It's the first day of summer. The twenty-first of June, like so many days of the year in England, is often cloudy, or wet, or windy, or 'not too bad'.

But today is a lovely summer's day. The sun is shining. The fields are bright green and yellow in the morning light. And birds are singing in the trees.

In the distance, on both sides of the river, the red and grey town of Westbourne is getting ready for a new day.

It's a perfect day for staying at home, for going swimming, playing football, or listening to music in the shade of a tree. Unfortunately, today isn't a holiday. It's Monday. And it's seven thirty.
Lorries and cars are rushing around the ring road that circles the town.

On one side of the ring road are fields, car parks, some new houses and a few old farms. On the other side are housing estates, business parks, a few apartment blocks from the 1960s, and lots of old terraced houses.

Some cars are driving into the centre. Some are going to the business parks with their new offices, new roads and tidy bushes. Other cars are heading out to the motorway and the long drive to London.
It's early, but in the parks some people are taking their dogs for a walk. Or rather, the dogs are taking their owners for a walk. The dogs look happy and full of energy. Their owners look very tired. Other people are jogging and listening to their MP3s, doing some exercise before the working day begins.

Buses are taking some early workers into the town centre. Street cleaners are picking up the litter from last night's takeaways. And in the town centre, the clock on the tower of the old Town Hall shows five to eight.
In the suburbs, a milk float is moving quietly up a road with its electric purr. Its glass milk bottles are rattling in the back.

A car is driving quickly down a road. The rap music on the car stereo is very loud. A cat runs quickly out of the way!

Paper boys and girls are delivering newspapers.

Men and women are leaving for work, getting into cars or walking to bus stops.

A girl is skating along a pavement. She is holding a lead, and on the end of the lead her dog is running and barking!
Some people are getting ready in the bathroom or they are waiting to use the bathroom. Sometimes their fifteen-year-old sister gets to the bathroom first and they have to wait for hours.

Some people aren't listening to their parents. They are sending text messages to their friends.

Now don't forget you have a piano lesson at four o'clock.

And after that there's your ballet class.

Some people are having breakfast.

Give it to me!

No, you give it to me!

Stop fighting and eat your breakfast!

Some people are surfing the net or playing videogames before they leave for school.
And in a second-floor flat near the park, a boy is lying in bed. He has long fair hair and a thin pale face. His eyes are closed. He's dreaming.

It's a cold dark night in New York. The snow is falling on the tall buildings and the streets.

The streets are empty and white.

Then a shape moves in the darkness and a man steps into the street. The yellow light from a streetlamp shows his face.

It's David Delgado, the Great Detective.
David Delgado is tall and thin with fair hair. He is wearing a black jumper, a long dark coat, and black leather boots. He looks up and down the street, then holds his hand up to the light. His watch says 1:30. He has an appointment with Harry, but Harry’s late. Where is he?

Then David hears a sound – it’s a car! A white limo comes round the corner and stops about 30 metres away. The door opens ... and a huge man gets out. This isn’t Harry. It’s Mickey Malone, the King of Crime! Mickey looks at David then takes something from his pocket.
What is it?

‘David!’
After Reading

Vocabulary

1 Match the actions with the pictures.

   a) duck  b) hide  c) text  d) trip

2 Ask and answer questions with a partner.

   What is Zadie doing in picture one?
   Where is David in picture four?
3 Complete the speech bubbles with the adjectives.

a) upset  b) confused  c) useless  d) huge  e) terrified  f) rusty

You can't do anything right. You're 1...........

I don't understand. I'm 2...........

Look! He's over there by that 3.......... old wire fence.

Holly's crying. I think she's 4.............

Mickey Malone is a big guy. In fact, he's 5...........

Everybody's 6.......... of me. I don't know why!

4 When can you use these phrases? Match.

........... a) You're pathetic. 1 You think somebody is childish.
........... b) You're in big trouble now. 2 You think something is strange.
........... c) Do you know what time it is? 3 You want somebody to wait a minute.
........... d) That's odd. 4 You think somebody is silly.
........... e) Hang on. 5 You are doing something bad.
........... f) Why don't you grow up? 6 Somebody is late.

5 Now find the phrases in the story. Who says them? Write their names next to the phrases.