Reading

8 Caught in the act

1 Read the newspaper article. (Circle) the correct answer.

1 John Pearce is …
a the owner. **b** the burglar. **c** a neighbour.

2 Paul Ives is …
a the owner. **b** the burglar. **c** a neighbour.

3 Nicola Daniels is …
a the owner. **b** the burglar. **c** a neighbour.

4 The burglar thought it was an easy job because …
a the window was open.
b there was no one at home.

5 He got stuck …
a while he was leaving the house.
b while he was entering the house.

2 Answer the questions.

1 What did the neighbours do when they saw the burglar?

_____

2 How did the burglar try to explain the situation?

_____

3 Who got John Pearce down from the window?

_____

4 What did Nicola Daniels think the noise was at first?

_____

5 Why didn't anyone want to help the burglar?

_____

3 Find a word or words in the article that mean …

1 rude or unkind words *abuse*
2 with the top part at the bottom _____
3 broken into many pieces _____
4 not able to move _____
5 unable to escape _____
6 shouting very loudly _____
7 loud knocking _____

Caught in the act



Crowd shouts abuse as burglar is stuck hanging upside down

John Pearce, a 32-year-old burglar, thought he had another easy job as he was breaking into an empty house.

He smashed the window of the house in Dartford, Kent, with a hammer. But while he was climbing in through the smashed window, his foot got stuck, and he couldn't free himself.

He was hanging upside down in the window for more than three hours while neighbours laughed and shouted at him.

When the owner of the house, **Paul Ives**, arrived home from work, he didn't understand why people were standing outside his house. Then he saw the burglar trapped in his own window. Paul said, 'He kept saying, "I haven't done anything. I was stopping the burglars".'

Unsurprisingly, Mr Ives didn't believe him. Police arrived at the scene and got him down. He was arrested and taken to the police station.

Mr Ives, 44, an engineer, said, 'He must be the world's worst burglar. He was screaming at everyone to get him down, and we were all saying "I don't think so".'

Next-door neighbour, **Nicola Daniels**, 34, said, 'I heard banging and thought Paul and his girlfriend were moving furniture. When the banging continued, I looked out of the window and saw this man hanging upside down. He was swearing and shouting "I'm not the burglar!".'

'Another neighbour called the police, and there was quite a crowd standing and laughing at him. It was his own fault. He deserved it all.'

LIVEWORKSHEETS