

An extract from 'The Boy on the bike'.

"Hey, Dad!" yelled Zach as he rushed over to see him, hugging him tightly to show his affection and in an attempt to slow his progress.

"Hey," said his Dad, "You ok?"

"Yeah, I'm good," Zach replied.

"Why aren't you with Chloe?" his mum asked sternly, "I asked you to look after her while I got your dad!"

"I know," said Zach, "But she's been asleep most of the time... and then she woke up and wanted some water so I had to get the nurse 'cos there wasn't any left... and then she went to the loo so I had to get the nurse again." Zach felt sure that they knew he was making things up because he'd given too many ridiculous reasons.

"Well we'd better get up there then," replied his mother, who was clearly not happy with what she'd heard.

"It's ok for a minute, you know how long she takes sometimes... and we could get some snacks from the machine..." Zach suggested, "I'm sure she'd like..." he continued as he headed to the vending machines.

"Zach, we've got snacks in our bag already, now come on." Said his Mum. She looked at him as mothers do, so he had to think quickly.

The boy on the bike had finally reached the park by Zach and Chloe's house so he knew that he only had a short journey to the hospital. Being on a bike also meant that he could use alleyways and shortcuts to get there more quickly, but he could feel Chloe's grip starting to weaken so he couldn't risk speeding up anymore. He just had to keep going and have faith that Zach would do his best to give him as much time as he could to get Chloe back.

Zach followed his parents through the waiting area of A and E, which was busy as usual. He saw a trolley that was in an advantageous position and he headed towards it.

"Ow!" he cried, falling to the floor and gripping his ankle, making it look like he was in the most excruciating pain that he'd ever felt. "I think I've broken my ankle," he shouted, "Mum, Dad, get a nurse or a doctor!"

His parents rushed over to him and tried to help him up. He screamed out in pain. "No, don't," he cried, "It hurts too much. I can't move."

"Oh, for heaven's sake," moaned his mother, "There's nothing wrong with him. Right, you stay with Zach and I'll go and check on Chloe." She said to his Dad. "He doesn't need both of us."

"Good idea," said Zach's Dad. "We'll catch up in a bit."

The boy on the bike entered the hospital car park. He had nearly done it. He just needed to get her up to her room. Luckily it was dark now. There was less chance of being seen.

Zach's Mum stood outside the lift and pressed the button several times. She didn't know why as it didn't make the lift arrive any quicker, but it made her feel that she was doing something about it. Finally, she was in. Now she hoped that the lift didn't stop on every floor as usual!

As she pushed open Chloe's door she felt a sudden rush of cold air. The window was wide open and Chloe was slumped beneath it. "Chloe!" she called. She rushed over to her and carefully picked her up, "Are you OK? What are you doing by the window? Why is it open so much?"

"I... was saying... goodbye... to the boy... on... the... bike" gasped Chloe, then her head fell backwards.

These questions are about the extract from 'The Boy on the bike'.

Circle the correct answer.

Where is most of this extract set?

The hospital
car park.

A and E

The hospital
lift

Chloe's room

(1)

In this extract, Zach had two jobs to do.

What were they?

(2)

At the start of this extract, what three reasons does Zach give for not being with his sister, Chloe?

(3)

These questions are about the extract from 'The Boy on the bike'.

What does the Boy on the Bike use to help him get to the hospital

Tick true or false

Zach lied to his parents to try and slow them down.

Zach pretended to hurt himself on a trolley.

Chloe was holding on very tight.

Zach's mum thought that he'd really hurt himself on the hospital trolley.

Chloe shouldn't have been out of the hospital.

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(2)

Why does the author use the word 'advantageous' when describing the position of the trolley in the A and E department? (1)

These questions are about the extract from 'The Boy on the bike'.

Number these statements to put them in the correct order.

Zach headed over to the vending machine.

Zach's mum wants to know why he's not with Chloe.

Zach greets his dad first.

Zach's mum gets in the lift.

Zach trips on a trolley.

1

(2)

In the paragraph starting '*The boy on the bike entered the hospital car park*', what device does the author use increase the tension? (1)

Chloe is seriously ill.

Find evidence from the text to support how you know this. (3)
