

Birnam Wood by Eleanor Catton

Vocabulary

1) Unscramble the words to complete the sentences.

- a. A rutted _____ (**tkcar**) showed the owner's habitual route around the property and as he sat in the idling car with his hand on the _____ (**nigtioon**).
- b. Tony reversed out of his parking _____ (**sotp**), jammed the _____ (**gkecstrai**) into first, and _____ (**ordve waya**), hunching unnaturally low over the _____ (**tserenig hwele**) and praying that she would not look over and recognise the receding _____ (**ilnece alpte**) of his father's car.
- c. ... a fresh and vibrant sketch depicting elegant, sun-drenched homes, shining _____ (**VSUs**) at the _____ (**erkbised**).
- d. Mira turned and ran, not looking back, not slowing, not even when she reached the shelterbelt, the gate, the gravelled service road, the patch of scrub where she had stashed her bike, which she dragged to the _____ (**iwhgyha**), bashing her shin on the _____ (**rcossarb**) in her haste to get astride it, and _____ (**epadleld**) furiously down the hill, past the renovated _____ (**dirveawy**), along the lakeshore, into town, and past the solar-powered signs that warned the pass ahead was closed. By the time she reached the campsite and _____ (**ksidedd**) to a _____ (**lhata**) beside the van, she was drenched in sweat, her _____ (**pnediwip**) ragged, her legs trembling so violently that she could hardly stand. Still coursing with adrenaline, she clambered off the bike and let it fall away from her, the _____ (**rofnt hwele**) spinning as it struck the ground.

- e. She had begun to shiver. She got up and _____ (**nuoklcde**) the van
(...) Then she leaned over the _____ (**sapsnegre east**) to plug her
phone into the cassette converter. She suddenly felt ravenous. There was a box
of snack bars in the _____ (**logve oxb**) and by the time the phone's
display winked back to life, she had eaten three, and was feeling steady in
herself again. She climbed into the _____ (**idrvre's etsa**), typed her
pin into the phone, and waited for any messages or emails to download, but
none appeared.
- f. It would need only another quarter turn to start the _____ (**nigeen**).
Moving discreetly, Mira released the _____ (**ahdnrbeka**) and placed
her feet on the _____ (**oftorbaek**) and the _____ (**tchcul**).
Her bike was in her _____ (**ilbnd tsop**), right behind the van – she
would have to run it over if she reversed in a hurry – and the passenger door
was still open.
- g. He experienced a double realignment, a shrinking of the universe inside the
_____ (**ockcipt**) that matched the dilation of the universe outside it,
so that as the _____ (**iarrcfat**) climbed and the air thinned and the
ground fell away and seemed to flatten far beneath him.
- h. She put the car _____ (**ni earg**) and drove on, _____
(**fof-raodnig**) down through the fields below the shelterbelt and cutting a
wide arc to avoid the seam of limestone that formed a kind of shallow cliff
above the house.