

## The Manor House

One deliberate step at a time, Lara crept quietly down the long, winding staircase. At the bottom, she paused, but all that she could hear was blood thumping in her ears. She'd be back before they awoke...

In the pitch darkness, she entered Harrow Woods. Her torchlight found the path and occasionally flashed to show her the black, quivering leaves. Dark clouds had muted the moon. Creeping through the undergrowth, she came to the ruins of the manor house, their shadowy walls eclipsing what lay ahead. In the front garden, the ancient fountain was still and smothered in years of moss. Overgrown rose bushes blocked the path, painted thick with fallen petals. Warily, Lara perched on the edge of the fountain, took her camera from her bag with trembling hands and turned to face the trees. It was here that she had first seen it. This time she'd be ready...

After a few moments, she heard the wind awaken in the woods. The water rippled, the trees rustled and a damp petal landed on her cheek. Lara shivered. Behind her, a door slammed. What was that? She whipped round to face the house. A shadow moved through the downstairs room. A light flicked on. Heart pounding, legs trembling, Lara ran, shoving her camera back in her bag as she scrambled away from the fountain. She was sure she could hear something cracking the dried twigs behind her, as she sped through the woods, panting heavily. She didn't stop until she reached Meadow Drive, where she paused by a lamppost to catch her breath.

Next time, she thought. Next time, I'll be ready...

### Vocabulary Tuesday

1) Find and copy a phrase which explains how Laura walked?

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2) The staircase was;

Steep

Meandering

Long

Short

3) Find and copy a phrase which tells the reader that Laura's torchlight did not work all the time.

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4) Find and copy a word which explains that the moon was hidden.

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5) Overgrown means that;

The rose bush had not been looked after

The rose bush had too many roses

The rose bush was dying

6) Lara perched on the edge.....Explain what this means.

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7) Find the antonym for trembling

Steady

Twisted

Shaking

8) 'She scrambled away'.....Explain what this means.

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Green Group

9) 'Their shadowy walls eclipsing what lay ahead' What picture is created in your mind?

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### Retrieval questions Wednesday

1. Find and copy the vocabulary that describes the fountain.
2. As Lara ran through the woods, two sounds could be heard. List those sounds.
3. Where did Lara sit? Tick the correct answer.

By the side of the fountain	<input type="checkbox"/>
On the edge of the fountain	<input type="checkbox"/>
In the fountain	<input type="checkbox"/>
Near the fountain	<input type="checkbox"/>
Above the fountain	<input type="checkbox"/>

4. Find and copy the phrase which tells the reader that the wind was affecting the woods.
5. List 3 things that happened that made Lara run away from the Manor House.

6. Order the events in the story

She found the path with her torch	
She stopped under the lamp post to catch her breath	
She took out her camera	
Lara quietly walked down the stairs	1
She heard the wind blowing through the trees	
She came to the Manor House	

Inference Thursday

1. Why do you think the author has written **all that she could hear was blood thumping in her ears** at the beginning of the text? Which emotion is he trying to convey?
2. What effect is created by describing the petals as painted thick.  
**Overgrown rose bushes blocked the path, painted thick with fallen petals.**
3. How do we know that Lara had gone back to the woods for a second time? Find evidence in the text.
4. How did the author show that Lara was frightened? Find and copy the words from the text. Give 2 more show not tell phrases that could be used to show how scared she was.
5. What do you think Lara meant when she said,  
**Next time, she thought. Next time, I'll be ready...**