“Mum,” Sarah said to her mother. “Why does everybody look so sad? You and dad never smile. And when Ben and I laugh about something at school, Mr Hewitt gets angry and tells us to stop. Ben says that Mr Hewitt is grumpy. That’s why he never laughs or smiles. But what about you and dad? Why do you never smile?”

Mrs Kent sighed. Why was Sarah always so happy and cheerful? She said: “Maybe there is nothing to smile about. Your father and I work very hard. We have no time for silly laughter. And why should Mr Hewitt smile? With thirty kids like you in class who talk all the time?”

Now Sarah sighed, too. She went to see her dad. “Dad,” she said. “Why are you always so sad?”
“I’m not sad, I’m just tired,” he said.
“But you never smile!”
“What is there to smile about?” he asked her.
And again Sarah sighed. Now she was starting to feel sad, too. “I’ll go and see Ben, he’ll cheer me up,” she thought. Ben was her best friend. And he always made her smile.

Glossary

- **cheer me up**: make me happy
- **cheerful**: happy
- **grumpy**: cross and irritable
- **laughter**: laughing
- **sighed**: breathed out loudly because she was sad or cross
The next morning Sarah was walking to school when she saw Ben. “Ben,” she shouted. “I had a really strange dream last night.” “Me too,” said Ben. “But tell me your dream first.” “Well,” said Sarah, “it was a bit scary. There was a horrible man. He was dressed in black, and his head was like a skull. And he had huge empty eyes.” “And big black tears were running out of his eyes and down his skull,” Ben added. “And the skull was – hey...” Sarah shouted. “How do you know that? How do you know what happened in my dream?” “Because I had the same dream,” said Ben. “Then the man said: ‘I am the Lord of Tears, and soon I will be the master of the world. Soon there will be no more laughter and no more smiles. Soon there will only be tears.’ And then I woke up.”

Glossary

- **a bit**: (here) a little
- **scary**: that makes you afraid
- **skull**: bones of your head
“I woke up when he said that, too,” said Sarah.
“But I also had another dream,” said Ben.
“And in that dream I heard a lovely voice. And it said:
‘Go and find the Lord of Tears. And take away the Mirror of Smiles.’"
“I had that dream, too,” Sarah shouted.
“‘Follow the setting sun. Bring back laughter and fun!’"
“The dream told us to go together and find the Lord of Tears,” Ben said.
“Yes, let’s leave this evening, when the sun is setting,” said Sarah.
After Reading

Harry Potter

1 Read and complete the fact files for the fantasy characters in the Harry Potter books by J. K. Rowling.

Hagrid
Rubeus Hagrid's mother was a giant and his father was human so he is half human and half giant. He is very tall. He is twice as tall as a man – he is about 3.5 m tall. He has got very thick untidy hair and a big beard. He loves magical creatures and he has got a lot of very strange and dangerous pets. He is very kind and he always helps Harry and his friends.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name: Dobby</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Type: House-elf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Description: Very small, like goblins and dwarves.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personality: Dislikes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Likes: Masters, the Malfoys, and wants to be free</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Dobby
Dobby is a house-elf in the Harry Potter series. House-elves are very small like goblins and dwarves. They have got very thin arms and legs and large heads and eyes. They have pointed ears like bats and high, squeaky voices. They are usually very obedient and they are servants to wizards. Dobby dislikes his masters, the Malfoys, and wants to be free.
2 Create your own fantasy character. Write a fact file for it.

Is it a giant, a witch, a wizard, a goblin or a dwarf?
Is it good or evil?
What does it look like?

3 Everybody in the story is frightened of the Lord of Tears. What are these people frightened of? Listen and match the pictures.

![Images of Jane, Michael, Daniel, Rosalind]

A: Jane  B: Michael  C: Daniel  D: Rosalind

![Images of a rollercoaster, a spider, a house, a woman]

A: Rollercoaster  B: Spider  C: House  D: Woman

4 Listen again and check your answers. Then answer the questions.

a) What does Jane do when she sees a spider?
b) What could Michael never do?
c) How long was Daniel stuck in the lift for?
d) What does Rosalind do when she is in the house alone?

5 What things are people frightened of? In pairs, make a list. Then do a class survey. Ask ten people in the class what they are frightened of.

Are you frightened of spiders? Yes, I’m terrified of them!