

DOMINOES

Zombie Attack!



QUICK STARTER

250 HEADWORDS

OXFORD

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DOMINOES

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Zombie Attack!

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Lesley Thompson was born in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, in the North of England, but she moved to Spain some years ago, and now lives near Alicante. She loves reading, the cinema, music, laughing with her friends, and looking at the sea. She also enjoys walking in the countryside in England and Spain, and one day she hopes to walk the Camino de Santiago in northern Spain. Lesley has also written *V is for Vampire*, *Lisa's Song*, *Deep Trouble*, and *The Real McCoy and Other Ghost Stories*, and has adapted *Twenty Thousand Leagues under the Sea* and *The Secret Agent* in the Dominoes series. She likes watching old horror movies.

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Story Characters



Professor Clark



Tasha Kiara



*Chaz,
a TV reporter*



*Leroy,
a TV camera operator*



*Ella,
a TV sound engineer*



*Sam,
a tanker truck driver*



Zombies



Police officers

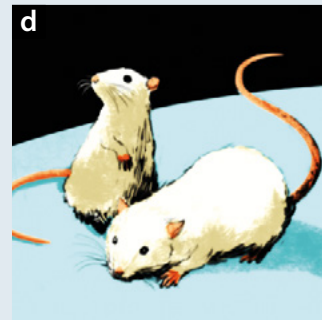
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BEFORE READING

1 Match the words and pictures. Use a dictionary to help you.



1 cemetery

2 earthquake

3 lab

4 rats

5 scientist

6 zombies

2 What do you think happens in the story? Complete the sentences with the words from Activity 1.

- a Professor Clark is an American
- b He works in a in the town of Brillo.
- c He works with white
- d One day, a big hits the town.
- e Dead people in the are suddenly alive again.
- f A lot of come after Professor Clark.

CHAPTER 1

In the Professor's lab

Professor Clark is an important **scientist** in the United States. Day and night, he works in his **lab**. It's in the hills near the little town of Brillo in California.

He's working on a new **serum**. 'This can change everything!' he thinks.

Tasha Kiara is a young scientist in the Professor's lab. She isn't happy about Professor Clark's latest work.

The Professor is always saying, 'Why must people die? My new serum can stop that!'

'This can't be right,' Tasha thinks. 'What's the matter with Professor Clark? Is he going **crazy**?'

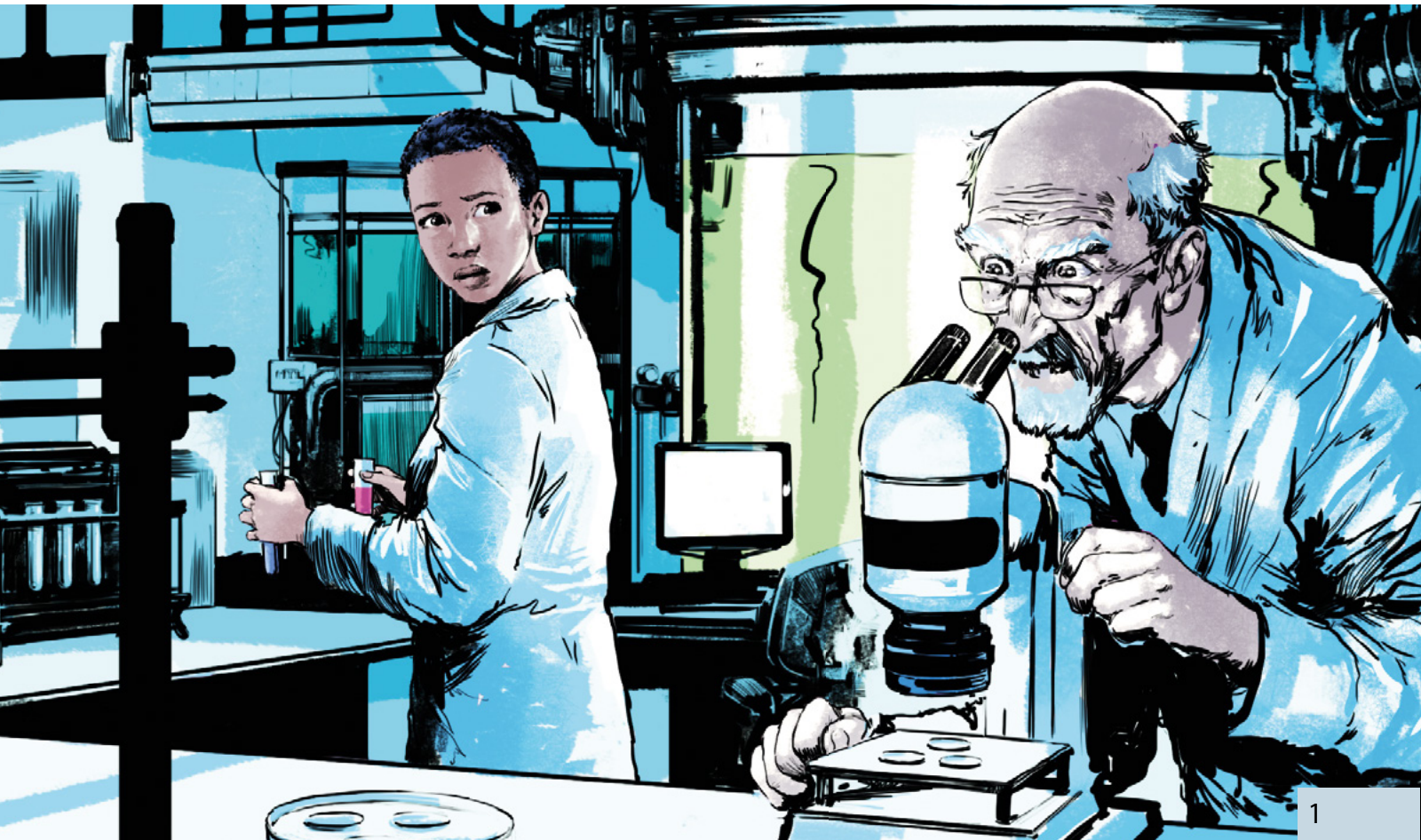
professor an important person who studies a lot and teaches

scientist a person who studies the natural world

lab (short for **laboratory**) a room where a scientist works

serum liquid that comes from an animal which does not get an illness; it can stop other animals getting ill

crazy not thinking well





One day, Tasha sees something **awful**. The Professor **injects** a dead **rat** with his new serum. Minutes later, the rat begins to move on the lab table. It is suddenly alive again!

awful very bad

inject to put something into the body of a person or animal

rat an animal like a big mouse

local TV station this makes television programmes for part of the country near you

reporter a person who speaks about things on the TV

‘Professor! What are you doing?’ Tasha cries.

‘Look!’ Clark smiles. ‘This rat’s not dead now. My serum works!’

‘You can’t do this,’ says Tasha more quietly. ‘It’s wrong, Professor. Do it again, and I must tell someone. I must speak to the **local TV station** about you.’

The Professor laughs. His eyes are crazy.

‘Do that,’ he says. ‘But don’t bring any **reporters** here now! Not before I’m ready for them.’

READING CHECK

Write *Tasha* or *Clark* to complete the sentences.

- a *Clark* has a new serum.
- b wants never to die.
- c is not happy about the serum.
- d is very happy about the serum.
- e does not want to speak to reporters now.
- f must speak to someone soon.



Professor Clark



Tasha Kiara

GUESS WHAT

What happens in the next chapter? Tick two boxes to finish each sentence.

a Tasha ...



1 calls the local TV station.



2 kills Professor Clark.



3 meets a reporter.

b In the town, ...



1 there is an earthquake.



2 people run into the street.



3 the zombies arrive.

CHAPTER 2

In the diner

Tasha calls the local TV station. That evening, she meets with the reporter Chaz, his **camera operator** Leroy, and **sound engineer** Ella. They meet in the **diner** in town and talk.

camera

operator this person takes moving photos for a TV station

sound engineer

this person records people talking for a TV station

diner

you can eat or drink in this building

dangerous

that can kill you

‘So, what’s the story, Tasha?’ Chaz asks.

Tasha tells them all about the Professor, his new serum, and the dead rat.

‘Wow!’ Ella says. ‘That’s very interesting!’

‘I know,’ Tasha answers, ‘but it’s something **dangerous**, too. Today, it’s dead rats. But who knows



about tomorrow? Professor Clark's work usually helps people, but this is something new. He doesn't listen to me any more. Something's wrong with him.'

'Well, thank you for calling us,' Chaz says. 'It's a wonderful story for our local TV station. But we must go to the lab and speak with the Professor.'

'He's not ready to speak to reporters,' Tasha says, 'but I can open the lab for you. Let's go there tonight. Then you can see the rats and the serum.'

'OK,' Chaz says. 'It's 10 o'clock now. Is this a good time?'



earthquake

when the ground
moves suddenly

‘Yes, it is,’ Tasha answers. ‘The Professor usually goes home at 9.00pm. Hey, what’s happening? The table’s moving!’

Suddenly, everything in the room is moving. ‘Help!’ the people in the diner cry.

‘It’s an **earthquake!**’ Leroy says. ‘Quick! Let’s get out of here!’

They all run into the street.

‘Listen. We must go to the lab now!’ Tasha tells them. ‘There’s a lot of serum there. And, with this earthquake, that’s dangerous!’

‘OK. My car’s over there!’
Chaz says.



READING CHECK

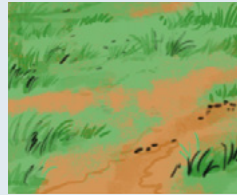
Are these sentences true or false? Tick the boxes.

	True	False
a Tasha meets three people from the local TV station.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b Ella isn't very interested in Tasha's story.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c Chaz wants to go to the lab.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d The Professor usually stays at the lab all night.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e Tasha can open the lab.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f There is an earthquake when Tasha is in the diner.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g Tasha is happy about the serum.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

GUESS WHAT

What happens in the next chapter? Circle the words to complete the sentences.

a The serum is in the *ground / sky* .



b Some serum goes to the *airport / cemetery* .



c The *zombies / reporters* walk to the lab.



d Professor Clark arrives and asks about *Tasha / his serum* .



e The zombies break the windows of the *lab / supermarket* .

