

Editor's Note: The passages below comprise the last four instalments about Detective John. The first four instalments were published in the May issue of 'The English Teacher' while the next four appeared in the September issue. And Ward, one of the British teachers currently teaching in Malaysian Lower Secondary Schools, wrote the series to meet the need for simpler reading materials for her students. The passages are intended to exemplify one or more teaching points from the LSES, with the accompanying exercises providing plenty of language practice. The language structures are limited and the vocabulary level low, making the passages ideal for many lower secondary students.

THE ADVENTURES OF DETECTIVE JOHN: PART 9

When John woke up he was lying in a small room. He could not move because somebody had tied his arms and legs with rope. The room was very dark. John could hear the sound of an engine and the floor of the room was moving. 'Perhaps I am on a boat', John said to himself.

Suddenly the door opened. Two men took John out of the small room and into a larger room. There were tables and chairs in the room. The men made John sit down. Opposite him was a large man wearing black clothes. It was Mr. X.

- John : Where am I?
 Mr. X : You are on my yacht. You are my prisoner.
 John : But how did you take me from that house? What has happened to Inspector Chen?
 Mr. X : Inspector Chen did not know that I have a helicopter. It was behind the house. My men brought you here by helicopter.
 John : What are you going to do now? Inspector Chen will follow you!
 Mr. X : No he won't. He can't follow me because he does not know where I am. Ha! Ha!
 John : But I know where you are! You will never get away! We will catch you and send you to prison!
 Mr. X : So you think you have caught me! I think that is very funny!
 Do you know what I will do with you?
 John : No I don't. I'm not afraid of you, Mr. X!
 Mr. X : I will throw you overboard. Maybe you will be afraid of the sharks!

Change to the past tense:

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|------------------------------------|--|
| 1. John <i>wakes</i> up. | 4. The men <i>take</i> John out of the room. |
| 2. John <i>can</i> hear an engine. | 5. They <i>make</i> John sit down. |
| 3. The door <i>opens</i> . | 6. They <i>bring</i> him here. |

Complete the dialogue:

- | | |
|--|--|
| Mr. X : Do you know what I will do with you? | Mr. X : Do you know where I am? |
| John : No, I don't. | John : |
| Mr. X : Do you know who I am? | Mr. X : Do you know where Inspector Chen is? |
| John : Yes, I do. | John : |

Find the opposites of these words: (They are all in the reading passage):

always; large; ceiling; closed; in front of.

Answer the questions:

- 1. Where was John lying when he woke up?
- 2. Could he move?
- 3. Why not?
- 4. What could John hear?
- 5. What was moving?
- 6. What did John say to himself?
- 7. Who took John out of the small room?
- 8. Who was in the large room?

THE ADVENTURES OF DETECTIVE JOHN: PART 10

Mr. X's men took John out of the room and threw him into the sea. It was night and John could not see anything. The yacht was soon out of sight and John was alone in the middle of the sea. John was a good swimmer but he could not see any land. After a long time he saw a small light far away. He shouted, but he could not splash in the water because he was afraid of sharks.

The light came nearer and John shouted as loudly as he could. Then he heard someone shouting. It was a small fishing boat. Soon the boat was beside him. The fishermen pulled him out of the water.

John thanked the fishermen. They gave him some water to drink. John was very tired. He fell asleep.

Change to the past tense:

- 1. Mr. X's men *take* John out of the room.
- 2. They *throw* him into the sea.
- 3. John *cannot* see anything.
- 4. He *sees* a small light.
- 5. He *shouts*.
- 6. The light *comes* nearer.
- 7. He *hears* somebody shouting.
- 8. The fishermen *pull* him out of the water.
- 9. He *thanks* the fishermen.
- 10. They *give* him some water.

Later, John told the fishermen about his adventures. Complete the dialogue:

Fisherman	:	What happened?	Fisherman	:	Did you shout?
John	:	Some men threw me into the sea.	John	:
Fisherman	:	Could you see any land?	Fisherman	:	What did you hear?
John	:	No,	John	:
Fisherman	:	When did you see our light?	Fisherman	:	Were you tired?
John	:	John	:

Make five true sentences:

John	could	swim very well,
	could not	see any land.
		splash in the water.
		shout loudly.
		see a small light.

Answer the questions:

- 1. Who took John out of the room?
- 2. Was it night or day?
- 3. What did he see after a long time?
- 4. Where was it?
- 5. Why could he not splash?
- 6. What came nearer?
- 7. What did John hear?
- 8. Who pulled him out of the water?
- 9. Who thanked the fishermen?
- 10. What did the fishermen give to John?

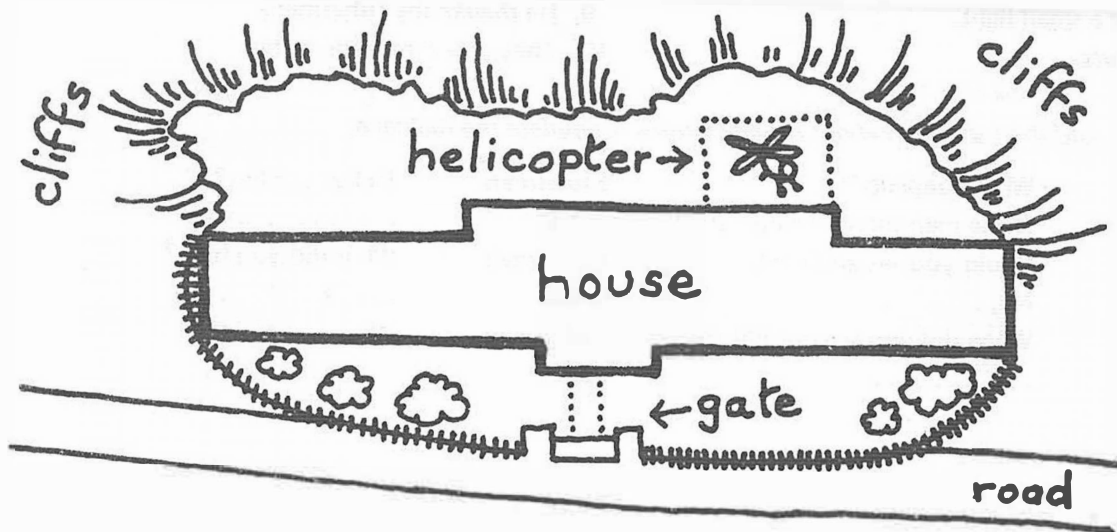
THE ADVENTURES OF DETECTIVE JOHN: PART 11

When John arrived back in Hong Kong, Inspector Chen was pleased to see him. His men were watching Mr. X's house.

- Insp. Chen : Look at this map.
 John : Ah! That is Mr. X's house.
 Insp. Chen : Yes, it is. My men are at the house. They are watching it day and night.
 John : Is Mr. X in the house?
 Insp. Chen : We don't know, but the helicopter is behind the house.
 John : Can we get into the house?
 Insp. Chen : It is difficult. There is a high wall in front of the house and there are steep cliffs behind it.
 John : I see. If we climb the wall, Mr. X and his men will hear us and escape by helicopter.
 Insp. Chen : Yes, they will. And there are dogs in the garden.
 John : Can we climb the cliff?
 Insp. Chen : That will be difficult. But I think we must climb it!

Fill in the gaps:

At Inspector Chen's office John looked . . . a map. It showed Mr. X's house. There were steep cliffs . . . the house and a high wall . . . it. The helicopter was . . . the house. There were some trees . . . the house. There were dogs . . . the garden.



Make 'where' questions:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| John: Where is the helicopter? | Chen: It is behind the house. |
| John: Where? | Chen: They are at the house. |
| John: Where? | Chen: It is in front of the house. |
| John: Where? | Chen: They are behind the house. |
| John: Where? | Chen: They are in the garden. |
| John: Where? | Chen: We don't know where he is. |

Answer the questions:

1. Where did John arrive?
2. Who was pleased to see him?
3. Whose men were watching Mr. X's house?
4. What did John look at?
5. What was there in front of the house?
6. Where are the dogs?
7. What must they climb?

THE ADVENTURES OF DETECTIVE JOHN: PART 12

Late at night John and Inspector Chen climbed the cliffs behind Mr. X's house. It was very dangerous. They had to be very quiet. When they got to the top of the cliffs they ran very quietly towards the helicopter. John and Inspector Chen took some petrol and matches and set fire to the helicopter. Then they hid behind a tree.

There was a loud explosion. Mr. X and his men ran out of the house. When they heard the explosion, Inspector Chen's men climbed the wall and ran to help John and their chief. There was a fight, but in the end they caught Mr. X and his men and took them away to prison.

Inside the house they found Gloria's diamonds and a lot of other things that Mr. X had stolen. John and Inspector Chen were very happy.

THE END

Change to the past tense:

1. John and Inspector Chen *climb* the cliffs.
2. They *have* to be very quiet.
3. They *take* some matches and some petrol.
4. They *hide* behind a tree.
5. Mr. X and his men *run* out of the house.
6. They *catch* Mr. X and his men.
7. They *find* Gloria's diamonds.
8. They *are* very happy.

Make two true sentences:

John and Inspector Chen			
Inspector Chen's men	climbed	the wall.	
Mr. X and his men		the cliff.	

Then make two more true sentences:

John and Inspector Chen				the helicopter.
Mr. X and his men	ran	towards		the house.
Inspector Chen		out of		the wall.

Put these sentences in the correct order:

They set fire to the helicopter.	They hid behind a tree.
They found Gloria's diamonds inside the house.	Inspector Chen's men ran to help them.
They ran quietly towards the helicopter.	They caught Mr. X and his men and took them away to prison.
There was a loud explosion.	Mr. X and his men ran out of the house.
John and Inspector Chen climbed the cliffs.	
There was a fight.	

Answer the questions

1. When did John and Inspector Chen climb the cliffs?
2. What happened after they hid behind a tree?
3. Who ran to help them?
4. Was there a fight?
5. Where did they take Mr. X and his men?
6. What did they find inside the house?