

People in the story

Marvin: a thirteen-year-old schoolboy

Tyson: a bully at Marvin's school

Grandad: Marvin's grandad

Mum: Marvin's mum

Headmaster: the man in charge of Marvin's school

Robert: a new student at Marvin's school

BEFORE YOU READ



1 Look at the cover and the pictures in the first two chapters. Answer the questions.

1 Who are the main characters in the story?

(sample) Marvin, Grandad and Tyson.....

2 Can you see three things that Grandad has made?

(sample) The bed, the clock, the toaster.....

LOOKING BACK

- 1 Check your answers to *Before you read* on page 4.

ACTIVITIES

- 2 Match the two parts of the sentences.

- 1 Marvin doesn't like school because c
 - 2 Marvin and Mum are happier now because a
 - 3 Marvin is happy today because d
 - 4 Marvin's new trainers are smelly because b
- a Grandad is living with them.
 - b Tyson has thrown them in the dustbin.
 - c Tyson is unfriendly to him.
 - d he's got a swimming class.

- 3 Complete the sentences with the names in the box.

Marvin (x4) Tyson Grandad (x2) Mum

- 1 Marvin doesn't have to make his bed.
- 2 Mum helps Marvin escape from his bed.
- 3 Marvin has got new trainers.
- 4 Grandad makes a lot of noise in the garage.
- 5 Grandad makes mad gadgets.
- 6 Tyson has a very loud voice.
- 7 Marvin listens to classical music on his MP3 player.
- 8 Marvin can run faster than Tyson.

4 Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)?

- 1 Marvin has a shower at seven o'clock.
- 2 Grandad made Marvin's bed.
- 3 Marvin wears his new trainers to go to school.
- 4 Grandad doesn't need to wear glasses.
- 5 Tyson calls Marvin 'Marlon'.
- 6 Tyson takes Marvin's new hat.
- 7 Tyson is bigger than Marvin.
- 8 Marvin feels sick when he sees an angry dog.

5 Answer the questions.

- 1 Why doesn't Mum hear Marvin calling her?
Because Grandad is making too much noise.
- 2 What does Marvin's shower do?
It sings.
- 3 What does Tyson tell Marvin about his arm?
It has a scar. He stopped five robbers.
- 4 What happens to Marvin when Tyson is unkind to him?
He had stomach ache. His stomach hurt.

LOOKING FORWARD

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6 Tick (✓) what you think happens in the next two chapters.

- 1 Grandad puts a gadget on Marvin's trainers.
- 2 Grandad cleans Marvin's trainers.
- 3 Grandad buys Marvin new trainers.

LOOKING BACK

- 1 Check your answer to *Looking forward* on page 21.

ACTIVITIES

- 2 Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)?

- 1 The toilet talks to Marvin. T
- 2 Mum is cooking in the kitchen. F
- 3 Grandad was talking to Marvin's mum in the kitchen. F
- 4 Marvin leaves his trainers in the classroom. F
- 5 Tyson has got the key to Marvin's locker. T
- 6 The trainers get wet. T
- 7 The headmaster tells Tyson to write an essay. F
- 8 Marvin's trainers don't stop talking. T

- 3 Match the two parts of the sentences.

- 1 The trainers are afraid because e
- 2 The headmaster breaks the locker door because d
- 3 Marvin hasn't done anything wrong in the changing room but a
- 4 Marvin puts his musical glasses on and b
- 5 The music from the glasses f
- 6 Marvin feels very angry e

- a he has to write an essay.
- b he forgets about his problems.
- ~~c~~ c it's dark in the locker.
- d he thinks there are students in there.
- e with his grandad.
- f makes Marvin's body move.

4 What do the underlined words refer to in these lines from the text?

- 1 'They'll be safe now.' (page 24) the trainers
- 2 'It's dark in here,' said one trainer. (page 25) the locker
- 3 'And I want you to put it on my desk tomorrow morning.' (page 27) an essay
- 4 'Good' shouted Grandad with a smile, 'because these are for you.' (page 28) the glasses
- 5 But Marvin couldn't hear him because the music was very loud now. (page 30) Grandad
- 6 Then he went to bed, still feeling very angry. (page 33) Marvin

5 Answer the questions.

- 1 When does Grandad wear his gadget jacket?
When he's making something new.
- 2 Who opens the locker door?
The headmaster.
- 3 What can Marvin do with his new glasses?
Listen to music.
- 4 What does Marvin leave for Grandad?
A note.

LOOKING FORWARD



6 What do you think? Answer the questions.

- 1 What will Grandad do when he reads Marvin's note?
(sample) He will stop making gadgets.
- 2 Grandad invents Smelly Vision. What is it?
(sample) A smelly TV.

LOOKING BACK

- 1 Check your answers to *Looking forward* on page 35.

ACTIVITIES

- 2 Complete the sentences with the names in the box.

Robert (x2) Mum Grandad Marvin (x4)

- 1 Marvin is sad on his way to school.
 - 2 Marvin says sorry to Grandad.
 - 3 Mum is reading a magazine.
 - 4 Grandad has invented a special TV.
 - 5 Marvin uses a magic rubber for his test.
 - 6 Robert is a new student at the school.
 - 7 Marvin wants to cry.
 - 8 Robert says that he loves cooking.
- 3 Put the sentences in order.
 - 1 Grandad shows Marvin Smelly Vision. [2]
 - 2 Marvin tries to write his essay in his bedroom. [3]
 - 3 Marvin decides to say sorry to Grandad. [1]
 - 4 The headmaster is angry with Marvin. [6]
 - 5 The headmaster brings a new boy into the class. [5]
 - 6 Marvin takes his maths test. [4]
 - 7 Tyson hears about Smelly Vision. [8]
 - 8 Marvin and Robert have lunch together. [7]

4 Underline the correct words in each sentence.

- 1 Grandad is in the garage because he feels unhappy / is making new trainers / is listening to music.
- 2 Marvin goes to the living room to do his homework / watch TV / read a book.
- 3 Grandad gives Tyson / Robert / Marvin a rubber.
- 4 Marvin has got a swimming class / party / maths test the next day.
- 5 Marvin tells Robert / Tyson / the headmaster about Grandad's gadgets.
- 6 Marvin and Robert are going to listen to music / play football / watch TV together.

5 Answer the questions.

- 1 What does Marvin smell on the TV?
A chocolate cake.
- 2 What's special about Marvin's new rubber?
You say 'rub it' and it erases.
- 3 Where do Marvin and Robert go for lunch?
The school café.
- 4 Where is Tyson when Marvin and Robert are having lunch?
Behind the café curtains.

LOOKING FORWARD

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6 Tick (✓) what you think happens in the next two chapters.

- 1 Tyson breaks some of Grandad's gadgets.
- 2 Tyson and Marvin become friends.

LOOKING BACK

- 1 Check your answer to *Looking forward* on page 49.

ACTIVITIES

- 2 Put the sentences in order.
 - 1 Tyson arrives at Marvin's house. [2]
 - 2 Marvin and Robert watch Smelly Vision together. [1]
 - 3 The toilet and shower talk to Tyson. [4]
 - 4 Tyson tells Marvin why he's afraid of dogs. [7]
 - 5 Tyson changes the TV programme to football. [3]
 - 6 Marvin and Tyson become friends. [8]
 - 7 Tyson says that his real name is 'Lionel'. [6]
 - 8 Tyson feels sick. [5]
- 3 Underline the correct words in each sentence.
 - 1 Robert likes / *doesn't like* Marvin's grandad.
 - 2 Mum / *Grandad* invites Tyson to come in.
 - 3 Tyson heard about *Smelly Vision* in the school café / *classroom*.
 - 4 Tyson feels / *doesn't feel* afraid when the shower sings.
 - 5 The next morning Tyson / *Robert* is at Marvin's house.
 - 6 Grandad / *Marvin* talked to Tyson's mum.
 - 7 *Marvin* / Tyson had a toy bear when he was younger.
 - 8 Grandad makes a suit with *drinks* / bath water in it.

4 Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)?

- 1 Marvin and Robert watch a food programme. T
- 2 Robert takes the remote control from Marvin's hand. F
- 3 That night Marvin doesn't sleep well. T
- 4 Mum tells Marvin that Tyson's name is 'Lionel'. F
- 5 'Tyson' was the dog that bit Marvin. F
- 6 Grandad says that dogs are afraid of noise. F
- 7 When Tyson sees the dog coming, he closes his eyes. T
- 8 Tyson doesn't like his new suit. F

5 Answer the questions.

- 1 What programme do Marvin and Robert watch?
Food Around the World.....
- 2 Where does Tyson sit?
Between Marvin and Robert.....
- 3 What programme does Tyson want to watch?
Football.....
- 4 Why does Tyson leave Marvin's house?
Because he is afraid.....
- 5 How did Tyson really get his scar?
From a dog.....
- 6 Why is Tyson's suit special?
Because it scares away dogs.....