

Before-reading questions

- 1 *Reader's own answer.*
- 2 *Reader's own answer.*
- 3 *Reader's own answer. Model answer:*
Westminster Bridge, Trafalgar Square,
Big Ben, River Thames.

During-reading questions

CHAPTER ONE

- 1 It is an important day because the children can open the first doors of their Advent calendars.
- 2 Alex is unhappy because his dad's arm is broken, and the family are poor. He wants a skateboard for Christmas, but they are expensive.

CHAPTER TWO

- 1 Carrie wants a doll's house. Sara wants a scooter. Alex tells his parents he does not want a present, but he tells Justin he wants a skateboard.
- 2 He says this because Alex is unhappy, and the family are poor but they have a home. They are not *very* poor.

CHAPTER THREE

- 1 His dad lives with his new family.
- 2 His mum has to be in New York.

CHAPTER FOUR

- 1 She says this because Santa needs to read the letter. He gets the presents then brings them down the chimney on Christmas Day.
- 2 The tree is from Camden Market. Sara and Carrie make decorations. One of the decorations is a star for the top of the tree.

CHAPTER FIVE

- 1 They go to Trafalgar Square. They eat warm mince pies and drink hot chocolate. They listen to carols.
- 2 Alex talks to David. David lives on the street. He has no home and no job. He is cold and hungry.

CHAPTER SIX

- 1 They sing carols.
- 2 Santa Claus eats mince pies and the reindeer eat a carrot.

CHAPTER SEVEN

- 1 The presents in the stockings are from Santa (or Mum and Dad). The presents under the tree are from Mum and Dad.
- 2 Justin and Maria come for dinner. They bring their turkey and lots of food.

CHAPTER EIGHT

- 1 They put the Christmas food in boxes and take it to poor people. They take the food and give it to David and his friends in Trafalgar Square.
- 2 They go to Westminster Bridge and look at London.

After-reading questions

- 1 No, he is not real.
- 2 *Reader's own answer. Model answer:*
Justin has a nice house and lots of expensive presents. But his mum has to travel and his dad is with his new family. Justin is lonely.

- 3 *Reader's own answer. Model answer:* The children open stockings by the chimney in the morning. They get small presents. The family open big presents under the tree. They eat a big lunch with turkey and pull crackers. They put the hats from the crackers on their heads. They eat Christmas pudding and play party games. Then they watch TV, and the children play with their presents.
- 4 He learns that Christmas is not about money and expensive presents. It is about family, love and home. He sees Justin and David's lives and feels lucky.

Exercises

CHAPTER ONE

- 1 1 Alex and Archie the dog.
2 They are in Camden Market.
3 The boy is on a skateboard.

CHAPTER TWO

- 2 1 Mr Crossley is Carrie's **father**.
2 Sara is Alex's **sister**.
3 Carrie is Mrs Crossley's **daughter**.
4 Alex is Mr Crossley's **son**.
5 Alex is Carrie's **brother**.
6 Mrs Crossley is Sara's **mother**.

CHAPTER THREE

- 3 1 Alex has a family **and** they love him.
2 Justin has lots of presents **but** he is lonely.
3 Justin's mum is always flying planes **and** he never sees his dad.
4 Justin's mum has to be in New York for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day **but** Maria is here with Justin.
5 Maria lives with the family **and** helps with cleaning and cooking.
6 "Why can't Justin stay with his dad at Christmas?" Alex thinks. **But** he doesn't ask this.

CHAPTER FOUR

- 4 1 false. There are ten more days and then it's Christmas.
2 true
3 false. Santa comes down the chimney on Christmas Day.
4 false. Carrie and Sara make decorations for the tree.
5 true
6 false. Alex is not lonely but Justin is lonely.

CHAPTER FIVE

- 5 1 Sara, Alex and Carrie are **not** drawing Christmas cards for their family and friends.
2 "I **can** draw!" says Alex.
3 People are **not** singing Christmas carols.
4 Alex is happy.
5 "I have **a** home and **a** job."
6 "Your family are **not** happy and they **don't** love you."

CHAPTER SIX

- 6 1 says 2 does
3 loves 4 waits
5 goes 6 sings
7 puts

CHAPTER SEVEN

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

CHAPTER EIGHT

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

Project work

Reader's own answers.