

John Escott: Young detective (part 5)

Put the verbs in brackets into the correct tense.

It was midnight. David O. was sleeping (sleep), but a noise
_____ him ____ (wake up).

What is it? He thought. What woke me up? Somebody
_____ (go) down the stairs!

David got out of bed and went to the top of the stairs. He heard
somebody close the back door.

Was it Miss Fox going out? he thought. He went across to her door
and _____ (push) it open. She wasn't there.

He went quietly down the stairs.

It _____ (not snow) outside, but it was cold.

Then he saw something moving. Something on the factory roof. It
_____ (be) a man. The man was moving slowly
across the roof. He had a box in his hands. David watched him. There
is a computer in the box! He's a thief!

He _____ (steal) it!

"I am over here!" Miss Fox said. She spoke quietly, but David heard
her.

The man heard her, too. "OK," he said.

What is he going to do? David thought. And then he knew. He
_____ (throw) it into Mr Lewis' garden!

"Everything is OK," Miss Fox said " _____ (throw) it
into the bushes now"

The man threw the box over the fence. It landed in a thick bush below the garden wall.

"Can you find it?"

"Yes, I can see it." Miss Fox _____ (collect) the box from the bush.

"I have time to bring four more," he said. "Put them in your car. Then I _____ (get) some more in two hours."

David watched. "They _____ (be) thieves! Where are Jeff Garner and Alec Reed? What can I do?"

Suddenly, the man slipped and fell on to the fence, then on to the Mr Lewis' wall and then into the garden. He

_____ (not move). "Oh, no!"

_____ (shout) Miss Fox. She started

_____ (run).

David _____ (jump) from the fence on to Miss Fox's back and they fell to the ground.

David heard a man running along the side of the factory building.

It was Jeff Garner. He _____ (carry) a light.

"Jeff!" David shouted. "Over here! It's a thief!"

"A thief?" Jeff Garner _____ (climb) the security fence and jumped down the other side. He ran across to the man in the snow. David looked across. Jeff Garner's light was on the man's face. *It was Alec Reed!*

"You!" shouted Jeff. "You're the thief!" Then he looked towards David. "Who _____ (be) that?"

"Miss Fox," David told him. "Our new lodger. "

Jeff came across to them. He put the light on Miss Fox's face. "Where _____ I _____ (see) you before?" he said. Miss Fox didn't answer. She looked afraid.

"She _____ (wear) a wig." David said. He pulled off Miss Fox's long hair – and it came off her head.

Jeff Garner smiled. He took the glasses off Miss Fox's face. "Ah, now I know you! You are Rita Sharp! You _____ (work) at the factory last year. You _____ (sack) for not doing your job. Alec Reed was your boyfriend.

"She's our new lodger," David said.

"Your new lodger?" Jeff said, surprised. "How strange."

No, it's not," David said. "They _____ (not want) another lodger to see them stealing the computers. So she came to be our lodger. You can see the roof of the factory from the lodger's room."

He turned to Rita. "You waited for our last lodger to move out, didn't you? The woman _____ (not answer).

A light came on in the Lewis' house. Mrs Lewis came down the garden. "Who is it?" she said. "What _____ (happen)? I heard the factory alarm bell."

"It's me, Mrs Lewis," David said. "Telephone the police, please."

Jeff Garner smiled. "You are a good detective, David," he said.

"Don't forget to tell Mum!" David said, laughing.