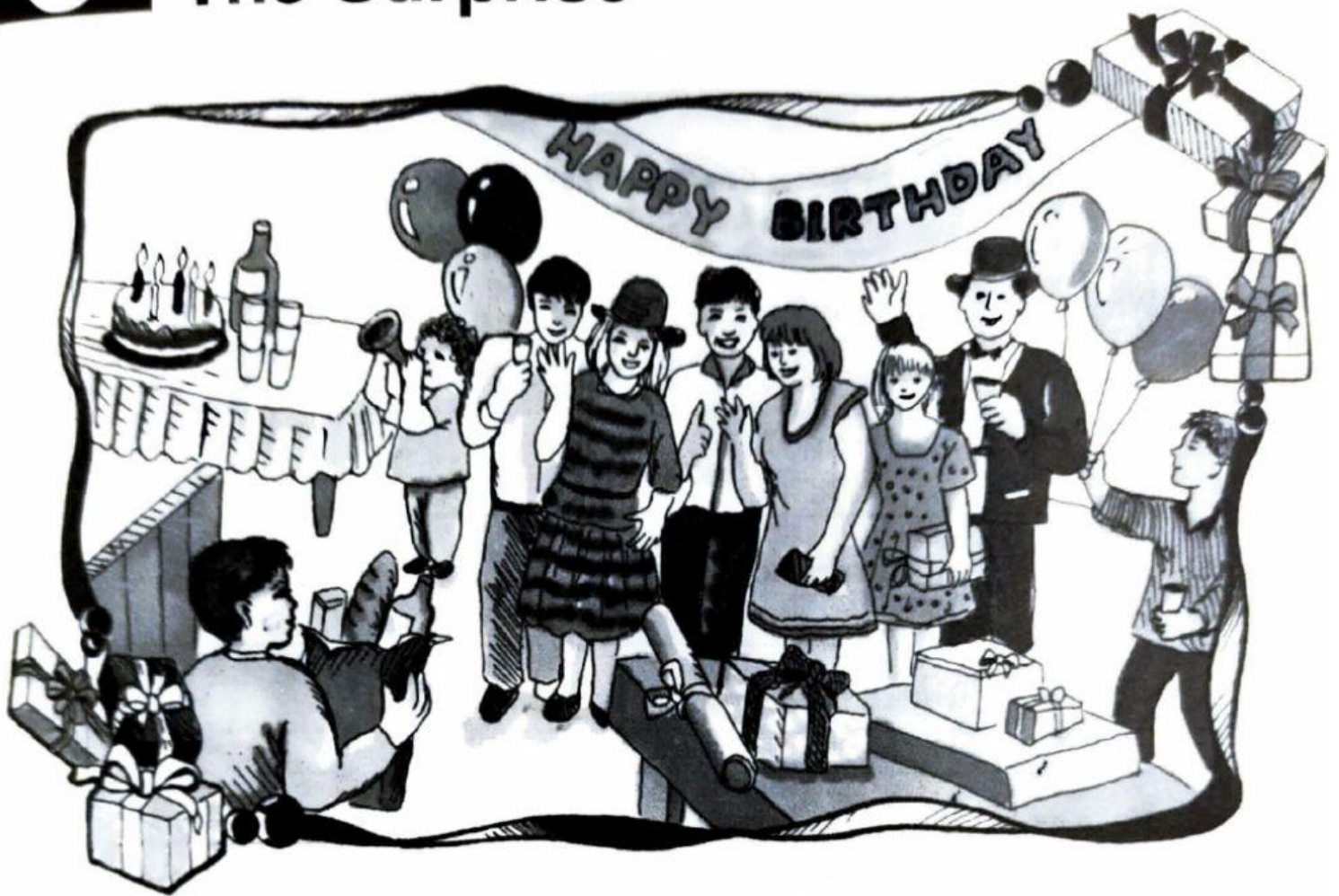


5

The Surprise



Yesterday, I came home at about six o'clock as usual and looked in the postbox for the front-door key. It wasn't there! Instead, there was a note from my mother asking me to meet her at the supermarket near the department where they sell meat.

5 The supermarket is on the corner of our street, so it didn't take long to get there, but my mother was nowhere to be seen. I found the manager at his desk and asked him if he knew where she was. He handed me a note written in my mother's handwriting. It was a shopping list.

10 My mother apologized in the note and explained that while she was in the supermarket she remembered she had to collect my father from work, and so she wanted me to finish the shopping.

I finally arrived home carrying three kilos of meat, two bottles of juice and some other things. I banged on the door and shouted to my mother to open it.

15 Suddenly, the door was wide open and just about everybody I know was in the living-room singing "Happy Birthday"! There were drinks and a cake on the dining-room table. In the kitchen, two of my friends were cooking food and the fridge was already full of things to eat. It was a real surprise!

Comprehension

Answer the following questions about the passage on page 17.

- 1 At what time did the writer first get home?

- 2 Where did the writer look for the key?

- 3 What did the first note say?

- 4 Where did the writer get the second note?

- 5 Why did the writer's mother really leave the two notes?

- 6 Why didn't the writer's mother finish her shopping?

- 7 What did the writer buy at the supermarket?

- 8 Why did the writer have to bang on the door and call his mother?

- 9 Who was in the writer's house when he got home?

- 10 When did the writer write this story?
