

ADOLESCENTS 4

1. Read the beginning of this story and answer the questions

The Winstons

It was a cold night in September. The rain was drumming on the car roof as George and Marie Winston drove through the empty country roads towards the house of their friends, the Harrisons. They were going to attend a party to celebrate the engagement of the Harrisons' daughter, Lisa. As they drove, they listened to the local radio station, which was playing classical music.

They were about five miles from their destination when the music on the radio was interrupted by a news announcement:

"The Cheshire police have sent a serious warning after a man escaped from Colford Mental Hospital earlier this evening. The man, John Downey, is a murderer who killed six people before he was captured two years ago. He is described as large, very strong and extremely dangerous. People in the Cheshire area are warned to keep their doors and windows locked, and to call the police immediately if they see anyone acting strangely."

Marie shivered. "A crazy killer. And he's out there somewhere. That's scary."

"Don't worry about it," said her husband. "We're nearly there now. Anyway, we have more important things to worry about. This car is losing power for some reason -- it must be that old problem with the carburettor. If it gets any worse, we'll have to stay at the Harrisons' tonight and get it fixed before we travel back tomorrow."

As he spoke, the car began to slow down. George pressed the accelerator, but the engine only coughed. Finally the car stopped, as the engine died completely. Just as they stopped, George pulled the car off the road under a large tree.

1. Why were George and Marie going to the Harrisons'?

2. John Downey had escaped from prison two years ago. TRUE FALSE

3. What should people do to protect themselves from this murderer?

4. How did Marie feel when she heard the radio news?

5. George had made plans to spend the night at the Harrisons'. TRUE FALSE

