

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!'

