

## Before-reading questions

- 1 *Reader's own answers.*
- 2 *Reader's own answers.*
- 3 *Reader's own answers.*
- 4 *Reader's own answers.*
- 5 *Reader's own answers.*

## During-reading questions

### CHAPTER ONE

- 1 They are at a rehearsal for the school play.
- 2 Martin likes Abby and wants Simon to help him make her his girlfriend. If he doesn't do this, Martin might show people screenshots of Simon's emails with Blue, and then they would know that Simon was gay. It would make him come out.
- 3 Because Leah likes Nick, but Nick likes Abby, who is very cute.

### CHAPTER TWO

- 1 They met on "Creeksecrets," a private part of the school's Tumblr. Creeksecrets is named after Shady Creek, where Simon lives. People can write anonymously on Creeksecrets.
- 2 Because he makes jokes about gay people.
- 3 He invites Martin to a Halloween party, where Abby will be.

### CHAPTER THREE

- 1 Someone who is seventeen can drive lots of people in their car. Someone who is sixteen can only drive one person.
- 2 Because people are drinking beer and other strong drinks. Simon isn't used to this kind of party.
- 3 **Model answer:** He means that people do not really know him because they do not know that he is gay.

### CHAPTER FOUR

- 1 He pushes his foot against Simon's and says "happy birthday" to him. Then, Cal puts his hand on Simon's shoulder. (Simon thinks that Cal is cute and that he might be gay.)
- 2 Because Simon knows that Blue likes Oreos, and they often joke together about them. He wants to know if Cal is Blue.
- 3 Because he knows that Simon likes a singer called Elliott Smith and wonders if he wears his band T-shirts. (T-shirts with a band's name on them.)

### CHAPTER FIVE

- 1 Bram always looks like he is thinking about something funny. Simon would like to share the joke with him.
- 2 He is angry because Simon called Abby an asshole. No, he's not right, because Simon was joking and Abby knows this.
- 3 He was worried that his mom would be unhappy if he came out to his dad first. So he decided to come out to her first.

### CHAPTER SIX

- 1 Simon thinks he's funny and feels he's becoming his friend—but Martin is also blackmailing him!
- 2 He tells her that he is gay.  
**Model answer:** No, because he feels like he's losing something. Until then, he's the only person who knows that he is gay.
- 3 Blue pulled his own walls down (allowed himself to come out) and pulled down Simon's walls, too.

### CHAPTER SEVEN

- 1 Because he's known them both a long time, and he feels that, when he tells them, he won't be the Simon they know any more. It is easier with Abby because she has only known him for four months.

- 2 Because Cal is drawing a superhero and Blue loves superheroes. Simon also thinks that Cal is gay.
- 3 Because Abby said no to him after he let her know that he liked her. Five minutes later, she and Simon were lying on the floor with their arms round each other.

#### CHAPTER EIGHT

- 1 Because they have seen the post on Creeksecrets and want Simon to tell them if it is true or not true that he is gay.
- 2 His mom wants to talk about it. His dad makes jokes.

#### CHAPTER NINE

- 1 He doesn't want to get out of the car and doesn't want to be there.
- 2 Because they are laughing at Simon for being gay. They want the people in the audience to laugh at him, too.
- 3 Because he writes "the one who watches." This is the meaning of Spier—Simon's last name.

#### CHAPTER TEN

- 1 Because he likes Cal but he is in love with Blue, who he thinks is a coward. Because he loves Blue, he cannot go out with Cal.
- 2 Someone has changed "Fagin" to "Fag"—a very bad word about gay people.
- 3 She talks to the audience (who are students) about bullying.

#### CHAPTER ELEVEN

- 1 He thinks that Martin might be Blue. Martin has an American president's name, and Simon knows that Blue has an American president's name. He is also clever, and Blue is clever.
- 2 Because he comes home drunk.
- 3 Because he, Nick and Abby did not take her to the gay bar with them.

#### CHAPTER TWELVE

- 1 Because his friends are not there after it finishes and some of them (Abby and Leah) are angry with him for different reasons.
- 2 Because, when he gets his laptop back, he looks at the time and date of his emails and realizes that Martin was at rehearsals for many of those times.
- 3 He writes to Blue and asks him to meet him at the cast party.

#### CHAPTER THIRTEEN

- 1 He goes home to get the T-shirt that Blue gave him. He finds a note in it from Blue.
- 2 He is Bram. Bram says that he likes Simon's T-shirt.
- 3 Because he came out to Abby before her.

#### CHAPTER FOURTEEN

- 1 He realizes that Leah and Nora are in a band. Leah is playing drums, and Nora plays guitar. Nick has been teaching her secretly.
- 2 **Model answer:** It will be about Simon and his boyfriend, Bram. His parents will want to talk about the two boys being careful and practicing safe sex.
- 3 **Model answer:** Simon wants his parents to see him as an adult and understand that Bram is a serious boyfriend. He welcomes the conversation because of this.

### After-reading questions

- 1 *Reader's own answer.*
- 2 **Model answer:** Because Simon could not control the people who knew about him. His secret was taken from him and shared to everyone who read the post. It was easier for Blue because he was able to come out in his own time and in his own way. He built up the confidence to speak to his parents and tell them the truth.

**3 Model answer:** Martin did not really want to hurt Simon. He was just angry about Abby. When he saw the jocks and heard about the changed cast list, he felt really bad. He wanted to be Simon's friend.

- 5 Leah
- 6 Nora
- 7 Simon's mom
- 8 Simon's dad

## Exercises

### CHAPTERS ONE AND TWO

- 1 1 false
- 2 false
- 3 true
- 4 false
- 5 true
- 6 true
- 7 true

### CHAPTERS THREE AND FOUR

- 2 1 pumpkin
- 2 jock
- 3 Halloween
- 4 reality TV show
- 5 costume
- 6 cheerleader

### CHAPTER FIVE AND SIX

- 3 1 It's not Simon's paper, **is it?**
- 2 She's practicing her lines from Oliver!, **isn't she?**
- 3 We're just joking, **aren't we?**
- 4 So you live with your mom, **don't you?**
- 5 He's a cute strange guy, **isn't he?**
- 6 You're not surprised, **are you?**
- 7 You are having safe sex, **aren't you?**
- 8 You were the reason that I was able to come out, **weren't you?**

### CHAPTER SEVEN AND EIGHT

- 4 1 Simon
- 2 Martin
- 3 Cal
- 4 Simon

### CHAPTERS NINE AND TEN

- 5 1 She made me angry. Her **post** on the internet was really rude.
- 2 I keep my school things in my **locker**.
- 3 A **basement** is at the bottom of a house.
- 4 He was **suspended** from school because he was rude to a teacher.
- 5 I have two **pillows** on my bed.
- 6 There was a huge **audience** in the auditorium.
- 7 I **signed** the letter and then posted it.
- 8 It was a bad school. There was a lot of **bullying** there.

### CHAPTERS ELEVEN AND TWELVE

- 6 1 "But my mom's gone away tonight so the house and car are mine. You're going **to stay** (stay) with me."
- 2 The talk is easy, and we keep **laughing** (laugh).
- 3 "I thought that you **were staying** (stay) with Abby."
- 4 But, when it finishes, Abby leaves without saying goodbye, and Nick **goes** (go), too.
- 5 Many of those emails **were sent** (send) straight after school.
- 6 I know that I **haven't written** (not write) for a while.
- 7 So there's a cast party **happening** (happen) in the car park.

### CHAPTERS THIRTEEN AND FOURTEEN

- 7 1 b    2 f    3 c    4 a
- 5 e    6 h    7 g    8 d

## ALL CHAPTERS

8 1 e 2 g 3 h 4 f  
5 a 6 c 7 d 8 b

**Project work**

*Reader's own answers.*