Newspaper Chase

John Escott

American English

Original

Harry Black is a thief. He takes a famous painting and puts it in an old newspaper. But then the recycling truck arrives — and where is Harry's newspaper?

Number of words (excluding activities): 806

Series Editors: Jocelyn Potter and Andy Hopkins

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EASYSTARTS

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Newspaper Chase

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Easystart

Series Editors: Andy Hopkins and Jocelyn Potter

1.1 What's the book about?

Look at the picture on the front of this book. What do you think? Write answers.



1 Where is the man?

.....

.....

2 What is the man doing?

.....

.....

3 What is he putting in the newspaper?

.....

.....

4 Where is he putting the newspaper?

.....

.....

5 Why is he doing this, do you think?

.....

.....

1.2 What happens first?

Look at the pictures on page 1.

1 Are the sentences right (✓) or wrong (✗)?

a The building is closed. ☐

b It is late at night. ☐

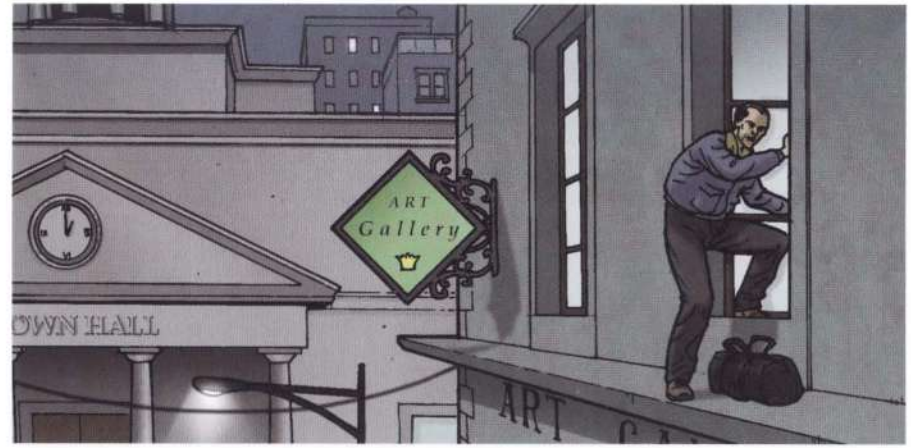
c The man works in the building. ☐

d The lights in the building are on. ☐

e The picture is small and new. ☐

f The man buys the picture. ☐

2 Talk about the man. Is he a good man or a bad man? How do you know?



The time is one o'clock in the morning.

The place is the Ritesville town **art gallery**.

A window opens and a man comes in. His name is Harry Black, and he is a **thief**.

It is dark in the art gallery, but Harry has a light. He looks across the room at a **painting**.



art gallery /'ɑrt ˌgæləri/ (n) There are beautiful pictures in the *art gallery*.
thief /θif/ (n) The *thief* has my bag—and my money.
painting /'peɪntɪŋ/ (n) It is a very expensive *painting* of a young man.

"There it is!" he says.

Harry moves quickly across the room. He stands and looks at the painting.

"A **million** dollars for this?" he thinks. "I don't understand it."

But he takes a knife from his coat.

Then he takes the painting very, very slowly from its **frame**.



million /ˈmɪlyən/ There are sixty *million* people in the UK.
frame /freɪm/ (n) There is no *frame* on that picture.



Harry goes back across the room to the window, but he walks into a table. There is a beautiful blue **glass vase** on the table. It falls on the floor and **break**s into a hundred **piece**s.

Harry smiles. "Is that a million-dollar vase?" he thinks. "It isn't now!"

He runs across the pieces of glass to the window.



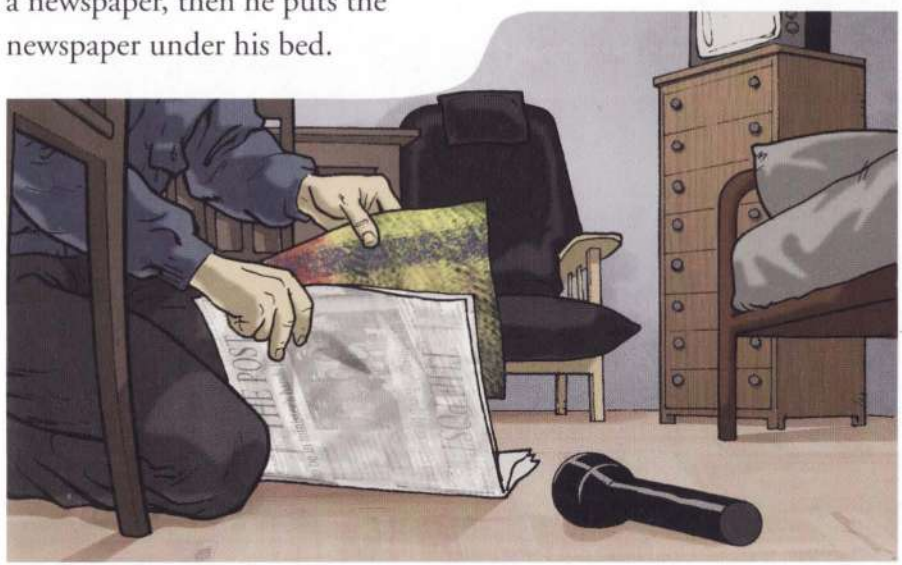
glass /glæs/ (n) There is *glass* from the window on the kitchen floor.
vase /veɪs, veɪz, vɑz/ (n) Please put some water in the *vase*.
break /breɪk/ (v) The children *break* a window and then they run away.
piece /pis/ (n) Can I have a *piece* of fruit, please?



Harry has a room in Mrs. Allen's **rooming house**. He goes quietly up to his room and closes the door.

Mrs. Allen and her daughter, Janey, are sleeping. They don't hear him.

In his room, Harry takes the painting from his bag. He puts it in a newspaper, then he puts the newspaper under his bed.



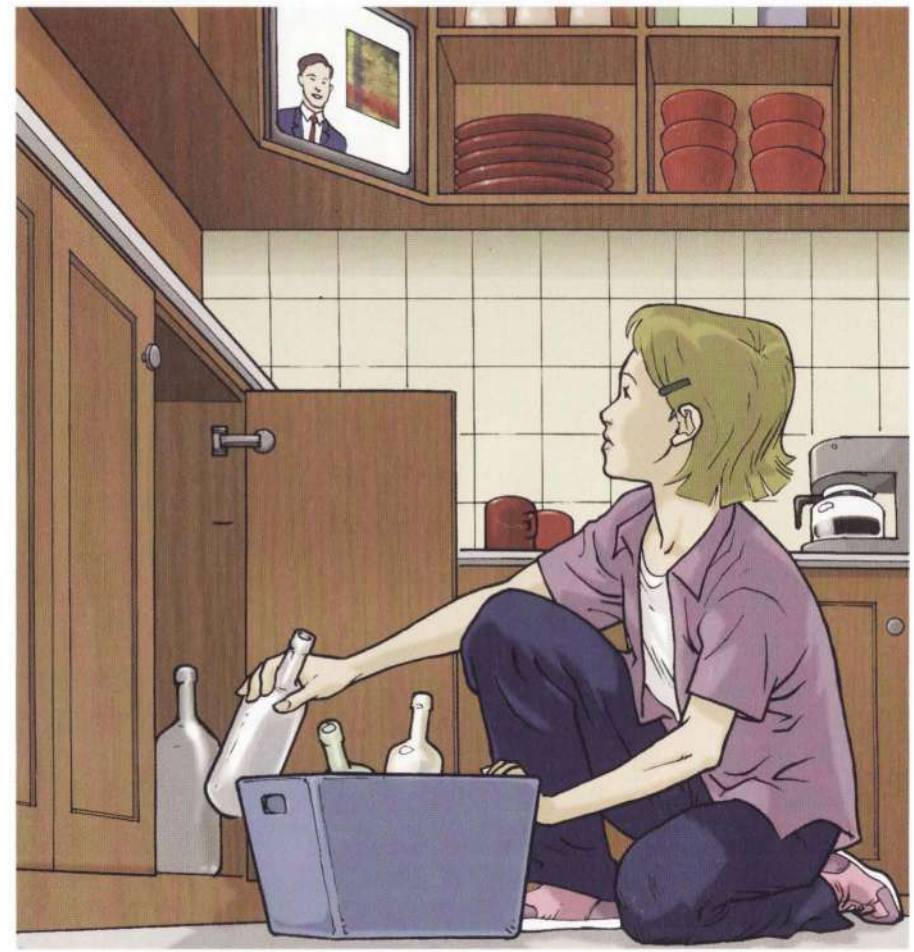
rooming house /'rumɪŋ haʊs/ (n) I live in a *rooming house* from Monday to Friday.

In the morning, Janey Allen is in the kitchen. She is putting old bottles into a **box**.

"**Recycling** is important," Janey thinks.

On the TV, a **reporter** is at the Ritesville art gallery. He is talking about the painting.

"It's a million-dollar painting," he is saying. "Here's a photo of it."



box /bɑks/ (n) Her letters are in a *box* on the table.
recycle /ri'saɪkəl/ (v) We *recycle* bottles. There are two places for *recycling* in this town.
reporter /rɪ'pɔrtə/ (n) She is a *reporter* for a U.S. newspaper.

Now the reporter is talking about the blue glass vase.

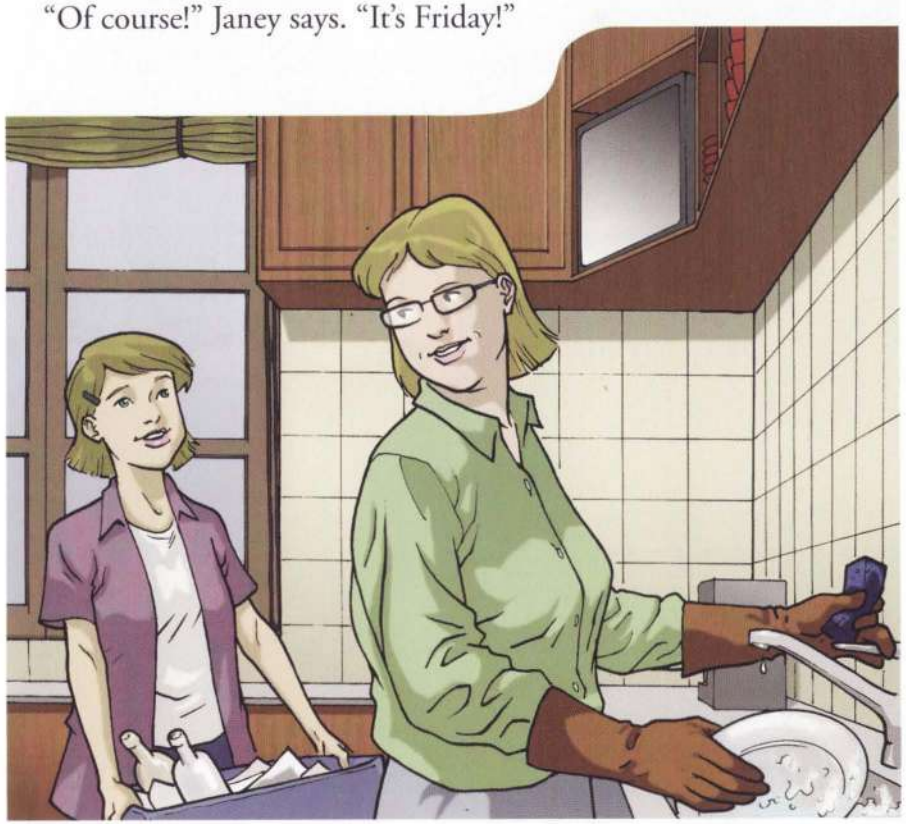
"It's in a hundred pieces now," he says.



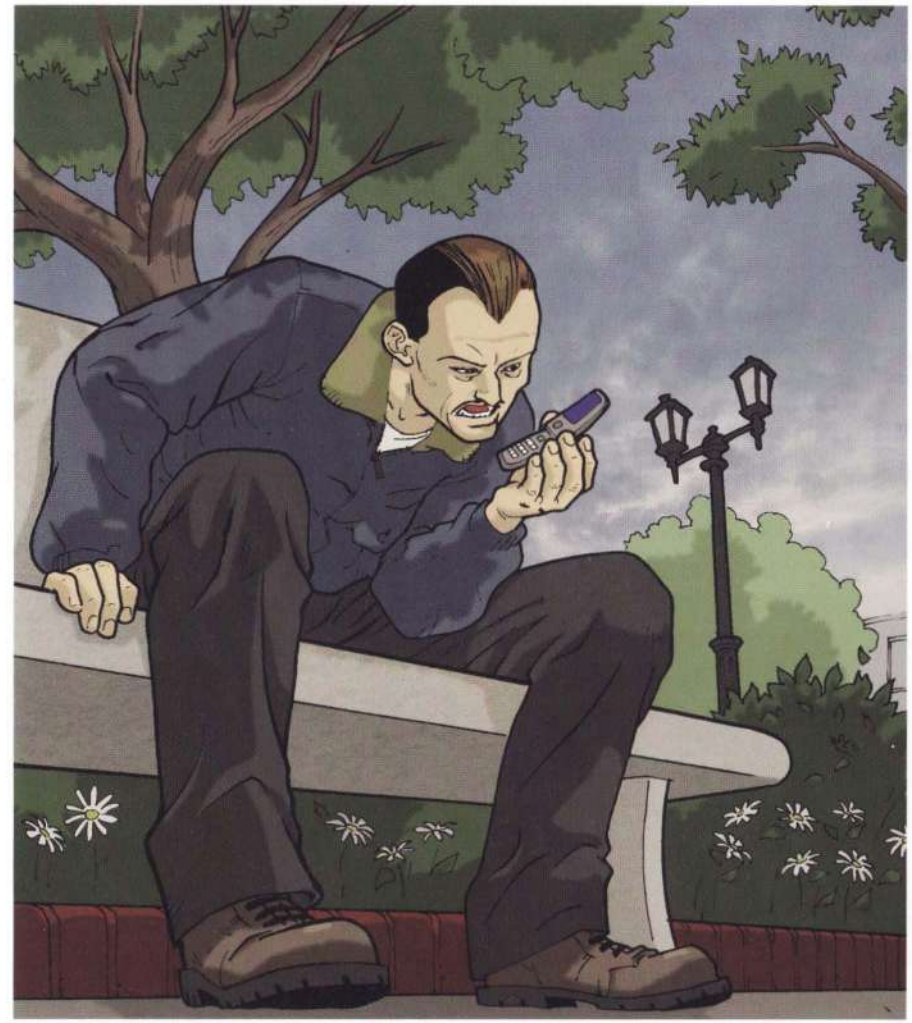
Janey looks at the photo of the vase, then she asks her mother, "Do you have any old bottles?"

"No," Mrs. Allen says. "That's all, Janey. But the newspaper recycling **truck** is coming today."

"Of course!" Janey says. "It's Friday!"



truck /trʌk/ (n) We are moving the beds to our new house in a friend's *truck*.



Harry isn't in his room. He is talking on his telephone to a man in Seattle. The man wants the painting, but Harry isn't happy.

"Five **thousand** dollars?" Harry says. "No! It's a million-dollar painting! ... What? ... No, I want *fifty* thousand, not five! ... What? ... The painting? Yes, I have it, and it's OK."

thousand /ˈθaʊzənd/ The big televisions are one *thousand* dollars.

2.1 Were you right?

Look at your answers to Activity 1.2 on page ii. Then circle the right answers.

1 The Ritesville Art Gallery is *closed* / *open* late at night.
2 At one o'clock in the morning the lights *are* / *aren't* on.
3 Harry Black goes into the art gallery at one o'clock in the *morning* / *afternoon*.
4 *No* / *Some* people work in the art gallery late at night.
5 The painting *is* / *isn't* very expensive.
6 Harry *buys* / *doesn't buy* the painting.

2.2 What more did you learn?

What comes first? Write 1–6. Then write answers to the questions.

( ) **a** Harry takes the painting to his room.
What does Harry do with the painting there?
.....

( ) **b** Harry makes a telephone call to a man in Seattle.
Why is Harry angry?
.....

(1) **c** Harry Black is in the Ritesville Art Gallery.
Why does he visit the art gallery?
He wants a painting from the gallery.

( ) **d** Harry breaks a beautiful vase.
What color is the vase?
.....

( ) **e** There is a story on TV about the painting and the vase from the Ritesville Art Gallery.
What does the reporter say about the painting?
.....

( ) **f** Harry takes a painting from its frame.
How does he do this?
.....

2.3 Language in use

Look at the sentence on the right. Then put a word from Box A and a word from Box B into the sentences.

Harry **moves quickly** across the room.

A: find closes runs eats walks puts

B: slowly quickly quietly



Harry Black ...runs... ...quickly... across the glass to the window.



Harry .... down the street.



Harry ..... his bedroom door .....



Harry ..... the newspaper under the bed .....



Mrs. Allen ..... her food ..... .



They ..... the pieces of the vase .....

2.4 What's next?

What do you think? Write *yes* or *no*.

1 Harry takes the painting back to the Ritesville Art Gallery. .....
2 Janey puts some old newspapers in a recycling box. .....
3 Mrs. Allen finds the painting in Harry's room. .....
4 Harry can't find the painting. .....
5 Harry talks to a newspaper reporter about the painting. .....



Janey is looking for old newspapers. Early on Friday mornings, she takes them from every room in the house. Then later, the newspaper recycling truck arrives.

Janey opens Harry's door and looks into his room. She always takes his old newspapers or bottles for recycling.

"Ah!" she thinks. "There's a newspaper under Harry's bed."



Janey puts the old newspapers into a black recycling box. She runs from the house and sees the truck.

"Wait!" she says. And she quickly gives the box to one of the men.

Harry is coming back to the house. He sees the recycling truck, and he sees Janey.

"It's Friday!" he says. "The newspaper—! Oh, no!"

Harry **chase**s after the truck.



chase /tʃeɪs/ (v/n) The police are *chasing* two men in a blue car.



"Wait! Wait!" he says.
Janey watches him. "What *is* he doing?" she thinks.
Harry **jump**s into the back of the truck.
"I want my newspaper!" he says. "Where's my newspaper?"
But there are thousands of newspapers in the truck.



jump /dʒʌmp/ (v) Can you *jump* from the chair onto the table?

Janey walks quickly from the house to the truck.
"Why is your newspaper important, Harry?" she asks. "It's two days old."
But Harry doesn't hear her. He is thinking, "My million-**dollar** painting! Where is it?"



dollar /ˈdɑlə/ (n) Two coffees? That's four dollars, please.

3.1 Right or wrong?

Look at your answers to Activity 2.4 on page 9. Then find the right answers to the questions.

1 Where is the painting on Friday morning?
   a At the Ritesville Art Gallery. **b** Under Harry's bed.

2 Who goes into Harry's room?
   a Janey Allen. **b** Mrs. Allen.

3 What does Janey put in a recycling box?
   a Old bottles. **b** Old newspapers.

4 Why does Harry jump into the back of the recycling truck?
   a He wants the painting. **b** He wants some newspapers.

5 Who asks Harry an important question?
   a A newspaper reporter. **b** Janey Allen.

3.2 What more did you learn?

Circle the right answer.

a *Monday / Wednesday / Friday* is recycling day for newspapers in Ritesville.
b Janey's recycling box is *red / black / green*.
c Harry sees Janey and the recycling truck. He is *unhappy / quiet / happy*.
d Harry chases after the recycling truck *slowly / suddenly / often*.
e There are *one or two / not any / thousands of* newspapers in the truck.
f The newspapers are *new / old / small*.
g Janey *understands / chases after / talks to* Harry.
h The painting from the Ritesville Art Gallery is very *expensive / old / heavy*.

3.3 Language in use

Look at the sentence on the right.
Then write sentences under the pictures.

What **are** they **doing**?



Janey *is looking for* old newspapers.



She ..... under Harry's bed.



Janey ..... to the recycling truck.



The men .... the newspapers into the truck.



Harry ..... the recycling truck.



Janey ..... a question.

3.4 What happens next?

What do you think? Who and what are problems for Harry now? Check (✓) them.

1 Mrs. Allen ☐
2 Janey ☐
3 the man from Seattle ☐
4 the police ☐
5 the TV reporter ☐
6 the recycling men ☐
7 his shoes ☐
8 some blue glass ☐



The men from the recycling truck are watching Harry, too. But now Janey is looking at Harry's shoe.



"There's some blue glass in Harry's shoe," Janey thinks. "Where—? Oh!"

Suddenly, she **remember**s the photo of the blue glass vase on the TV. She looks again at the piece of glass in Harry's shoe.

"Is it from the vase in the art gallery?" she thinks. "Is Harry Black the thief?"

remember /rɪ'membə/ (v) He *remembers* his mother, but not his father.

The men from the recycling truck are angry.
"We're going now," they are saying. "We're late."
"But I want my newspaper!" Harry says.
In the house, Janey is talking to the police on the telephone.
"Maybe I'm wrong," she is saying. "But there's blue glass in his shoe ... What? ... Yes, he's looking for the newspaper now."





Two policemen arrive quickly.

"Let's look at your shoe," they say to Harry.

Harry doesn't understand. "What's wrong?" he asks.

One of the policemen takes the glass from Harry's shoe.

"This is a very expensive piece of glass," he says. "From a very expensive vase. Remember?"

Suddenly, Harry understands. "Oh, no!" he says.

Police cars and policemen arrive. The men look in the truck for the million-dollar painting. Later, they find the right newspaper—and they find the painting.



"Good work, Janey," one of the policemen says. "And there's a **reward**."

"Maybe I can buy a painting with the reward!" Janey says. "I like pictures!"



reward /rɪ'wɔrd/ (n) They are looking for the child. There is a $20,000 *reward*.

Talk about it

1 Talk to two or three friends. Why are the sentences wrong?

a Harry Black has a job at the Ritesville Art Gallery.
He doesn't have a job there. He's a thief.
b He takes a new painting and a beautiful vase from the gallery.
c Harry gives the painting to Mrs. Allen. She puts it in her kitchen.
d Janey finds some old bottles in Harry's bedroom on Friday.
e Harry watches the recycling men quietly.
f Janey sees some green glass in Harry's shoes.
g Harry talks to the police on the telephone.
h The policemen are angry with Janey.

2 Work with a friend.

Student A: You are a policeman/woman. You are at the police station with Harry Black. Ask him questions.

Student B: You are Harry Black. Answer the questions. Give some right answers and some wrong answers.

Write about it

It is a week before Harry Black's visit to the Ritesville Art Gallery. Write about the gallery for visitors to Ritesville.

RITESVILLE: A Beautiful Town!

The Ritesville Art .....Gallery..... has many important things. What is new at the gallery? There is a small .....-dollar painting in a beautiful ..... . There is an expensive .... vase, too. You ..... buy the things in the gallery. You can see the paintings and vases ..... ten o'clock in the ..... to six ..... in the ..... . The gallery closes ..... six. It is ..... from Tuesday to Saturday. But it is ..... on Sunday and Monday.
..... to Ritesville and visit our beautiful art gallery!

Project *Let's Go Green!*

"Green" people like recycling. They think about problems with our trees, oceans, rivers, and food.

Work with two or three friends.

1 Talk about the questions. Is recycling important, do you think? Why (not)?

2 Look at the picture.



a Write the numbers on the things in the picture.

1 bike	**6** shoes	**11** newspaper
2 boat	**7** chair	**12** TV
3 car	**8** bag	**13** food
4 dress	**9** box	**14** glass bottle
5 shirt	**10** book	**15** water

b Can we recycle them? How can we recycle them? Talk about it.

3 **Write and ask questions.**

a Write six questions for your friends about recycling. Do they do it? What? When? Where? How?

Recycling questions

What do people in your house recycle?

b Now talk to ten students. Ask your questions and write the answers.

4 **Be a reporter! Write about recycling.**

Recycling

Ten students recycle glass bottles every week. A recycling truck comes to their house.