. We stood and watched as the house (4)____ down to the ground.

There was (5)_____ left of the building the next morning. All the walls fell down during the night, (6)_____ one — a wall in the middle of the house. I realized why this wall did not burn: because there was new plaster on it. The plaster was still quite wet.

I was surprised to see a (7)____ of people next to the wall. They were talking, and seemed to be quite excited. I went closer and looked over their shoulders. I saw a black shape in the new white plaster. It was the shape of large cat, (8)____ by its neck.

I looked at the (9)_____ with complete horror. Several minutes passed before I could think clearly again. I knew I had to try to think clearly. I had to know why it was there.

I remembered hanging the cat in the garden of the house next door. During the fire the garden was full of people. Probably, someone (10)____ the dead cat from the tree and threw it through the window — to try and wake me. The falling walls pressed the animal's body into the fresh (11)_____. The cat burned completely, leaving the black shape in the new plaster. Yes, I was sure that was what happened.

