Too Old to Rock and Roll and Other Stories  

**Before Reading**

**BEFORE READING ACTIVITIES (PAGE 44)**

**ACTIVITY 1** BEFORE READING

2. Daniel 5. Daniel 8. The girl

**ACTIVITY 2** BEFORE READING

Encourage students to speculate and to make guesses, but do not tell them the answers. They will find out as they read that the answers are 1c, 2b and 3b.

**ACTIVITY 3** BEFORE READING

Open answers. Encourage discussion about the possible differences between the two lists.

**While Reading**

**TOO OLD TO ROCK AND ROLL** WHILE READING

1. Greg, to Valerie, about the fighting between him and his father.
2. Valerie, to Steve, about Christmas and his dead wife, Frances.
3. Valerie, to Greg, about being a bit unkind to make his father come back to life.
5. Greg’s mother, to Greg, about the two women who work for his father.
6. Greg, to Steve/his Dad, about Yvonne’s party.
7. Steve/Greg’s Dad, to Greg, about Valerie.
8. Toby, to Greg, about Valerie and Greg’s Dad.
9. Steve’s new girlfriend, to Greg, about the dinner he has made.
10. Greg, to Steve’s new girlfriend, about having his own life to live.

**INVITATION TO TEA** WHILE READING

1. When the story-teller first saw Rockingham Crescent, she thought it was a wonderful place.
2. The front garden of Pat’s house was full of old bicycle wheels and bottles and old boxes.
3. Pat’s family lived in one room.
4. Pat lit a fire with some wood from the floor of the room downstairs.
5. The two girls sat in the dark because there were no lights.
6. The story-teller found it difficult to make conversation.
7. After tea, Pat wanted the story-teller to leave.
8. Pat’s mother wore cheap clothes and looked old.
9. The story-teller didn’t tell her mother about Pat’s home.
10. After the visit Pat and the story-teller were not very friendly.
11. Pat asked the story-teller home for tea because she wanted to be like the same as other people.

**PARTY WALL** WHILE READING

1. Jenny sleeps in the room next to Daniel’s.
2. Russell has a wonderful singing voice.
3. Jenny uses a lot of hot water and the others shout at her.
4. Russell asks Jenny to go out with him before Christmas.
5. Jenny forgets her key one day and knocks on Duncan’s window, but it’s Russell who hears her and lets her in.
6. Anna has a birthday party one Saturday night.
7. Jenny sends Russell away from her room at three o’clock in the morning after the party.
8. Anna has a good-looking boyfriend to stay at Easter.
9. Russell calls up to Jenny’s window in the spring.
10. Jenny doesn’t want to be alone in the house with Russell, and shouts at Duncan because he is leaving before her.
11. Russell cries in Jenny’s room after she leaves.

**After Reading**

**ACTIVITY 1** AFTER READING

6. **GREG’S FATHER**: Hello, Penny, it’s Stephen Barber – Steve. We met at Yvonne’s party, you remember?
10. **GIRLFRIEND**: Hi, Steve. Of course I remember. It was a good party, wasn’t it?
4. **GREG’S FATHER**: Fantastic! I really enjoyed it. Look, I wanted to ask you, Penny – are you free tomorrow?
7. **GIRLFRIEND**: Tomorrow? Yes, I think so.
3. **GREG’S FATHER**: Well, would you like to meet me for lunch?
1. **GIRLFRIEND**: Sure, I’d love to. Shall we meet at the optician’s?
12. **GREG’S FATHER**: No, I’m not working tomorrow, so I can come to your house if you like.
9. **GIRLFRIEND**: Great. You’ve got my address, haven’t you?
2. **GREG’S FATHER**: Yes, I have. I thought we could go for a drive, find somewhere nice to eat . . . Oh, just a minute—
11. **GIRLFRIEND**: Was that your front door bell, Steve?
8. **GREG’S FATHER**: Yes, it was. Sorry, Penny, I’ve got to go. We’ve got a visitor. See you tomorrow, about eleven, OK?
5. **GIRLFRIEND**: OK. See you then. Bye.
She's not interested – doesn't want to know.

Jenny, in Too Old to Rock and Roll. It's the first Saturday when Greg's father goes out with his new girlfriend. Valerie and Greg are sitting at the kitchen table while Valerie prepares lunch for them both.

Russell, in Party Wall. It's May, and she has just looked out of her bedroom window to see Russell, who has been calling up to her from the garden.

The mother of the schoolfriend in Invitation to Tea. Her daughter has just come home early after her visit to Pat's house.

The hidden word going across is ‘decorations’. The best clue is number 3.

1 Pat’s mother, in Invitation to Tea. She has just arrived home and found Pat and her schoolfriend together in the house, and is shocked and surprised that Pat has brought a visitor to the house.
2 Valerie, in Too Old to Rock and Roll. It's the first Saturday when Greg’s father goes out with his new girlfriend. Valerie and Greg are sitting at the kitchen table while Valerie prepares lunch for them both.
3 Russell, in Party Wall. It’s May, and she has just looked out of her bedroom window to see Russell, who has been calling up to her from the garden.
4 Greg’s father’s young girlfriend, in Too Old to Rock and Roll. She has just come to the house on the Friday evening and met Greg for the first time.
5 Jenny, in Party Wall. It’s May, and she has just looked out of her bedroom window to see Russell, who has been calling up to her from the garden.
6 The mother of the schoolfriend in Invitation to Tea. Her daughter has just come home early after her visit to Pat’s house.
Activity 7: After Reading

Titles which could go with more than one story are in bold:

Too Old to Rock and Roll:
- Life after Death
- The Girlfriend
- Worrying About Dad
- A Difficult Visit
- Love Makes Trouble

Invitation to Tea:
- The Schoolfriend
- Like Other People
- Home
- A Difficult Visit
- Other People's Secrets

Party Wall:
- On the Other Side
- Listening to Life
- The Arm on the Window-Sill
- Love Makes Trouble
- Other People's Secrets

Activity 8: After Reading

Open answers.