

## 5 READING

- a Read the article once and number the paragraphs in the correct order.

# A lucky escape



**A** \_\_\_ After he had seen the pictures of the crash, Mr. Hamilton called **emergency services**. The police came immediately and an ambulance arrived on the scene soon after. A spokesperson from the ambulance service said that the couple both had **minor injuries**, but only one of them had been taken to the hospital. A neighbor said that she had seen the young couple having an argument in the car when the accident happened.

**B** \_\_\_ Instead of going downstairs to talk to the couple in his yard, Mr. Hamilton went to look at the pictures on his security cameras. He had installed the cameras a few years earlier to deter people from stealing the potted plants outside his front door. The Hamiltons live on the corner of a road that leads to the main road, and **passersby** can easily step over the low wall that surrounds his yard. When he played back the pictures of the accident, he could not believe his eyes.

**C** 1 An elderly couple from Central England, **had a shock** last night after they had gone to bed. Seventy-five-year old Howard Hamilton and his wife were just falling asleep when they heard a big bang in their front yard. They both jumped straight out of bed to look out the window and see what had happened. What they saw was a badly damaged car lying in their front yard. Next to the car there was a young couple hugging each other. Once Mr. Hamilton realized that nobody had been hurt, he decided to go and find out what had caused the accident.

**D** \_\_\_ Apparently, this is the fourth time that a car has driven through the wall of Mr. Hamilton's yard. This is because drivers often go **around the corner** too fast, and lose control of their vehicles. Mr. Hamilton's sister Joyce, who lives next door, said that it had been lucky that nobody had been walking on the sidewalk. She said that she didn't know what would have happened if there had been somebody there. Regarding the number of accidents that have happened on the corner, she said, "We're getting used to it."

**E** \_\_\_ On the recording, he saw that the girlfriend had been driving the car. He watched her turn the corner and **lose control** of the car. The car crashed right through the wall of his yard and came to a stop in the middle of the lawn. But the most dramatic thing is what had happened to her boyfriend. Before the crash, the sunroof of the car had been open. When the car hit the wall, Mr. Hamilton saw the boyfriend fly out of the sunroof and land heavily on the lawn. Miraculously, he was not hurt. Instead, he got up, and went to find his girlfriend. She didn't seem to be badly injured either – she appeared to be wearing her seat belt when the accident happened.

- b Read the article in the correct order and answer the questions.
- When did Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton hear the accident happen?  
They heard it after they had gone to bed.
  - What did they see when they looked out their bedroom window?  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - Why had Mr. Hamilton installed security cameras in his yard?  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - Why did the car crash through the wall of Mr. Hamilton's yard?  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - What happened to the boyfriend?  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - What happened to the couple when emergency services arrived?  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - What did a neighbor say about the couple in the accident?  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - Why are there so many accidents on that corner?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- c Look at the **highlighted** words and phrases. What do you think they mean? Use your dictionary to look up their meaning and pronunciation.
- d Complete the sentences with one of the **highlighted** words or phrases.
- I had a shock last night when the phone rang at midnight.
  - You should always call \_\_\_\_\_ if there is a fire in your house.
  - The library is just \_\_\_\_\_ from my house.
  - Rachel fell off her bike yesterday, but luckily she only had \_\_\_\_\_.
  - If you drive fast, it's easy to \_\_\_\_\_ of the car and crash.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ described what happened to the police.

## USEFUL WORDS AND PHRASES

### Learn these words and phrases.

countryside /'kʌntrisaɪd/	upset (adj) /ʌp'set/
stranger (noun) /'streɪndʒər/	feel lonely /fi:l 'loʊnli/
hitchhike /'hɪtʃhaɪk/	get to the (top)
miss (the connection) /mɪs/	/'get tə ðə/
pour (gas into a car) /pɔː/	in order to (do something)
shiver /'ʃɪvər/	/ɪn 'ɔːdər tə/