

2

Stories

Vocabulary

A

Talking about stories

I can talk about books and stories.

- 1 Complete the email with the words below. There are two extra words.

believable dialogue evocative happy humour identify
intriguing love mystery pace

To: casey@email.com

Hi Casey,

Thanks for the book. I like novels with a fast [] and an [] plot, and that novel had both. And even though I don't usually like a [] ending, it wasn't sentimental at all. There was a lot of [] in it too – I laughed out loud several times!

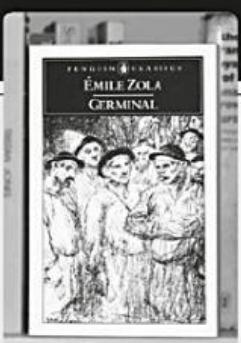
Anyway, it's my turn and I'm sending you *Parallel*, by Lauren Miller. It's about a girl who wakes up one day in a different life and then has to solve the [] of how she got there. The character of the girl (Rory) is very [], and you can easily [] with her. Her [] interest is a handsome but slightly annoying boy called North. I really hope you enjoy it – I'm putting it in the post today.

Happy reading!

Katerina

- 2 Choose the correct words to complete the book review.

GERMINAL



Émile Zola's masterpiece *Germinal* is [set]/[written] in the poor French mining village of Montsou in the mid-1800s. The novel [hinges]/[opens] as a young man, Étienne Lantier, arrives one cold March day. He stays, and soon feels outrage at the poor villagers' desperate lives. As the story [unfolds]/[is] [written], Étienne leads a miners' strike, which is brutally repressed. [Central]/[Drawn] to the plot is the theme of how the poor are exploited by the powerful, but the novel has many interesting [points of view]/[twists and turns], and the characters are beautifully [set]/[drawn]. Although the [action]/[narrative] is written in the third person, Zola's [portrayal]/[point of view] of Étienne is vivid and memorable.

- 3 Match the adjectives below with the words and phrases. There are two extra words.

chilling compelling evocative humorous predictable
slow-moving thought-provoking unconvincing

- 1 'Nasty and frightening.' []
- 2 'Unbelievable.' []
- 3 'Unsurprising.' []
- 4 'Amusing.' []
- 5 'Addictive reading.' []
- 6 'It really makes you think.' []

- 4 Complete the idioms and set phrases.

- 1 The illustration on the front is awful, but don't judge a book []
- 2 It's a real page-[] I couldn't put it down.
- 3 The book is at first heavy [], but it speeds up later.
- 4 Jack's a real [] – he spends all his money in bookshops.
- 5 It isn't good [] because it's scary and it'll keep you awake.
- 6 He doesn't say he hates the government, but you understand that if you read []

- 5 **1.06** Listen to four people talking about books. Which literary form does each speaker talk about?

- 1 []
- 2 []
- 3 []
- 4 []

- 6 **1.06** Listen again. Match the descriptions A–E with the speakers 1–4. There is one extra sentence.

This speaker ...

- A says that the book has both humorous and macabre moments. []
B thinks the work is unconvincing in places but has good descriptions. []
C says that the story has a lot of suspense and likes the way the plot contains some red herrings. []
D says that the work is light-hearted but not shallow. []
E finds the story very touching and compares it to another type of literature. []