



Violet never wanted to move to Perfect.

Who wants to live in a town where everyone has to wear glasses to stop them going blind? And who wants to be neat and tidy and perfectly behaved all the time?

Violet quickly discovers there's something weird going on in the town – she keeps hearing voices, her mam is acting strange and her dad has disappeared.

When she meets Boy she realizes that her dad is not the only person to have vanished...and that the mysterious Watchers

1) Look at the front cover: make a prediction about the story by using the title and the images on the front of the book.

(2 marks)

2) Read the blurb. Why do you think everyone goes blind in Perfect?

(1 mark)

3) Do you think that the place called Perfect is perfect? Explain your answer.

BOY

He waited. Hidden by dusk and the garden bushes against the bark of an oak tree. Watching. The spot gave him full view of the house and gravel driveway.

Worrying about being seen felt weird.

Perfect had been alive with the news of Doctor Eugene Brown's arrival for weeks. The doctor would help. Boy knew it, more than he'd ever known anything. He just had to get to the man before he changed.

As night closed in, George and Edward Archer strode by and mounted the stone steps to the house. The place lit up and Boy watched them move around inside.

Suddenly light darted across the grass by his feet and Boy pulled back further into the shadows. A silver car crunched along the driveway towards him and stopped. His heartbeat quickened. The engine purred to silence.

The large door of the house opened and the Archer twins stood silhouetted in the light from the hallway. As Boy watched, statue still, a shiver danced down his spine.

A man got out of the driver's seat; a woman from the passenger's side.

He hadn't imagined the doctor would have company. The woman looked nervous, staring across the roof of the car at the man. He smiled awkwardly at her then walked towards the twins, greeting them with a handshake. The woman followed and the four of them disappeared inside.

Boy ventured a little out of the shadows, stopping short as the doctor called, "Violet. Come in from the car, pet, it's chilly out there."

The back door of the car opened a little, then quickly slammed shut as a breeze rustled the leaves above him.

Boy held his breath and pulled back into hiding. The car door swung open again, and this time a small, frightened girl dashed out across the gravel towards the house.

Boy couldn't help laughing. She sped up, jumped the steps and rushed in through the front door, banging it shut behind her and plunging the yard back into darkness.

The car door hung open and Boy pushed it shut as he edged closer to the kitchen window. He just caught sight of the girl sliding into the room.

He sat down by the steps to wait.

Read the extract of chapter one, 'Boy'.

4) Clarify what the phrase, 'Perfect had been alive with the news...' means.

_____ (1 mark)

5) What do you think the Doctor will help with?

_____ (1 mark)

6) Find a word in the text which is similar in meaning to a risky manoeuvre.

_____ (1 mark)

7) Why do you think the girl could be frightened?

_____ (1 mark)

Grammar focus

8) Find an example of an adverbial phrase in the text.

_____ (1 mark)

9) Find an adverb in the text. _____ (1 mark)

10) Find an example of parenthesis in the text.

_____ (1 mark)