READING

A newspaper story

1 ★ **Read the newspaper story. Choose the best summary.**

a Police solve the mystery of 'Piano Man' ☐
b 'Piano Man' tells his story ☐
c 'Piano Man': too many questions remain ☐

2 ★★ **Match the underlined words in the newspaper story with the definitions.**

1 a problem, events or a person that is dealt with by the police *case*
2 strange or not understood _____
3 a person who plays the piano _____
4 walking slowly in no particular direction _____
5 of no use, or value _____
6 very well, in a very pleasant way _____

3 ★★ **Read the story again. Answer the questions.**

1 What was strange about the man when he was found?
He didn't say anything.
2 Why did the hospital think he played the piano?
_____
3 Why did police think he came from Norway?
_____
4 Why weren't they able to solve the case?
_____
5 How did the man get home?
_____
6 What is a 'Hollywood ending'?
_____

4 ★★★ **What do you think about this story? What was the man doing?**

_____
_____
_____
_____



The strange case of 'Piano Man'

In 2005, a very strange story hit the news. Newspapers and TV stations reported that a young man had been found wandering the streets in a town in Kent, England. He was wearing a suit and tie, but he refused to speak.

He was taken to a hospital and the doctors insisted that he was in good health but that he didn't speak. Then he drew a picture of a piano, so people suggested that he might be a pianist. A piano was taken to the hospital and some newspapers claimed that he played the piano beautifully and that he seemed to be happy.

The nurses asked him where he was from, but he still didn't say anything until one day he pointed to Oslo on a map. The police announced that it was possible that he might come from Norway. They discovered that a ship had travelled from Norway to England when the man was found. Did he jump from the ship and swim to the English coast? The police asked a Norwegian speaker to talk to him, but she told them that he hadn't spoken to her either. One newspaper claimed that he wasn't able to talk at all.

TV and radio stations and newspapers asked everyone to help them to find out who the mysterious 'Piano Man' was. Police admitted they had received a lot of calls, but all the information that people gave was useless.

Unfortunately, there's no Hollywood ending to this story. The man was actually Andreas Grassl, a 20-year-old from Germany, who returned there with his parents. Police discovered that he could actually talk. But what was he doing? Why was he in Kent? How did he get there? Why didn't he say anything? Why were all these stories told about him? It all remains a mystery.

LIVEWORKSHEETS