A2+ ENGLISH CHALLENGE

THE MESSAGE FROM ROOM 13

Name: _____ Date: _____

Your mission: Read a mystery, collect clues, and write your own ending. Use a computer for Part 4.

PART 1 · READ THE STORY

On Monday morning, Maya noticed an unusual sign on the school library door: **ROOM 13 IS CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.** She was confused. There were only twelve rooms near the library. Was Room 13 hidden somewhere?

At lunchtime, Maya showed the sign to her friend Leo. “Perhaps it’s a joke,” he suggested. But Maya had discovered another message on a piece of paper: *When the clock stops, search for the key.*

After school, the old clock suddenly stopped at 3:17. Maya searched underneath it and found a tiny silver key with the number 13 on it. “This could be an important clue!” she whispered. Leo looked worried. “We shouldn’t enter a locked room without permission.”

They decided to investigate. In the library, they used a computer to examine some old school photographs. One picture showed a narrow wooden door beside the library. Now a tall bookcase covered that part of the wall.

That evening, Maya received a mysterious email from an unknown person: *Room 13 contains something special. Come back tomorrow. Don’t tell anyone.* Maya felt nervous, but she was also curious.

The following morning, the friends explained everything to Ms Carter, the librarian. She recognised the silver key immediately. “I haven’t seen this key for years,” she said. “It belongs to an old room. But I certainly didn’t send that email.”

Maya and Leo exchanged a surprised look. Who was sending the messages? And what was waiting behind the bookcase?

PART 2 · BE A DETECTIVE

1. Why does Maya think Room 13 is strange?

_____

2. What two clues do the friends discover after school?

_____

3. How does the old photograph help them?

_____

4. Why does Leo refuse to open the door immediately?

_____

5. Do you think the person who sent the email can be trusted? Explain.

_____

LIVEWORKSHEETS

PART 3 · VOCABULARY IN CONTEXT

A. Match the words from the story to their meanings.

1. unusual **2.** clue **3.** investigate **4.** narrow **5.** curious **6.** recognise

a. Wanting to learn more b. Not wide c. Different from normal
d. Know someone or something from before e. Look carefully for answers f. Information that helps solve a mystery

1 ___ 2 ___ 3 ___ 4 ___ 5 ___ 6 ___

B. Find a word in the story that means:

1. Very small: _____ 2. Not known: _____
3. Feeling afraid or anxious: _____ 4. With a lock: _____

PART 4 · GRAMMAR CHALLENGE

A. Complete with the past simple or past continuous.

1. Maya _____ (find) a key while she _____ (look) under the clock.
2. They _____ (use) a computer when they _____ (discover) the photograph.
3. Leo _____ (not want) to open the door.

B. Choose the correct answer.

1. They decided **to investigate** / **investigating** the mystery.
2. Maya was **interested** / **interesting** in the message.
3. They **should** / **shouldn't** enter without asking an adult.
4. Ms Carter has not seen the key **for** / **since** years.

PART 5 · COMPUTER INVESTIGATION (10–15 MIN)

Find a photograph of an old castle, school or train station on a teacher-approved website. Imagine that it hides a secret.

Place and country: _____

Website: _____

Describe **three details** you can see. Then write **one possible mystery** connected to the place.

_____

_____

_____

_____

LIVEWORKSHEETS

PART 6 · WRITE YOUR OWN ENDING

Write **90–110 words**. Maya, Leo and Ms Carter finally open Room 13. What do they discover? Who sent the email? Was the message a warning or an invitation?

Include: two lines of dialogue; at least three linking words (*although, because, suddenly, however, after that*); and at least three words from Part 3.

SELF-CHECK

■ My ending makes sense. ■ I used dialogue. ■ I checked my past tenses.
■ I used three new words. ■ I wrote 90–110 words.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

TEACHER PAGE · ANSWERS

Part 2: 1. Only twelve rooms appear to exist near the library. 2. The clock stops at 3:17 and Maya finds a numbered key. 3. It shows a door now hidden by a bookcase. 4. He wants permission and is being careful. 5. Accept any justified inference.

Part 3A: 1-c, 2-f, 3-e, 4-b, 5-a, 6-d.

Part 3B: 1. tiny, 2. unknown, 3. nervous, 4. locked.

Part 4A: 1. found / was looking; 2. were using / discovered; 3. did not want.

Part 4B: 1. to investigate; 2. interested; 3. shouldn't; 4. for.

Assessment (20 points): Reading 5; vocabulary 5; grammar 4; computer investigation 2; writing 4.

Level: A2+ with a little extra vocabulary challenge. Most words are familiar, but selected new words can be understood from context. The grammar and writing remain supported and accessible.

LIVEWORKSHEETS