Big Hair Day  Margaret Johnson

Before reading

1. Look at the front cover. What is the woman’s hair like?
2. Look at the woman. How does she feel?
3. What can you see behind the woman? Where is she?
4. What do you think the title of the book means?
5. Read the blurb on the back cover. Who is the main character? What is she going to do? Who is Fabio Facelli?
6. If you have the CD listen to the first chapter.

Check your reading

Chapter 1

1. Where is Sophia Reynolds now?
2. Why is she there?
3. Is Sophia a film star?
4. Put the events in the correct order:
   _____ (a) The woman wants to know where Bank Street is.
   _____ (b) When she gets back the woman isn’t there.
   _____ (c) The wind blows the map under a bus.
   _____ (d) A woman stops Sophia in the street.
   _____ (e) She goes to the police station
   _____ (f) Sophia gets out her map of Norwich.
   _____ (g) Sophia runs and gets her map.
   _____ (h) Sophia sees that the bag isn’t her bag.

Chapter 2

1. Write short answers to the following questions:
   a) Who is ‘Mr Sit Down’?
   b) Why does Sophia call him ‘Mr Sit Down’?
   c) What does she like about the policeman?
   d) How long does Sophia wait to talk to the policeman?
2. Look at the picture on page 16. Make a list of the things in Sophia’s bag.
3. What does the policeman do with the woman’s bag?
4. What must Sophia do later?

Chapter 3

1. Who says the following things?
   a) Where’s your mother?
   b) What’s your name?
   c) Are you Mr Sit Down?
   d) Thank you for your help.
   e) I must be at work in ten minutes.
2. What is Mr Sit Down’s real name?
3. Why does Sophia think ‘I want to die’ on page 19?

Chapter 4

1. Match the beginnings and endings.
   1) Sophia waits
   2) A fast red car
   3) The two men
   4) Sophia goes into the police station
   5) When George comes out
   6) Sophia runs up the street
   a) to get George’s help.
   b) crashes into the car in front.
   c) to Chapelfield Park.
   d) to cross the street.
   e) the two men are fighting.
   f) start shouting.

Chapter 5

1. Are these sentences True or False?
   a) Sophia is late for the film.
   b) Sophia has 1960s big hair for the film.
   c) Fabio Facelli plays a singer called Ricky Burns.
   d) The director stops the film because Sophia shouts ‘Ricky’.
   e) Sophia thinks Fabio’s beautiful eyes are cold.
   f) Sophia gets a text message from the woman who has her bag.
   g) Fabio Facelli runs into Sophia and she is angry.
   h) Sophia thinks George is nicer than Fabio.

Chapter 6

1. Put the adjectives in the box into the correct sentences.
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big  famous  tired  cold  good  black

1) After the film, Sophia feels _______.
2) George Cooper is on a _______ motorbike.
3) Sophia thinks George looks good in _______ clothes.
4) Sophia thinks about Fabio Facelli and his _______ eyes.
5) George asks if Sophia is going to be _______.
6) Sophia thinks that George Cooper films are very _______.

After reading ________________________

Choose some of these activities.

1. Write about what happens to Sophia and George next.
2. Imagine you are making a film of this story. Who plays Sophia, George and Fabio Facelli?
3. Think of another title for Big Hair Day and say why it is good.
4. Write an email to the author, Margaret Johnson, saying what you like and don't like about the story and why.
5. Choose one of the pictures and describe it carefully.
6. Write an email from Sophia to her sister telling her all about the day in Norwich.
7. Write a quiz about this story for other students to do. Include some True/False questions or some correct/incorrect sentences.
8. Which character do you like best? Write a paragraph saying what you like about them.
9. Write a summary of the story in 150 words.