

What a Lottery!

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Before reading

1. What is the lottery? Is there a national lottery in your country?
2. Look at the people in the story on page 4. True or false?
 - a Rick is a musician.
 - b Mary is Barry Green's wife.
 - c Sarah is a musician.
 - d Barry Green is a policeman.
3. Look at the map on page 5. Name these places.
 - a the country north of England
 - b the big city in England
 - c the big city in Scotland
 - d a town west of London
4. Look at the front cover. What does it tell you about the story?

Check your reading

CHAPTER 1

1. Look at the picture on page 6.
 - a What is Rick doing?
 - b Why is the little girl covering her ears?
2. What mistake does Rick make?
3. What does Rick say about his future?
4. What does the shop assistant think about his future?

CHAPTER 2

1. True or false?
 - a Mary is in China.
 - b Rick and Mary are going on holiday.
 - c Rick loves his guitar.
 - d Rick is the same as ten years ago.
 - e Rick is going to Glasgow.
2. Why is Mary leaving Rick?

CHAPTER 3

1. Put the events in order.
 - a Rick sits down on his guitar and breaks it.
 - b He decides to write Mary a song and sing it to her.
 - c Rick is sitting sadly because Mary has left him.
 - d He goes to phone Mary but decides not to.
 - e He gets the winning lottery numbers on the TV.
2. How much money does Rick win?
 - a £8,000, b £8,000,000, c £800,000
3. Why isn't he worried about breaking his guitar?

CHAPTERS 4 AND 5

1. Why do you think the police are looking for Barry Green?
2. What two things does the taxi driver do?
3. 'It's my lucky day.' Why does Barry say this?
4. Why can't Rick get a train to Glasgow?

CHAPTER 6

1. Who says these things?
 - a 'Taxi! Stop!'
 - b 'I'm going to Glasgow.'
 - c 'I'm not working tonight.'
 - d 'It's five hundred kilometres to Glasgow.'
 - e 'I've got the winning lottery ticket.'
 - f 'How do they know it's your lottery ticket?'
 - g 'You're a lucky man.'
2. What do you think Barry Green wants to do with Rick's lottery ticket?

CHAPTER 7

1. Where do Barry and Rick stop and why?
2. Who pays for the tea, and who gets it?
3. What does Barry do with the tea when he gets to the table?
4. What happens to the lottery ticket?
5. Why does Barry run out of the café?
6. What happens to Rick when he runs after Barry?

CHAPTER 8

1. Write short answers, e.g. Is Rick dead? *No, he isn't.*
 - a Is Rick in the café?
 - b What is the girl's name?
 - c Does Rick know who she is?
 - d Is Rick playing the guitar in the photo?
 - e Can Rick play Sarah's guitar?
 - f Is Sarah a guitarist?
 - g Is Sarah a singer?
 - h Is Sarah's guitarist leaving her?
 - i Is she singing in London tomorrow?
2. Why can't Rick remember anything?

CHAPTER 9

1. Why is Sarah lucky?
2. Who is in the police car?
3. Why does Rick say, 'It's like winning the lottery'?
4. What do the people think of Sarah and Rick's music?
5. Look at the picture. Who is the woman that Sarah talks about?
6. Does Rick know who she is?

After reading

Choose some of these activities.

1. Why does Mary leave Rick? Was she right to leave him?
2. What bad things does Barry Green do or try to do in the story?
3. Mary gets to her sister Jane's house in Glasgow. What does she say to her sister? Write their conversation.
4. Imagine you are a policeman. You talk to Barry Green at the police station. Write a report of your conversation.
5. You are a newspaper reporter at Sarah and Rick's concert. Write an article about the concert.
6. What happens after the end of the story? Write about Rick and Sarah's life, or Mary's life.
7. Who do you like best, Mary or Sarah? Why?
8. Here are ten words from the story. They are jumbled up. Write them correctly.
E.g. icums *music*
a ssttain, **b** yrettol, **c** tteikc, **d** dsiupt, **e** eaiuscts,
f petocmur, **g** yenom, **h** lipoce, **i** taguri, **j** resgin