

Do the preparation exercise first. Then read the text and do the exercises to check your understanding.

### Preparation

Match the vocabulary with the correct definition and write a–h next to the numbers 1–8.

- |                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| 1..... to mumble             | a. a punishment for schoolchildren in which they have to stay at school for a short time after classes finish |
| 2..... furious               | b. to speak quietly and not clearly   |
| 3..... a bruise              | c. extremely angry  |
| 4..... a strategy            | d. to look at something for a long time without moving your eyes  |
| 5..... a nod                 | e. a tendency to get angry suddenly   |
| 6..... to stare at something | f. a careful plan for achieving a particular goal   |
| 7..... a temper              | g. a movement up and down with the head   |
| 8..... detention             | h. an injury that appears as a purple or dark area on your skin   |

### 1. Check your understanding: true or false

Circle *True* or *False* for these sentences.

- |  |             |              |
|--|-------------|--------------|
| 1. Peter and Maria are friends.                                | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 2. Maria's mother knows what's wrong with Maria.               | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 3. At first, Maria thinks Peter's problem is easier than hers. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 4. Mr Hughes understands Maria's problem.                      | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 5. Maria notices something about Peter in detention.           | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 6. Maria thinks Peter may be in a similar situation.           | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 7. We don't know exactly who Maria is scared of.               | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 8. Maria decides to tell her mum about her problems.           | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |

**2. Check your understanding: multiple choice**

Circle the best answer to these questions.

1. Peter is ...
  - a. often in trouble at school.
  - b. in trouble at school for the first time.
  - c. never in trouble at school.
  
2. When Maria forgets her sports kit, her mother is ...
  - a. angry because she wants Maria to do PE.
  - b. angry because Maria lied to her PE teacher.
  - c. angry and confused because Maria won't tell her what's wrong.
  
3. When Peter and Mr Hughes are talking in the head teacher's office, ...
  - a. Peter offers an apology.
  - b. Peter offers to pay for the damage.
  - c. they talk but we don't know what they say.
  
4. During detention ...
  - a. Peter tells Maria a secret.
  - b. Maria decides it's time to start doing PE.
  - c. Maria guesses Peter has a secret.
  
5. Maria thinks she has something in common with ...
  - a. Peter.
  - b. Mr Hughes.
  - c. her mother.
  
6. Maria decides to ...
  - a. keep her secret.
  - b. tell someone her secret and get help.
  - c. talk to Peter.

**Discussion**

Do you agree that bad secrets are only bad until you tell someone?