

THE HAUNTED HOUSE

1. Read the text and complete it with the correct form of the verbs in brackets. Use PRESENT SIMPLE, PRESENT CONTINUOUS, PAST SIMPLE or PAST CONTINUOUS.

James and his sister, Ellie, are in their bedroom now. Ellie ¹ _____ (look) at a magazine and James ² _____ (watch) a boring series on Netflix. Suddenly, Ellie ³ _____ (see) a picture of a strange house. 'Look, James,' she says. 'Isn't this the house that is by the lake near here?' James ⁴ _____ (turn off) the TV and ⁵ _____ (have) a look at the photograph. 'Yes, it is,' he answers. 'What ⁶ _____ (the article / say) about the house?' Ellie ⁷ _____ (read) it quickly and ⁸ _____ (start) laughing aloud. 'It says that the place ⁹ _____ (be) full of ghosts! Hahaha How silly!' 'I ¹⁰ _____ (not / be) so sure the article is a lie. Sit still, Ellie. I will tell you a creepy story that ¹¹ _____ (happen) to me last year in that house.'

'It was a cloudy Friday afternoon. Tom and I ¹² _____ (walk) by the lake and talking about our summer holidays. All of a sudden, Tom ¹³ _____ (see) an old house. "People think that it ¹⁴ _____ (be) haunted," he said, but I ¹⁵ _____ (not believe) him. "Come on, let's have a look at the house," I said. "What? ¹⁶ _____ (you / be) crazy?" said Tom. "I ¹⁷ _____ (not / want) to go inside. The place ¹⁸ _____ (look) very frightening and my dad ¹⁹ _____ (not / let) me enter private property." "Oh, come on! Don't be a chicken!" I replied. "If we ²⁰ _____ (not / explore) the place now, we'll regret it all our lives. I'm sure there ²¹ _____ (be) nothing to be afraid of."

Tom ²² _____ (not / want) to enter the house, but I eventually convinced him and we ²³ _____ (go) inside. We ²⁴ _____ (open) the front door slowly and stepped into the hallway. Everything ²⁵ _____ (be) in complete silence, so after some minutes we relaxed. However, when we ²⁶ _____ (go) up the stairs, we suddenly ²⁷ _____ (hear) a strange noise behind us. We turned around and saw a scary shadow. We screamed and ²⁸ _____ (run) out of the house as fast as we could. As we ²⁹ _____ (run), I looked back and ³⁰ _____ (see) a dog in the doorway. Was it the dog's shadow? We ¹¹ _____ (not know), but we never ¹² _____ (return) to the old house again!'

