

3rd Year – Reading Practice:

“A Lucky Escape”

A) Read the article and number the paragraphs in the correct order.

A lucky escape



A After he had seen the pictures of the crash, Mr Hamilton called the emergency services. The police came immediately and an ambulance arrived on the scene soon after. A spokesperson from the ambulance association said that the couple both had minor injuries, but only one of them had been taken to hospital. A neighbour said that she had seen the young couple having an argument in the car when the accident happened.

B Instead of going downstairs to talk to the couple in his garden, Mr Hamilton went to look at the pictures on his CCTV cameras. He had installed the cameras some years previously to deter people from stealing the potted plants outside his front door. The Hamiltons live on the corner of a road that leads to the high street, and passers-by can easily step over the low wall that surrounds his garden. When he played back the pictures of the accident, he could not believe his eyes.

C An elderly couple from Dudley, near Birmingham in Central England, had a shock last night after they had gone to bed. Seventy-five-year old Howard Hamilton and his wife were just falling asleep when they heard a big bang in their front garden. They both jumped straight out of bed to look out of the window and see what had happened. What they saw was a badly-damaged car lying in their front garden. Next to the car there was a young couple hugging each other. Once Mr Hamilton realized that nobody had been hurt, he decided to go and find out what had caused the accident.

D Apparently, this is the fourth time that a car has driven through the wall of Mr Hamilton's garden. This is because drivers often go round the corner too fast, and lose control of their vehicles. Mr Hamilton's sister Joyce, who lives next door, said that it had been lucky that nobody had been walking along the pavement. She said that she didn't know what would have happened if there had been anybody there. Regarding the number of accidents that have happened on the corner, she said, 'We're getting used to it.'

E On the recording, he saw that the girlfriend had been driving the car, which was a silver Peugeot 406. He watched her turn the corner and lose control of the car. The car crashed right through the wall of his garden and came to a stop in the middle of the lawn. But the most dramatic thing is what had happened to her boyfriend. Before the crash, the sunroof of the car had been open. When the car hit the wall, Mr Hamilton saw the boyfriend fly out of the sunroof and land heavily on the lawn. Miraculously, he was not hurt. Instead, he got up, and went to find his girlfriend. She didn't seem to be badly injured either – she appeared to be wearing her seat belt when the accident happened.

B) Read the article in the correct order and answer the questions choosing the right option.

1. When did Mr and Mrs Hamilton hear the accident happen?

They Heard it after they had gone to bed.

2. What did they see when they looked out of their bedroom Windows?

3. Why had Mr Hamilton installed CCTV cameras in his garden?

4. Why did the car crash through the wall of Mr Hamilton's garden?

5. What happened to the boyfriend?

6. What happened to the couple when the emergency services arrived?

7. What did a neighbour say about the couple in the accident?

8. Why are there so many accidents on that corner?