

Madam Crowl's Ghost

1. Complete the text with the correct PAST SIMPLE form of the verbs in brackets.

I ¹ _____ (WANT) to see the old lady. I ² _____ (CANNOT) stop myself. I ³ _____ (GO) quietly up to the bed. I put my hand between the curtains. I ⁴ _____ (WAIT) a bit, but everything was as quiet as death. I ⁵ _____ (OPEN) the curtains. There was Madam Crowl. She ⁶ _____ (WEAR) fine clothes of silver and red, with gold round her neck and on her fingers. She ⁷ _____ (HAVE) a great white wig on her head and high silver shoes on her feet. There ⁸ _____ (BE) thick make-up on her old, lined face. Her long fingernails ⁹ _____ (BE) cut into points.

I had never seen anything like her. I ¹⁰ _____ (CANNOT) take my eyes off her. Suddenly, she opened her eyes and ¹¹ _____ (SIT) up. She ¹² _____ (TURN) to me and ¹³ _____ (PUT) her feet down on the floor. She was looking right at me, with her face close up to mine. She ¹⁴ _____ (HAVE) two great glassy eyes, a horrible smile and long yellow teeth.

She ¹⁵ _____ (POINT) her fingers at me.

‘Why ¹⁶ _____ (YOU / SAY) I killed the boy?’ she ¹⁷ _____ (SCREAM) at me.

I ¹⁸ _____ (WALK) backwards away from her. She ¹⁹ _____ (COME) towards me, her fingers close to my throat. She was making a strange sound with her tongue.

Her fingers came closer. I ²⁰ _____ (THINK) I would die if she touched me. I walked backwards into the corner. At that moment my aunt ²¹ _____ (CALL) out and the old lady turned to her. I screamed in terror. I ²² _____ (RUN) past the old woman, down the stairs and into the housekeeper’s room. I ran into Mrs Wyvern’s arms. When I had stopped crying, I ²³ _____ (TELL) her my story. She ²⁴ _____ (LAUGH) at first. But when I repeated the old lady’s question, her face ²⁵ _____ (CHANGE).

After that, my aunt or Mrs Wyvern always ²⁶ _____ (STAY) with me in Madam Crowl’s room. I could not stay there alone.

