

UNIT 7

Frightening stories



Alfred Hitchcock

activity



Match the words on the right with the definitions on the left.

- | | |
|--|---------------|
| 1 a series of thoughts and images occurring during sleep | a disappear |
| 2 the same as “publicity” | b a cemetery |
| 3 lose blood (when you cut your finger, for example) | c dead |
| 4 a frightening dream | d a nightmare |
| 5 a phantom | e haunt |
| 6 the opposite of “appear” | f scary |
| 7 the place where the dead are buried | g a dream |
| 8 the same as “frightening” | h bleed |
| 9 the opposite of “alive” | i an advert |
| 10 the same as “frightened” | j darkness |
| 11 visit as a ghost | k scared |
| 12 the opposite of “light” | l a ghost |

activity 2

Look at all the expressions below and classify them (write their numbers).

- a** light and darkness:
- b** sounds and silence:
- c** movement:
- d** fear:
- e** the weather:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 a dim light | 2 I ran out. |
| 3 It was raining. | 4 We were in complete darkness. |
| 5 I fainted. | 6 I left the room. |
| 7 a horrible nightmare | 8 I heard knocks at the door. |
| 9 There were flashes of lightning in the sky. | 10 I was terrified. |
| 11 I fell on the floor. | 12 There was no answer. |
| 13 I couldn't move. | 14 The house was haunted by a ghost. |
| 15 I ran as fast as I could. | 16 The wind was blowing. |
| 17 I was terribly frightened. | 18 The light went out. |
| 19 I was scared to death. | 20 There were bizarre sounds. |
| 21 It made my hair stand on end. | 22 It gave me the creeps. |



The Birds,
Alfred Hitchcock,
1963

activity 3 piste 44

Now, listen to the recording and repeat what you hear.

activity

4



piste 45



Look at the picture, listen to the recording and write the numbers in the right box.



activity

5



Match the words on the right with the words on the left.

- | | |
|----------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 run | a the police |
| 2 feel | b on the floor |
| 3 call | c for help |
| 4 ring | d out of bed |
| 5 fall | e away |
| 6 shout | f a leg |
| 7 break | g the hospital |
| 8 jump | h frightened / scared / afraid |

activity

6

piste 46

The following words can be stressed or not. Listen to the recording and decide whether or not they are stressed.

- 1 and: [ænd] or [ənd]?
- 2 as: [æz] or [əz]?
- 3 at: [æt] or [ət]?
- 4 but: [bʌt] or [bət]?
- 5 for: [fɔːr] or [fər]?
- 6 of: [ɒv] or [əv]?
- 7 some: [sʌm] or [səm]?
- 8 to: [tuː] or [tə]?
- 9 are: [aːr] or [ər]?
- 10 can: [kæn] or [kən]?
- 11 must: [mʌst] or [məst]?
- 12 was: [wɒz] or [wəz]?
- 13 than: [ðæn] or [ðən]?
- 14 from: [frɒm] or [frəm]?



The Exorcist, William Friedkin, 1973

activity

7

piste 47



Look at these words. Then, listen to them, and write them down in the right column page 47.

- | | | |
|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1 surprised | 2 tiring | 3 terrified |
| 4 shocked | 5 excited | 6 tired |
| 7 exciting | 8 surprising | 9 interested |
| 10 terrifying | 11 interesting | 12 frightened |
| 13 shocking | 14 frightening | |

I was really -ed!	This film is really -ing!
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

activity 

Make sure you know what the following words mean when you tell a story. Classify them.

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| 1 then | 2 at the beginning |
| 3 at that moment | 4 finally |
| 5 after some time | 6 let's start with ... |
| 7 as | 8 while |
| 9 after a few minutes | 10 in the first part of my dream |
| 11 at the end | 12 in fact |

to begin	to go on	to finish
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

activity 9  

Listen to the recording and pick out the key-words you understand.

- 1 Who?
- 2 Where?
- 3 When?
- 4 What about?

activity 10  

Listen again and pick out all the words related to “fear”.

activity 11 

Listen to the recording once more, say whether the following statements are right or wrong. Justify your answers.

- 1 The story takes place on a Wednesday.
- 2 It is eleven o'clock at night.
- 3 There are two friends chatting on the phone.
- 4 Something horrible has happened to Jenny.
- 5 Jenny woke up at about 7 a.m.
- 6 Mary was reading when the phone rang.
- 7 In Jenny's dream, there were her parents, an estate agent and her cat.
- 8 In her dream, they were going to Aberdeen, by plane.
- 9 Jenny was sitting at the front of the car.
- 10 The estate-agent was sitting at the back.
- 11 In fact, they were going to visit a house Jenny's parents were interested in.
- 12 That house was situated in town.
- 13 The house was near a cemetery.
- 14 Suddenly, her mum disappeared.
- 15 In her dream, Jenny tried to run away and her dad fell.
- 16 She eventually woke up.

activity 12

Read the following text, and then decide whether the verbs should be put in the simple past (*started, arrived...*) or in the past with “-ing” (*was sitting, were running...*).

One day, my friend and I **1** (decide) to go for a ride in the forest. The sun **2** (shine), it was hot, a very nice day indeed. We **3** (ride) for about 3 miles, and then **4** (stop). Mike, my friend, **5** (shiver) with cold. How strange... We **6** (sit) down on the grass and **7** (take) out our sandwiches. As we **8** (eat) we **9** (notice) a path, not far from where we **10** (sit). We **11** (stand) up and **12** (follow) the path. Soon, we **13** (arrive) near an old house. We **14** (wonder) whose house it was, when the door suddenly **15** (open)...

activity 13 piste 49

Now, listen to the recording and make sure you got all the answers right.

activity 14 piste 50

Listen to the text and tick the correct answers.

One night, my dad, who is **1** phoned – called Steve, was **2** walking – working back home after a **3** hot – hard day’s **4** work – walk. He was **5** tired – tiring and he had had a few **6** beers – bears, so, he decided to take a **7** shortest – shorter way. He made his way towards the cemetery, and suddenly he **8** had – heard a horrible scream. The voice was calling **9** his – is name! **10** Was – What it a ghost? It was dark, he could not see **11** nothing – anything. Suddenly, the voice **12** sad – said “Follow me, Steve...”. He panicked. He jumped into the **13** air – hair and **14** ran – run home as **15** first – fast as he could! When he arrived he was trembling with **16** beer – fear and it took him some time to get **17** best – better!

activity 15

Now, you can tell your friend about the horrible nightmare you have had...

activity**7**

- 1 How are you today? ↘
- 3 Have you heard of her? ↗
- 5 Where did she live? ↘
- 7 Was she married? ↗
- 9 What was it called? ↘
- 11 Did she enjoy travelling? ↗
- 13 Who were her heroes? ↘
- 15 Is he the only hero in her books? ↗
- 2 What shall we do today? ↘
- 4 When was she born? ↘
- 6 Why did she start writing? ↘
- 8 Was she a nurse? ↗
- 10 Did she have a happy marriage? ↗
- 12 Did she write many books? ↗
- 14 What is he like? ↘
- 16 When did she die? ↘

activity**8**

- 1 I'd like to tell you about one of the most successful writers in history.
- 2 Well, Hercule Poirot is one of her most famous characters.
- 3 A few of her most popular books are "Murder on the Orient Express" and "Death on the Nile".
- 4 She remains one of the most famous writers of all times, yes, really, one of the greatest authors.

activity**13**

Arthur Conan Doyle is less well-known than Agatha Christie. He was born in Scotland, in Edinburgh, in 1859. After a religious education, he started studying medicine. In 1882 he opened a medical surgery and, as he did not have many patients, he started writing, to occupy his free time. He created Sherlock Holmes, who was fascinated by modern science and who worked with his assistant Doctor Watson. Sherlock Holmes is probably more popular than Conan Doyle! The author had an adventurous life; he travelled a lot and wrote science-fiction stories, historical novels, as well as detective stories. His most popular novel is "the Hound of the Baskervilles". He was married, loved his wife and was terribly sad when she died. He died in 1930.

UNIT 7**activity****3**

- 1 a dim light
- 3 It was raining.
- 5 I fainted.
- 2 I ran out.
- 4 We were in complete darkness.
- 6 I left the room.

- 7 a horrible nightmare
 9 There were flashes of lightning in the sky.
 11 I fell on the floor.
 13 I couldn't move.
 15 I ran as fast as I could.
 17 I was terribly frightened.
 19 I was scared to death.
 21 It made my hair stand on end.
- 8 I heard knocks at the door.
 10 I was terrified.
 12 There was no answer.
 14 The house was haunted by a ghost.
 16 The wind was blowing.
 18 The light went out.
 20 There were bizarre sounds.
 22 It gave me the creeps.

activity

4



- 1 There was a dog lying near the gate.
 3 He was running down the stairs.
 5 He was hiding behind the tree.
 7 He was standing between the girl and the boy.
 9 He was waiting at the bus-stop.
 11 He was going out of the house.
 13 He was hiding under the car.
- 2 The ghost was going up the path.
 4 He was standing near the window.
 6 He was waiting in front of the house.
 8 He was walking along the river.
 10 He was sitting on the bench.
 12 He was flying above the roof.
 14 He was standing next to the girl.

activity

6



- 1 Come and play with us.
 3 She's good at telling stories.
 5 Wait for me!
 7 Some of them were terrified.
 9 They're sure of it.
 11 You must arrive early.
 13 It is more complicated than this one.
- 2 Come as soon as possible.
 4 I love him but I don't like his brother.
 6 They're fond of science-fiction stories.
 8 Listen to me!
 10 Of course I can!
 12 Was it difficult?
 14 She is from Scotland.

activity

7



- 1 surprised
 4 shocked
 7 exciting
 10 terrifying
 13 shocking
- 2 tiring
 5 excited
 8 surprising
 11 interesting
 14 frightening
- 3 terrified
 6 tired
 9 interested
 12 frightened

*It is 11 a.m. on a Sunday morning. Mary is washing her hair when the phone rings.
Dring...*

Mary: Hello...

Jennie: Hello, is that you, Mary?

Mary: Yes, speaking. Oh Jennie, good morning. How are you doing?

Jennie: Well, I'm fine, and safe, thanks Heavens!

Mary: What do you mean?

Jennie: Well, I have had a horrible nightmare, and when I woke up, half an hour ago, I felt terrible! I'm a bit better now...

Mary: Well, I was washing my hair, but I've got time to listen to your story if you want...

Jennie: Yes, Mary, I'm dying to tell you! Sit down and listen to me...

Mary: Ok, I'm listening...

Jennie: You see, it was on a Friday, at lunch-time. In the first part of my dream, we were driving to Aberdeen; my mum was sitting next to my dad, and I was at the back of the car, with Skippy, my little dog. There was also the man from the agency, who was near me and who was sleeping! In fact, that man wanted to show us a cottage my parents had read an advert about in the newspaper. At first, we were all in a good mood, we were very excited at the idea of visiting the house.

Mary: Did you want to move?

Jennie: Yes, I suppose my parents were trying to find a bigger house...

Mary: Well, there is nothing frightening in that dream, Jennie...

Jennie: Wait a minute... Suddenly, the weather changed. It started raining, there were flashes of lightning... A few minutes later we arrived in front of the house, which was isolated, in the middle of nowhere! My dad parked the car near the gate; not far from the house, I saw a cemetery...

Mary: Oh, it is becoming a bit more exciting...

Jennie: Don't interrupt me, Mary... We got off the car, I looked for my mum but she wasn't there... I was worried... All of a sudden, Skippy started barking at the man from the agency, who was standing at the front-door. He was looking at us with a strange smile on his face...

Mary: Gosh, it is becoming scary...

Jennie: Yes, and listen to the end! We all went into the house. It was dark. After some time, I heard strange noises. I felt terribly scared and took Dad's hand... It was cold... I looked at him, but it wasn't him, it was the man... and his face was bleeding...

Mary: Oh, and what happened next?

Jennie: I screamed, I tried to run away but I panicked and fell... and then I woke up.

Mary: My God, what a horrible nightmare! Come and we'll have a good cup of tea together.

Jennie: Thank you Mary, I hope I'll forget about it... I'm coming. I won't be long...

activity

13



piste 49

One day, my friend and I decided to go for a ride in the forest. The sun was shining; it was hot, a very nice day indeed. We rode for about three miles and then stopped. Mike, my friend, was shivering with cold. How strange... We sat down on the grass and took out our sandwiches. As we were eating, we noticed a path, not far from where we were. We stood up and followed the path. Soon, we arrived near an old house. We were wondering whose house it was, when the door suddenly opened...

activity

14



piste 50

One night, my dad, who is called Steve, was walking back home after a hard day's work. He was tired and he had had a few beers, so, he decided to take a shorter way. He made his way towards the cemetery, and suddenly he heard a horrible scream. The voice was calling his name! Was it a ghost? It was dark, he could not see anything. Suddenly, the voice said "Follow me, Steve...". He panicked. He jumped into the air and ran home as fast as he could! When he arrived he was trembling with fear and it took him some time to get better!

UNIT 8

activity

4



piste 51

- | | | | |
|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1 hand | 2 holiday | 3 home | 4 hill |
| 5 happy | 6 hotel | 7 hope | 8 he |
| 9 his | 10 her | 11 help | 12 high |
| 13 hall | 14 have | 15 horror | 16 horse |
| 17 hot | 18 half | 19 hair | 20 hostel |

activity

5



piste 52

- 1 reaction – invitation – collection – condition – explanation – organisation – question – communication – conversation – invention – limitation
- 2 public – fantastic – realistic – music – optimistic – Atlantic – mechanic – panic – linguistic – photographic – picnic
- 3 complicity – eternity – simplicity – curiosity – reality – possibility – security – stupidity – atrocity – bestiality – aridity

- 5 Right: He created Sherlock Holmes.
- 6 Wrong: He worked with his assistant.
- 7 Right: He travelled a lot.
- 8 Wrong: He wrote science-fiction stories, historical novels, as well as detective stories.
- 9 Wrong: in 1930.
- 10 Wrong: "The Hound of the Baskervilles".

activity 14

- 1 Both of them were writers, studied medicine, enjoyed travelling, had famous heroes, were born in the 19th century, and died in the 20th century.
- Agatha Christie was English whereas Conan Doyle was Scottish.
 - She was born in England whereas he was born in Scotland.
 - She was born in 1890 whereas he was born in 1859.
 - She got married twice whereas he got married once.
 - She did not have a happy marriage whereas he did.
 - Agatha Christie's heroes were Hercule Poirot and Miss Marple whereas Conan Doyle's heroes were Sherlock Holmes and Doctor Watson.
 - She died in 1976 whereas he died in 1930.

UNIT 7

activity 1

- | | | | | | |
|-----|-----|-----|------|------|------|
| 1 g | 2 i | 3 h | 4 d | 5 l | 6 a |
| 7 b | 8 f | 9 c | 10 k | 11 e | 12 j |

activity 2

- a light and darkness: 1 – 4 – 9 – 18
- b sounds and silence: 8 – 12 – 20
- c movement: 2 – 5 – 6 – 11 – 13 – 15
- d fear: 7 – 10 – 14 – 17 – 19 – 21 – 22
- e the weather: 3 – 16

activity 4



activity 5

- 1 e
- 2 h
- 3 a or g
- 4 g or a
- 5 b
- 6 c
- 7 f
- 8 d

activity 6

stressed	unstressed
4 - 7 - 10 - 11 - 12	1 - 2 - 3 - 5 - 6 - 8 - 9 - 13 - 14

activity 7

I was really...	This film is really...
1 - 3 - 4 - 5 - 6 - 9 - 12	2 - 7 - 8 - 10 - 11 - 13 - 14

activity 8

to begin	to go on	to finish
2 - 6 - 7 - 8 - 10	1 - 3 - 5 - 7 - 8 - 9 - 12	4 - 11

activity 9

1 Who? Jenny, her friend Mary; in her dream Jenny's parents, the estate-agent, the dog Skippy.

- 2 Where? They are on the phone; both of them are at home; in her dream: in a car.
- 3 When? 11 a.m. on a Sunday morning; in her dream: on a Friday.
- 4 What about? Jenny is telling her friend about a nightmare she has had.

activity 10

a horrible nightmare – I felt terrible – (a cemetery) – I was worried – with a strange smile – scary – strange noises – I felt terribly scared – his face was bleeding – I screamed – I panicked

activity 11

- 1 Wrong: on a Sunday morning
- 2 Wrong: 11 a.m.
- 3 Right: Hello – Hello, is that you Mary?
- 4 Right: I have had a horrible nightmare.
- 5 Wrong: ... when I woke up, about half an hour ago...
- 6 Wrong: I was washing my hair.
- 7 Wrong: ... and her dog Skippy.
- 8 Wrong: we were driving to Aberdeen.
- 9 Wrong: I was at the back of the car.
- 10 Right: ... the man from the agency, who was near me...
- 11 Right: My parents were trying to find a bigger house.
- 12 Wrong: it was isolated, in the middle of nowhere.
- 13 Right: I saw a cemetery.
- 14 Right: ... but she wasn't there.
- 15 Wrong: I panicked and fell.
- 16 Right: then, I woke up.

activity 12

- | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------|
| 1 decided | 2 was shining | 3 rode | 4 stopped |
| 5 was shivering | 6 sat | 7 took | 8 were eating |
| 9 noticed | 10 were sitting | 11 stood | |
| 12 followed | 13 arrived | 14 were wondering | 15 opened |

activity 14

- | | | | |
|-----------|-----------|-------------|---------|
| 1 called | 2 walking | 3 hard | 4 work |
| 5 tired | 6 beers | 7 shorter | 8 heard |
| 9 his | 10 was | 11 anything | 12 said |
| 13 air | 14 ran | 15 fast | 16 fear |
| 17 better | | | |