

## WHODUNNIT?

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Sharon stared at the powerful hands that held the gun, at the eyes that slithered from side to side, into the living-room, up the staircase, over her body.

“What do you want?” she whispered. Within the crook of her arm, she could feel the violent trembling of Neil’s body. She tightened her grip, pressing him to her.

“You’re Sharon Martin.” It was a statement. The voice was a monotone, without inflection. Sharon felt a pulse pounding in her throat, closing it. She tried to swallow. “What do you want?” she asked again. The persistent soft whistle in Neil’s breathing; suppose he was frightened into one of his asthma attacks... She would offer co-operation. “I have about ninety dollars in my purse...”

Mary Higgins Clark, *A Stranger is Watching*, edited by Fontana / Collins, Great Britain. Copyright Mary Higgins Clark, 1978

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### ■ Reading

#### Task n° 1

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Which type of document is it?

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Which clues helped you decide?

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Task n° 2

Which elements do you need in order to understand the main message of such an excerpt?

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Underline them with different highlighters in the text.

Task n° 3

List all the information you are given (or that you can guess) about the three characters.

Sharon Martin	Neil	The third person

**Auto-évaluation des compétences**

**B1 Lire** – *Je peux comprendre un texte rédigé dans une langue courante.*



■ **Writing**

Task n° 1

What can you deduce about their personality? (don't forget to use modals.)

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Task n° 2

What can you infer about the situation?

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**Auto-évaluation des compétences**

**B1** **Écrire** – *Je peux, en me relisant, supprimer facilement les erreurs de langue les plus importantes.*



## **BIG BROTHER IS WATCHING YOU**

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The telescreen received and transmitted simultaneously. Any sound that Winston made, above the level of a very low whisper, would be picked up by it. [...] There was of course no way of knowing whether you were being watched at any given moment. How often, or on what system the Thought Police plugged in on any individual wire was guesswork. [...] You had to live –did live, from habit that became instinct– in the assumption that every sound you made was overheard, and, except in darkness, every movement scrutinized.

George Orwell, 1984, Penguin books, 1949



### ■ Reading

#### Task n° 1

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Which among these words are the keywords of the text: Tick (✓) the correct ones.

Sound	Transmitted	Watched	The Thought Police	Instinct
Overheard	Every	Assumption	Except in	Scrutinized

Explain your choice in French:

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Task n° 2

How were the following words created? You can answer in French. Try and translate them into French.

Telescreen

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Simultaneously

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Guesswork

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Assumption

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Overheard

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**Auto-évaluation des compétences**

**B1 Lire** – *Je devine, à l'aide du contexte, le sens des mots inconnus quand je comprends le reste du texte.*



■ **Writing**

Task n° 1

Use your answers to the first reading task to write a short summary of what the extract implies.

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Task n° 2

Write an email to your American pen-friend to tell him / her about the extract you have just read. Don't forget to include what it is about, whether you liked it and why.

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Task n° 3

What would you do if you lived in such a totalitarian state?

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**Auto-évaluation des compétences**

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| <b>B1</b> | <b>Écrire</b> – <i>Je peux restituer une information avec mes propres mots, paraphraser simplement de courts passages écrits.</i>                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>B1</b> | <b>Écrire</b> – <i>Je peux rédiger des textes ou des courriers dans lesquels j'exprime un avis personnel sur des films, la musique ou tout autre thème familier.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

## TWILIGHT

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I'D NEVER GIVEN MUCH THOUGHT TO HOW I WOULD DIE—though I'd had reason enough in the last few months— but even if I had, I would not have imagined it like this.

I stared without breathing across the long room, into the dark eyes of the hunter, and he looked pleasantly back at me. Surely it was a good way to die, in the place of someone else, someone I loved. Noble, even. That ought to count for something.

I knew that if I'd never gone to Forks, I wouldn't be facing death now. But, terrified as I was, I couldn't bring myself to regret the decision. When life offers you a dream so far beyond any of your expectations, it's not reasonable to grieve when it comes to the end.

The hunter smiled in a friendly way as he sauntered forward to kill me.

Stephenie Meyer, *Twilight*, Atom, UK, 2005.

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### ■ Reading

#### Task n° 1

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Tick the correct answer:

This is an excerpt from:

- The preface of a novel
- The end of a novel

Explain your answer:

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