

Bloody Mary

aus/zu:

ab 2. Lernjahr Sonja Bichler

Englisches Lesetraining

Creepy stories ...The beginning



Schaurige Lesetexte und textbasierende Aufgaben

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Bloody Mary

In 1985 I attended a boarding school in Austria. It was 100 kilometres from my hometown. There were three buildings, one for the boys and two for the girls. We called them "towers" because they were black and huge. We often had a lot of fun with the boys (I even fell in love – no – I won't tell you – it's top secret) and sometimes they scared us or tried to.

We went home at the weekends and returned on Sunday evenings. We always took the train and so did the boys. The way from the train station to the boarding school led through a tiny forest. Sometimes, when we came back to school, the boys followed us to the wood and were hiding behind some trees, making howling noises which frightened us. They jumped out of the dark and we screamed loudly. The boys laughed about it and told the others in our class.

Once in October, my best friend Patricia and me decided to stay at the boarding school. We thought it might be fun to have the building only for us because the other students went home to their families.

So, the Friday night was silent when we lay in our beds and couldn't sleep. Patricia was telling the story about a witch house where blood ran down the walls because it was built on a cemetery. "No more horror stories, please," I thought to myself.

"I have got an idea," she whispered. "Do you know how to play 'Bloody Mary'? You must stand in front of a mirror at midnight and call 'Bloody Mary' by saying her name three times. Then Mary appears in the mirror, dressed in white linen. Let's do it!" said Pat and interrupted my thoughts.

We waited until midnight, got up and went to the mirror in the bathroom.

"BLOODY MARY – BLOODY MARY – BLOODY MARY!" we said in a chorus.

Nothing happened. Again, and again, and again. We gave up and went to bed. Suddenly I saw Bloody Mary standing in the corner next to Patricia's bed. I shouted in fear. Pat switched on the lights on her bedside table – but there was nothing! "Please, leave the light on," I begged. So she did. I was still very scared and hid my head under the bedcover.

The next morning, we both were very tired. We had to go downstairs for breakfast so I slowly took my clothes from the chair which stood next to Pat's bed. I put on my black jeans and my white hoodie. Pat got dressed, too. Pat looked at me with wide eyes and stuttered: "Your hoodie – your hoodie – your hoodie!" "What's up with my hoodie, Pat?" I asked excitedly. "Your, your, your hoodie! Your bloody – your blood – bloodstains!", she shouted. I went to the mirror and my body froze to death: There were three bloodstains on my white hoodie – they looked like tears - ... - dot.dot.dot.





Bloody Mary

1. Look up the words in the dictionary and explain them in English.



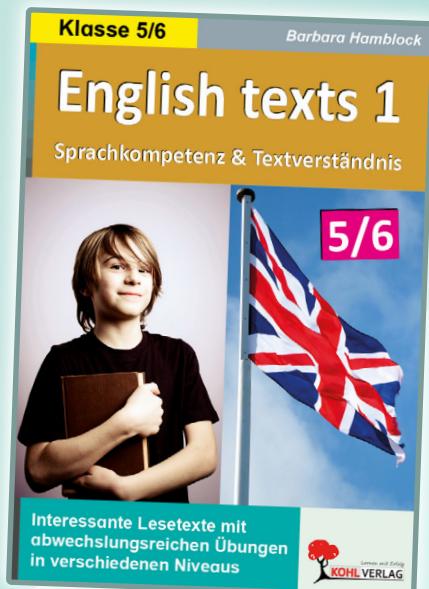
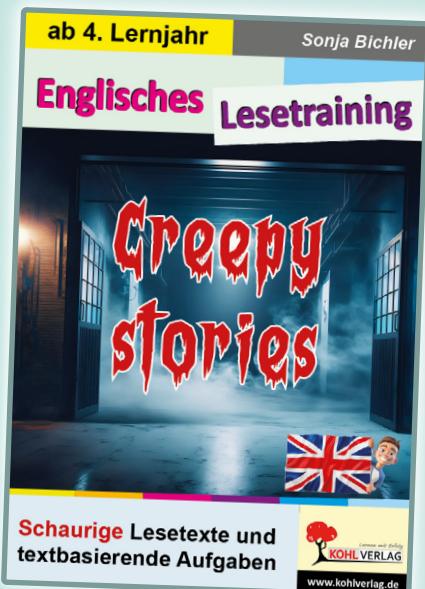
1 a boarding school	
2 (to) return	
3 a cemetery	
4 huge	
5 a hoodie	
6 (to) whisper	
7 blood	

2. Highlight all the verbs in the Simple Past.

3. Make a list of ten regular and ten irregular verbs.

regular verbs		irregular verbs	
infinitive	Simple Past	infinitive	Simple Past
attend	attended	be (am, is, are)	was, were

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Bloody Mary

4. Understanding the text: Answer the questions in full sentences.

- 1 Where did the two girls stay?
- 2 When did they stay there?
- 3 Why did they stay there?
- 4 What happened at night?
- 5 Who saw "Bloody Mary"?
- 6 Who didn't see "Bloody Mary"?
- 7 Why do you think there were bloodstains on the hoodie? (3 ideas)
- 8 Do you know such stories? (short answer)
- 9 Do you believe in such stories? (short answer)

5. Try to fill in the missing words from the box in the text.

didn't like • lady • bloody • scratched • fingernails • night • tower • husband

The mystery in boarding house

Bloody Mary was a young _____ who died in 1818. She had a bad _____ who kept her in an old _____ of his castle, when she made a mistake. She _____ to be imprisoned. One _____ she tried to hurt herself and _____ her face very hard because she had long _____. Blood ran down and it seemed as if she cried _____. tears.



Solutions

Bloody Mary

1. 1) a boarding school – a house where you can spend day and night during school time. 2) (to) return – (to) come back. 3) a cemetery – here are the dead people buried. 4) huge – it is very, very tall and big.

p	s	a	w	f	k	g	y	w	e	n	t	o	p
u	z	y	h	e	f	b	r	o	u	g	h	t	u
t	p	h	h	l	f	e	l	l	c	x	d	u	t
k	n	o	w	t	r	h	a	v	e	a	d	s	c
f	u	g	g	l	o	d	r	e	a	d	v	k	e
a	p	i	i	a	t	f	e	e	l	a	r	e	i
l	o	v	g	t	r	e	l	i	t	r	p	o	b
l	k	e	h	b	f	o	r	g	o	t	f	c	r
k	k	a	t	x	k	g	a	v	e	k	o	q	i
b	e	h	u	r	t	w	q	r	w	y	r	p	n
k	e	p	t	q	o	a	h	e	y	o	g	k	q
k	n	e	w	i	t	s	a	a	x	u	e	e	z
u	c	n	w	e	r	e	d	d	c	l	t	e	f
b	e	d	l	z	s	w	t	h	u	r	t	p	j

5) a hoodie – it is a kind of pullover with an included head cover. 6) to whisper – to say something very silently.
 7) blood – red liquid in the veins
 2. attended, was, were, called, were, scared, went, returned, took, did, led, came, followed, were, frightened, jumped, screamed, laughed, told, decided, thought, went, had, was, laid, couldn't, ran, was, thought, whispered, said, interrupted, waited, got, went, said, happened, gave up, went, saw, shouted, switched on, was, begged, did, was, hid, were, had, took, stood, put on, got, looked, stuttered, asked, shouted, went, froze, were, looked

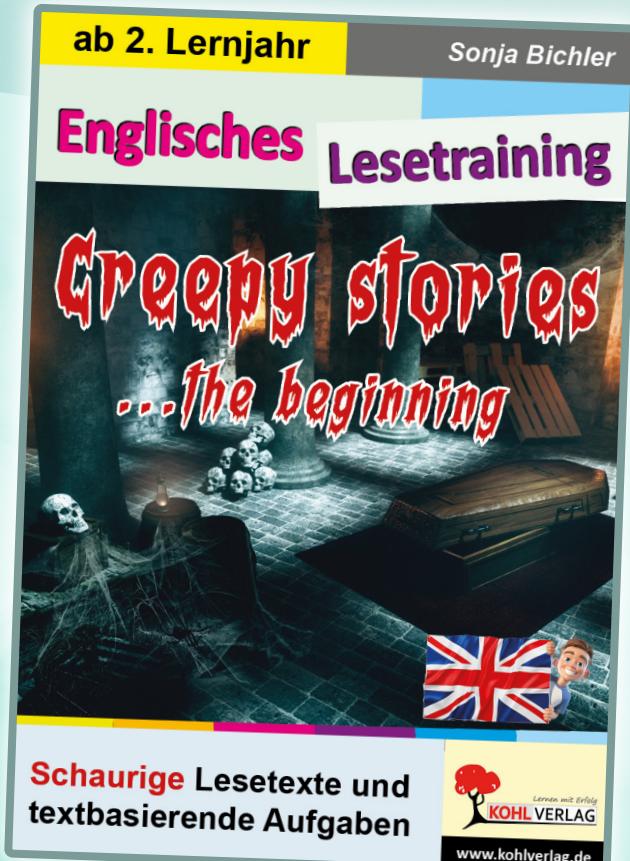
regular verbs		irregular verbs	
infinitive	Simple Past	infinitive	Simple Past
attend	attended	be (am, is, are)	was, were
call	called	take	took
scare	scared	do	did
return	returned	go	went
follow	followed	lead	led
frighten	frightened	come	came
jump	jumped	tell	told
scream	screamed	think	thought
laugh	laughed	lie	lay
decide	decided	run	ran

4. 1) They stayed at the boarding school for the weekend. 2) They stayed there on a weekend in October.
 3) They thought staying alone in the tower might be fun. 4) They talked about the game "Bloody Mary".
 5) The narrator saw her. 6) Patricia didn't see "Bloody Mary". 7) a. Because "Bloody Mary" was there.
 b. Because Patricia played a trick on her friend and put some lipstick on the pullover. c. Because the narrator wanted to shock Patricia and did something red on her white hoodie. 8) Yes, I do./No, I don't.
 9) Yes, I do./No, I don't.
 5. The mystery in the boarding house: Bloody Mary was a young **lady** who died in 1818. She had a bad **husband** who kept her in an old **tower** of his castle, when she made a mistake. She **didn't like** to be imprisoned. One **night** she tried to hurt herself and **scratched** her face very hard because she had long **fingernails**. Blood ran down and it seemed as if she cried **bloody** tears.

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