

Taxi of Terror



'How does it work?' Jack asks when he opens his present – a mobile phone.

Later that night, Jack is a prisoner in a taxi in the empty streets of the dark city. Now he tries his mobile phone for the first time. Can it save his life? (Word count 970)

TAXI OF TERROR Phillip Burrows and Mark Foster

ING91
PHI
tax

ING91 - PHI - tax



002647W

Taxi of Terror

PHILLIP BURROWS
AND MARK FOSTER



- ◀ STAGE 6
- ◀ STAGE 5
- ◀ STAGE 4
- ◀ STAGE 3
- ◀ STAGE 2
- ◀ STAGE 1
- ◀ **STARTER**

THRILLER & ADVENTURE

Cover image by Cameron Davidson/
Photographer's Choice courtesy of Getty Images

STARTER 250 Headwords

THE OXFORD BOOKWORMS LIBRARY: GET MORE FROM YOUR READING

OXFORD
UNIVERSITY PRESS

OXFORD ENGLISH
ISBN 978-0-19-423418-4



9 780194 234184

www.oup.com/elt



TAXI OF TERROR

'Good luck Jack. Don't forget us!' Jack's work friends are saying goodbye to him. They are having a party for him because he is leaving for a new job. He gets a card and a present – a mobile phone. Jack's friends are sad, but the party is good and they all dance for hours.

Then Jack leaves the party. He's tired and he wants to go home. 'It's cold,' he thinks. He looks for a taxi, but he can't find one. He walks for a long time – he is getting very tired. Then, at last, he sees a taxi. Great! Now he can go home and sleep!

But this is only the beginning of a long night – a long night in the taxi of terror!



OXFORD BOOKWORMS LIBRARY

Thriller & Adventure

Taxi of Terror

Starter (250 headwords)

PHILLIP BURROWS AND MARK FOSTER

Taxi of Terror



OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS

OXFORD
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Great Clarendon Street, Oxford OX2 6DP

Oxford University Press is a department of the University of Oxford.
It furthers the University's objective of excellence in research, scholarship,
and education by publishing worldwide in

Oxford New York

Auckland Cape Town Dar es Salaam Hong Kong Karachi
Kuala Lumpur Madrid Melbourne Mexico City Nairobi
New Delhi Shanghai Taipei Toronto

With offices in

Argentina Austria Brazil Chile Czech Republic France Greece
Guatemala Hungary Italy Japan Poland Portugal Singapore
South Korea Switzerland Thailand Turkey Ukraine Vietnam

OXFORD and OXFORD ENGLISH are registered trade marks of
Oxford University Press in the UK and in certain other countries

This edition © Oxford University Press 2008

The moral rights of the author have been asserted

Database right Oxford University Press (maker)

First published in Oxford Bookworms 2000

4 6 8 10 9 7 5

No unauthorized photocopying

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced,
stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means,
without the prior permission in writing of Oxford University Press,
or as expressly permitted by law, or under terms agreed with the appropriate
reprographics rights organization. Enquiries concerning reproduction
outside the scope of the above should be sent to the ELT Rights Department,
Oxford University Press, at the address above

You must not circulate this book in any other binding or cover
and you must impose this same condition on any acquirer

Any websites referred to in this publication are in the public domain and
their addresses are provided by Oxford University Press for information only.
Oxford University Press disclaims any responsibility for the content

ISBN: 978 0 19 423418 4

Printed in Hong Kong

Word count (main text): 970

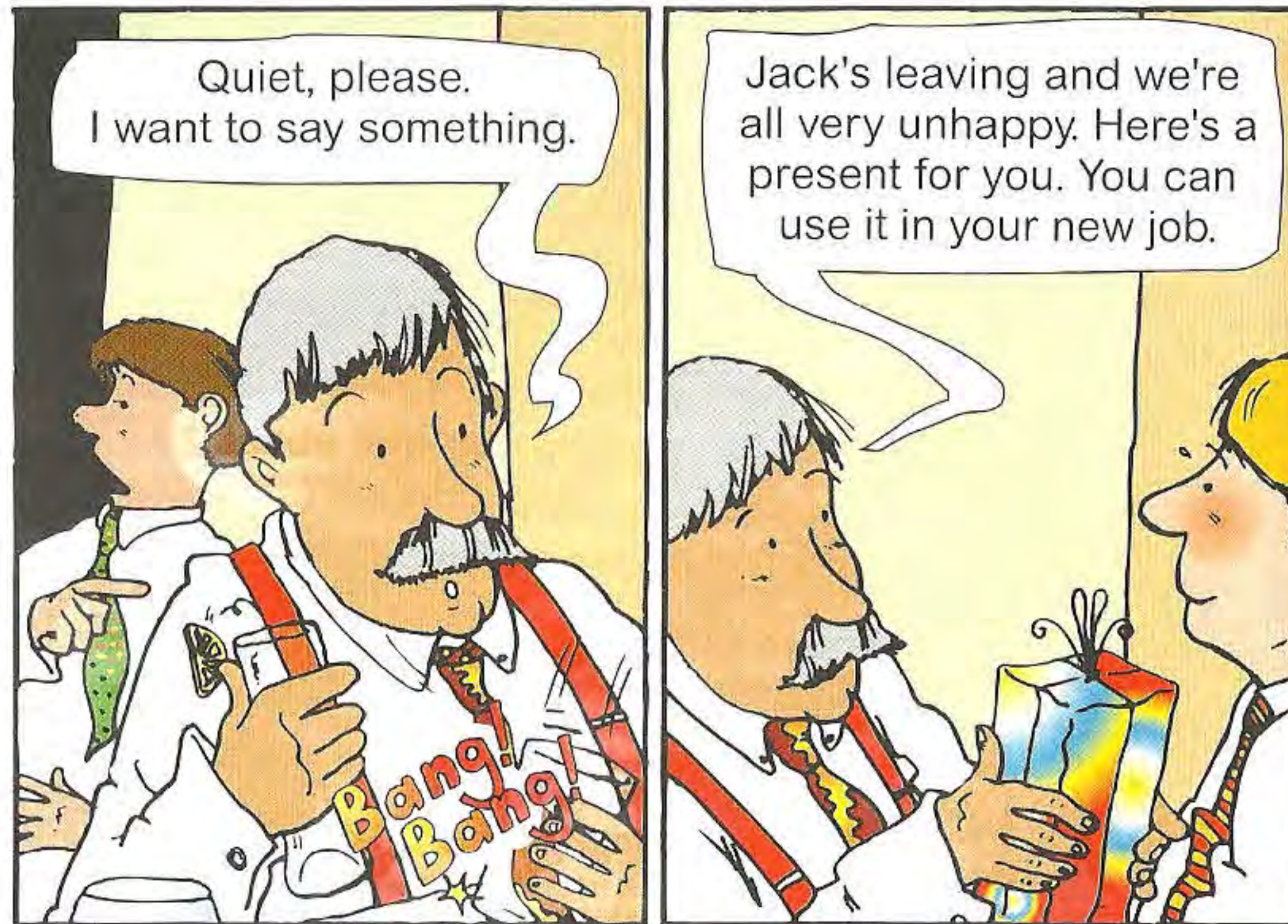
For more information on the Oxford Bookworms Library
www.oup.com/bookworms

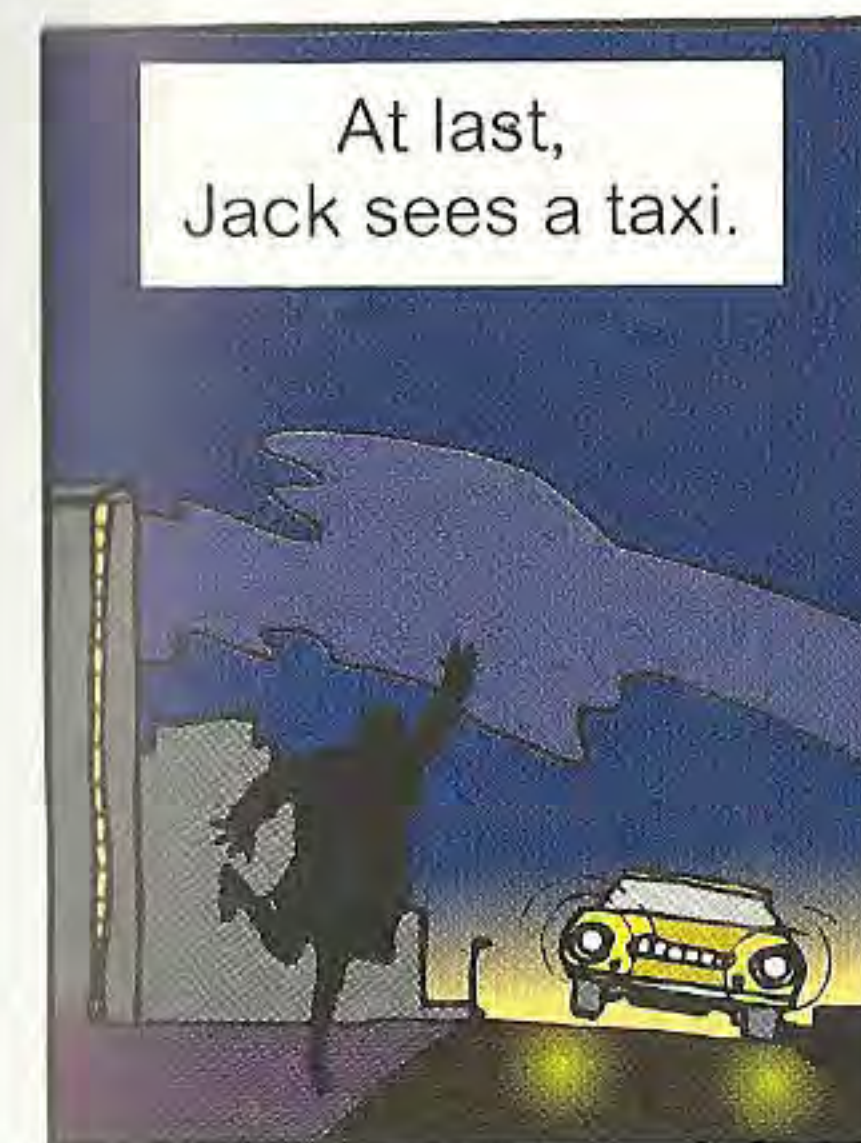
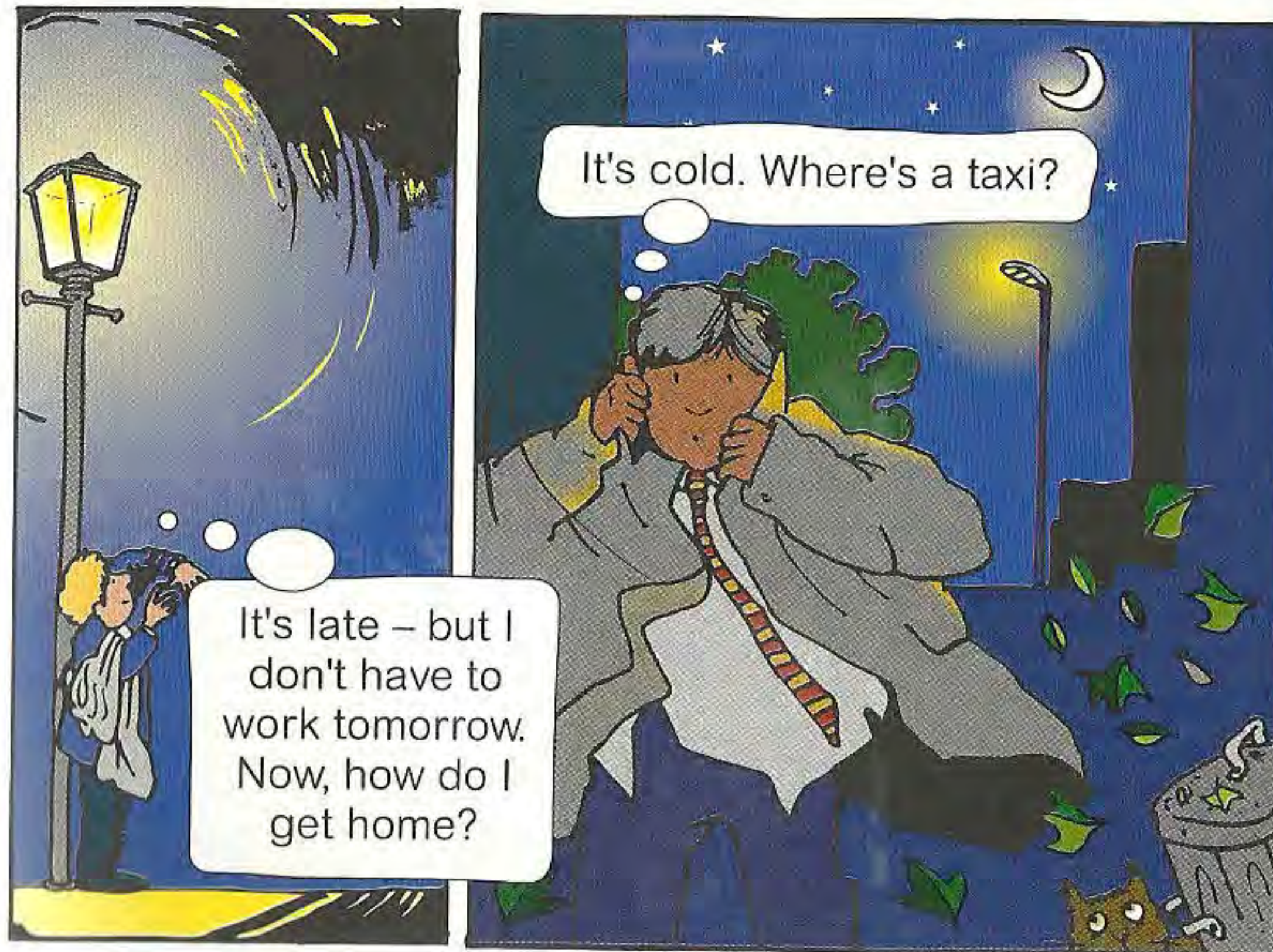
CONTENTS

| | |
|-----------------------------|----|
| STORY INTRODUCTION | i |
| Taxi of Terror | 1 |
| GLOSSARY | 25 |
| ACTIVITIES: Before Reading | 29 |
| ACTIVITIES: While Reading | 30 |
| ACTIVITIES: After Reading | 32 |
| ABOUT THE AUTHORS | 34 |
| ABOUT THE BOOKWORMS LIBRARY | 35 |

TAXI OF TERROR

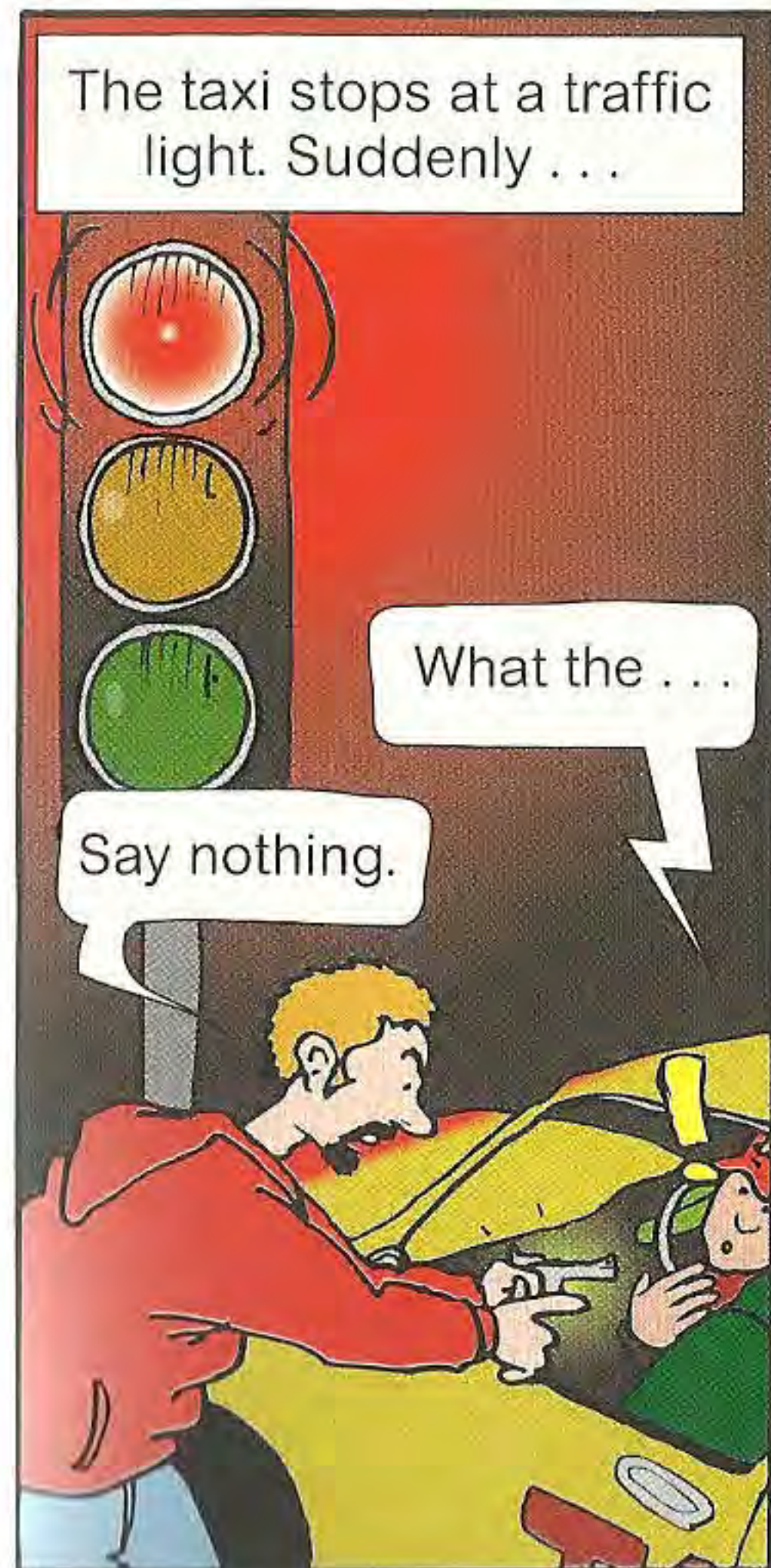








It's late. He needs his bed.



The taxi stops at a traffic light. Suddenly . . .

Say nothing.

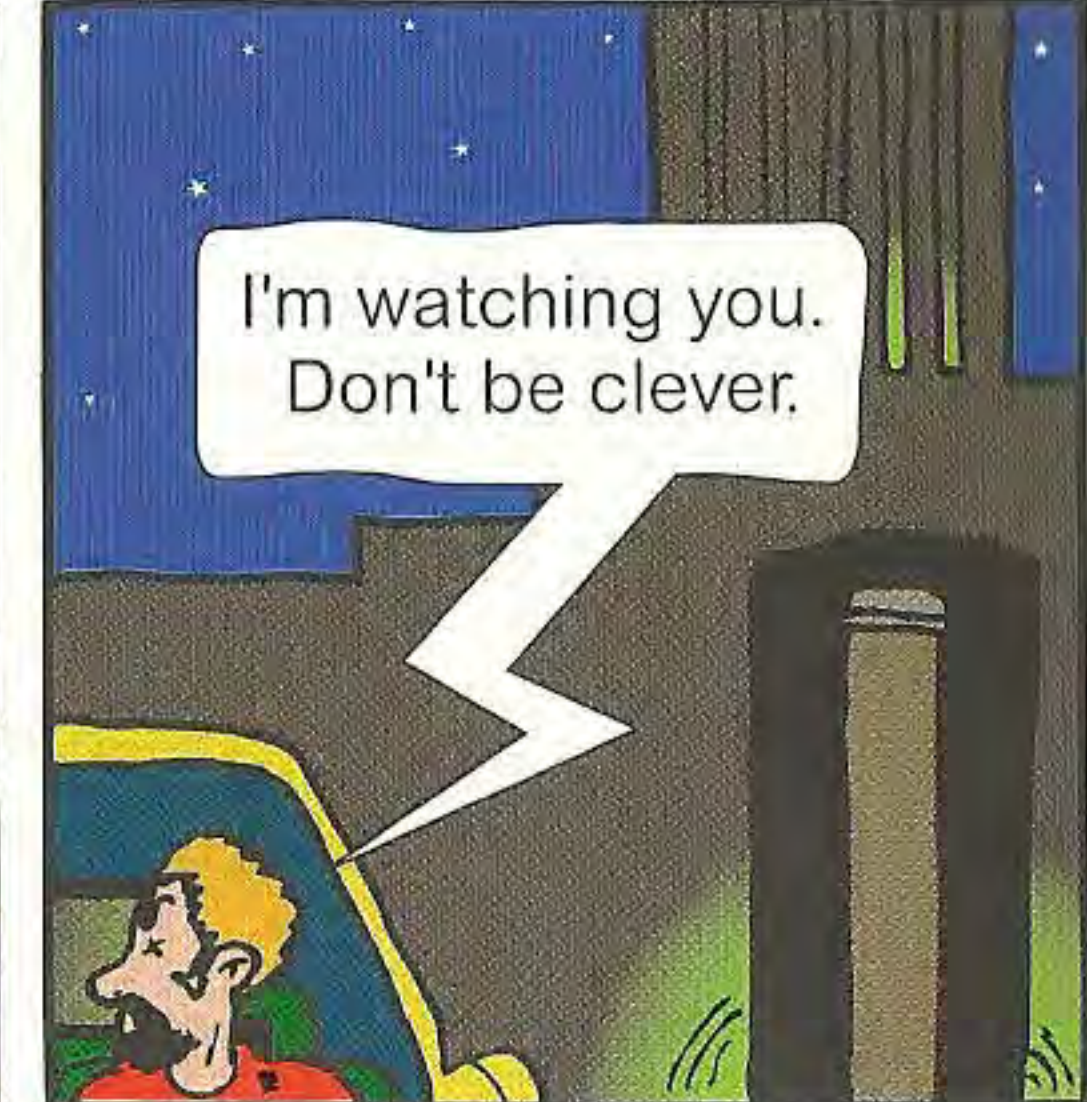
What the . . .



Do what I tell you . . . or you're dead.



When the lights are green, drive fast.



I'm watching you. Don't be clever.



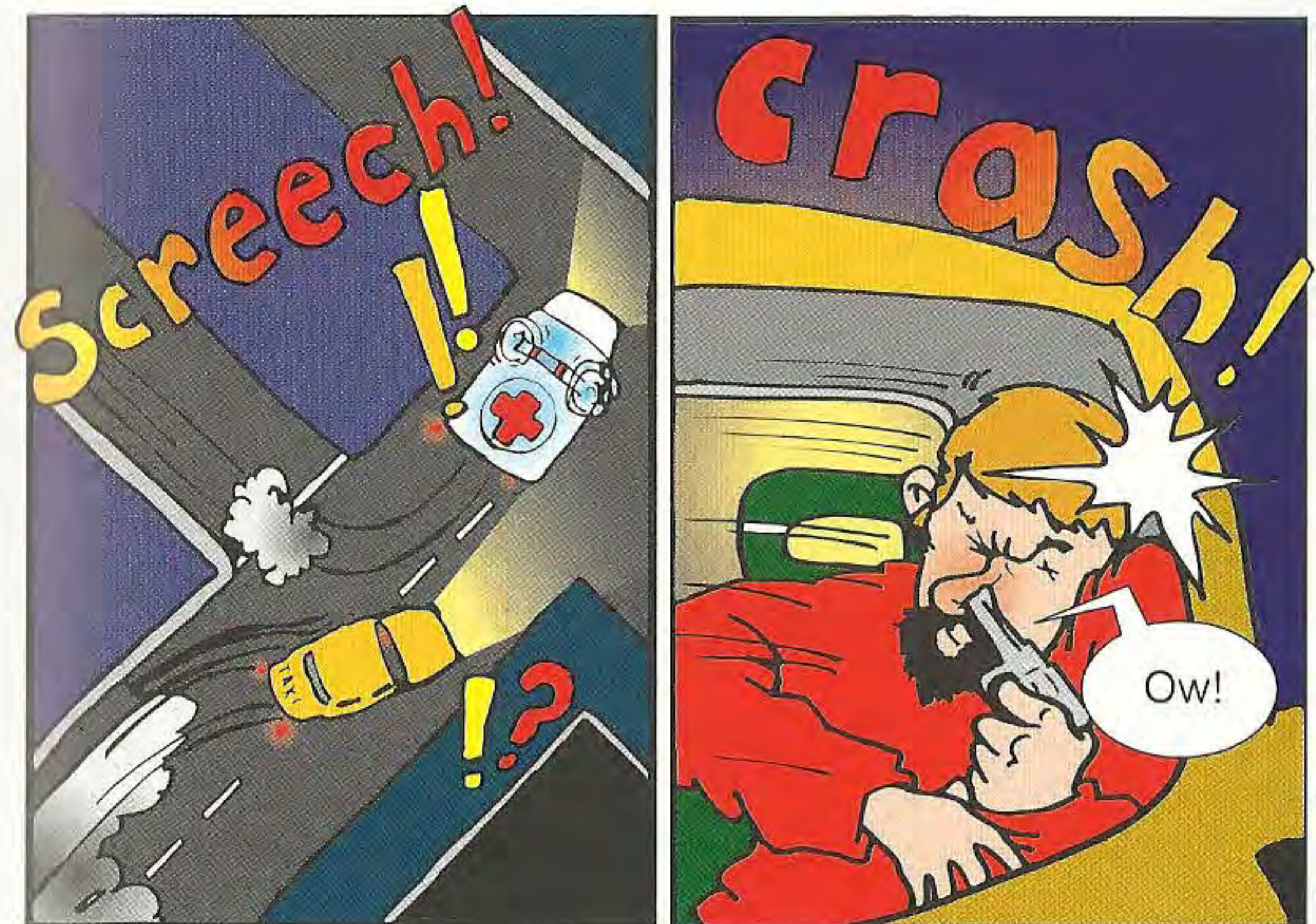
Go left and then right.

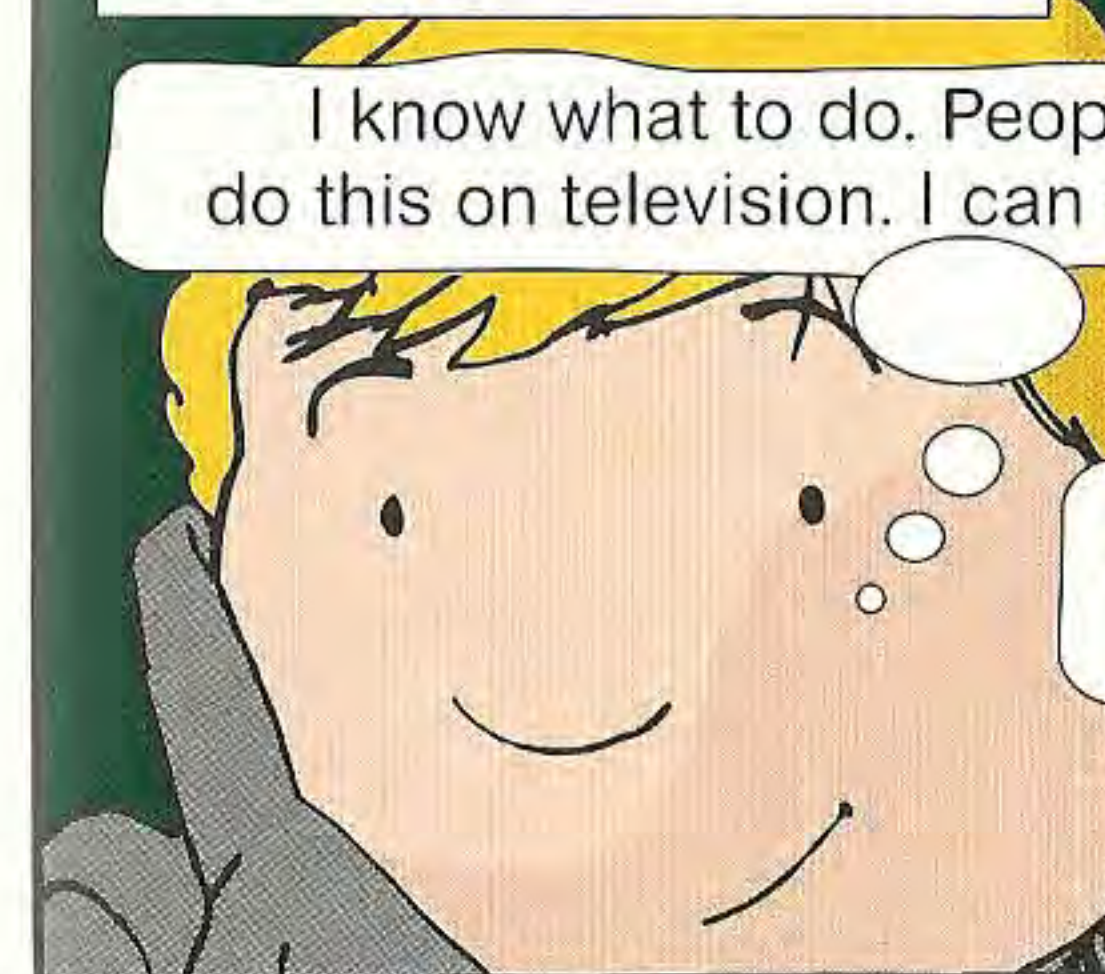
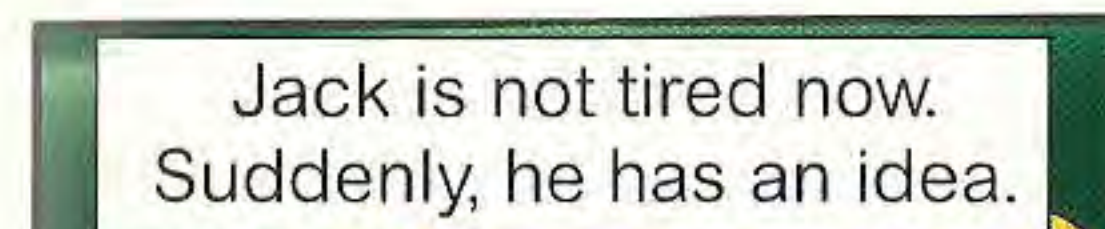
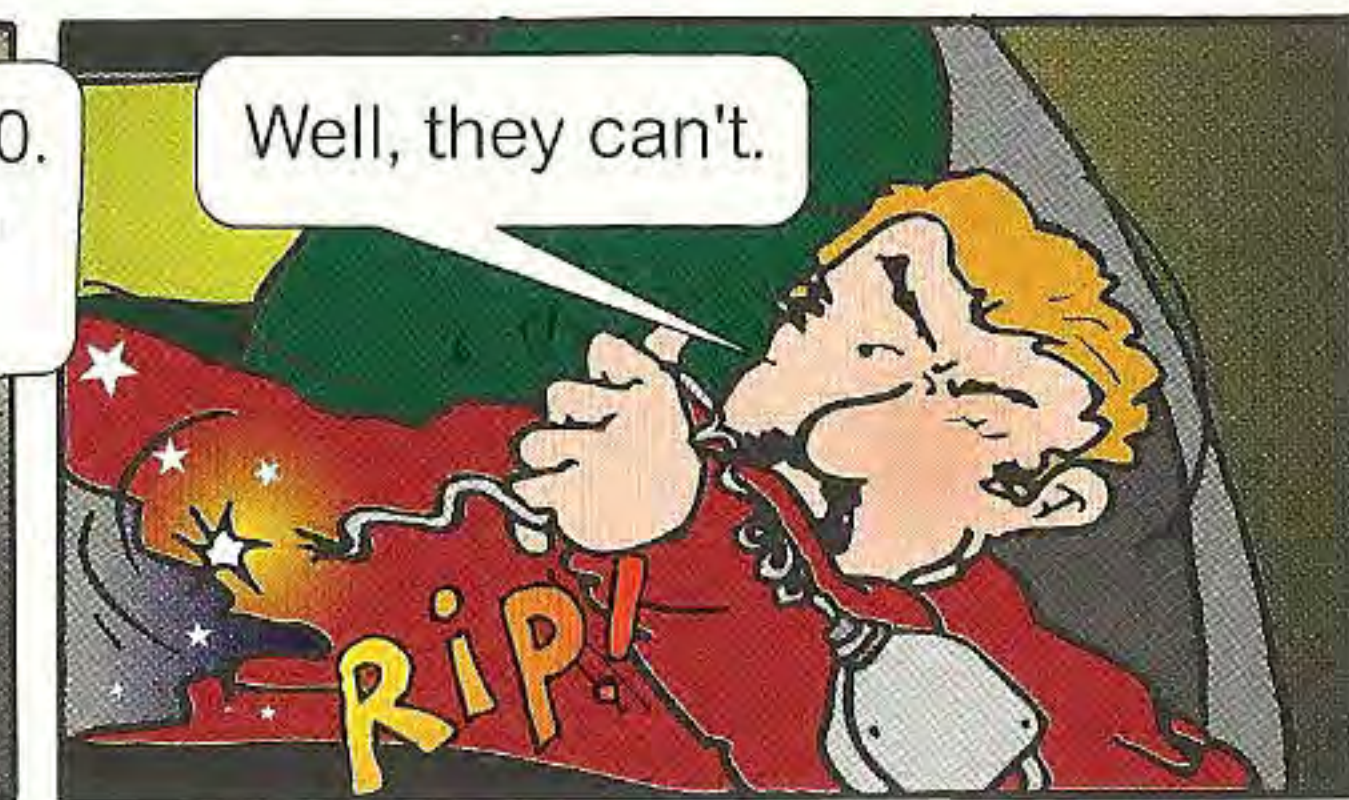
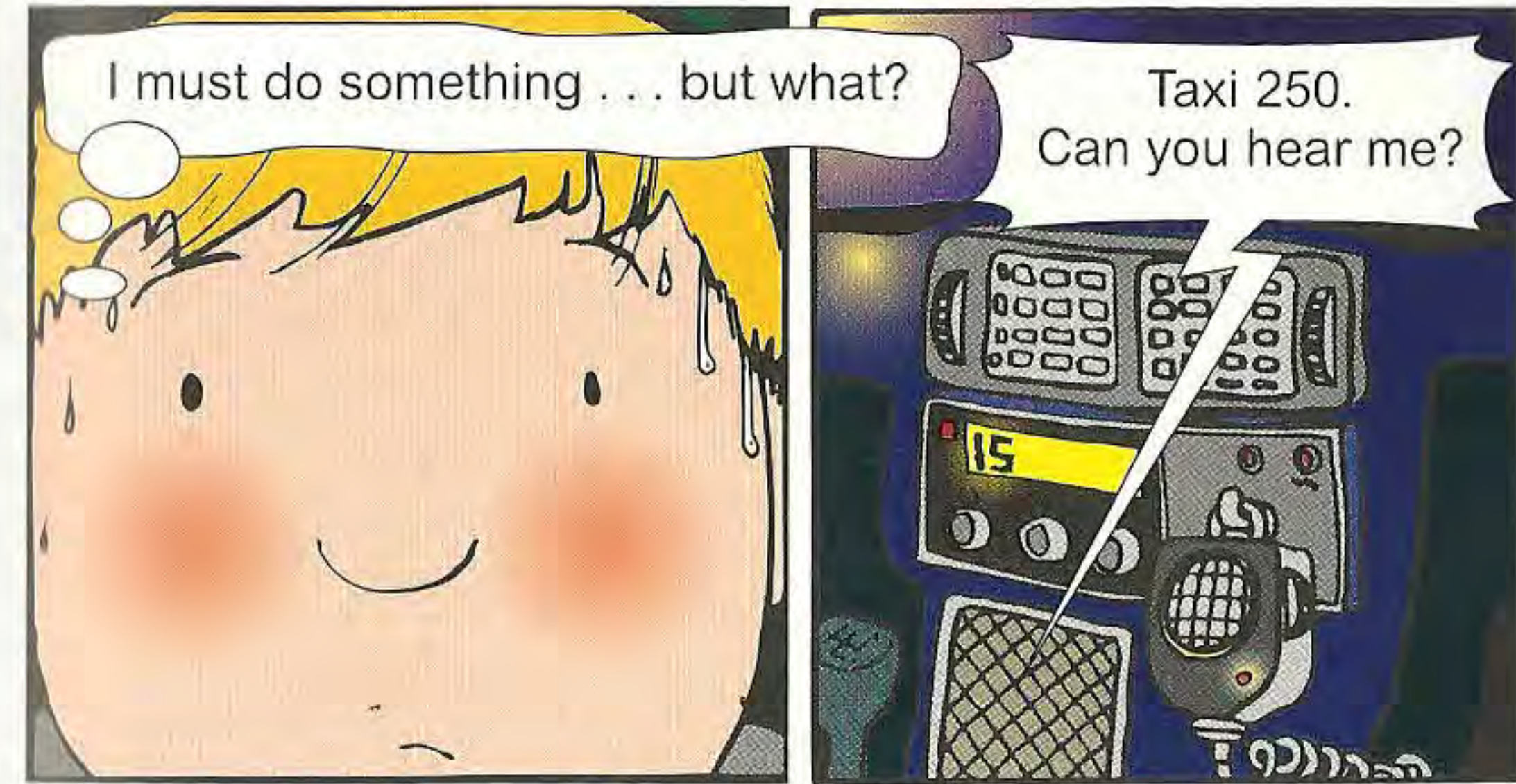
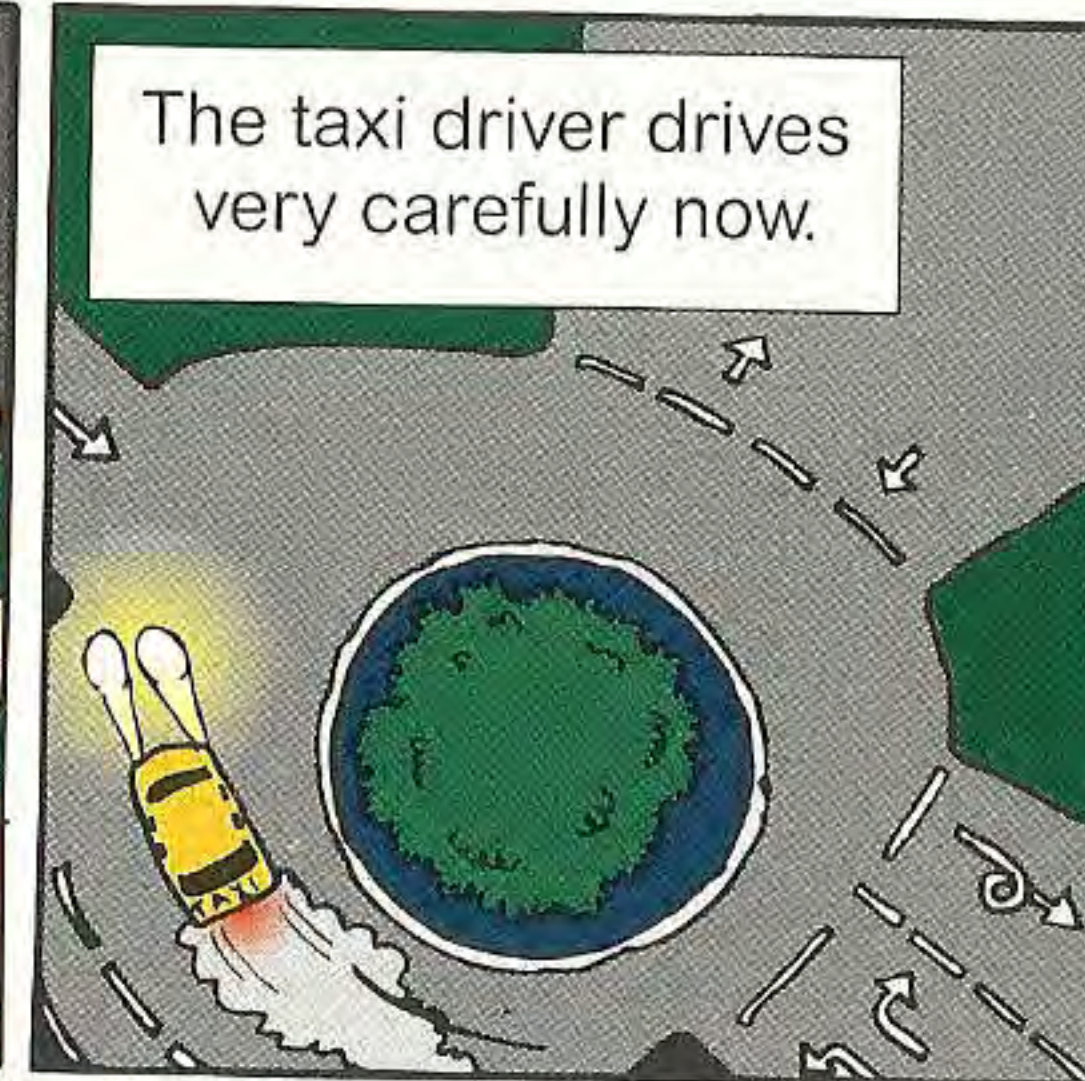
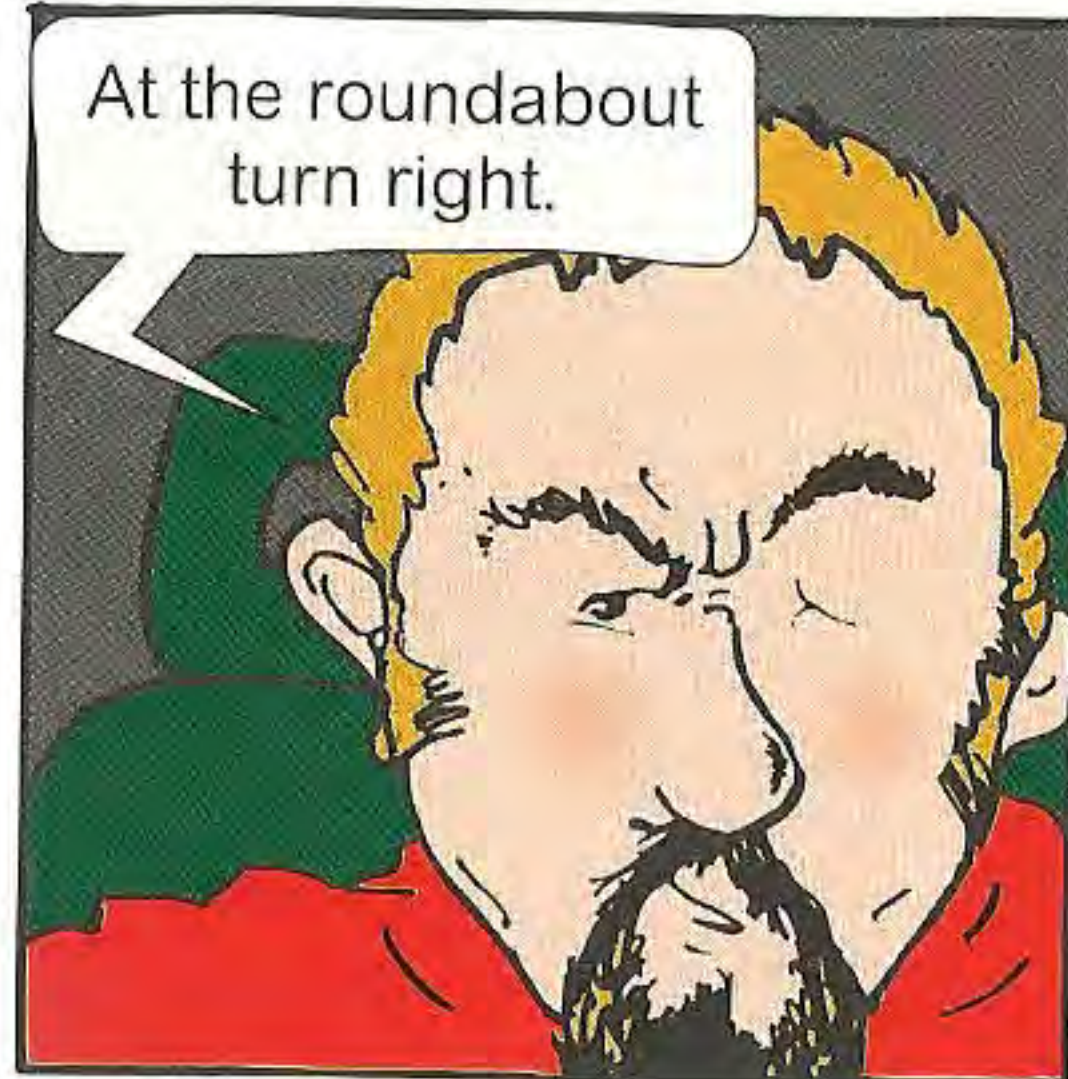


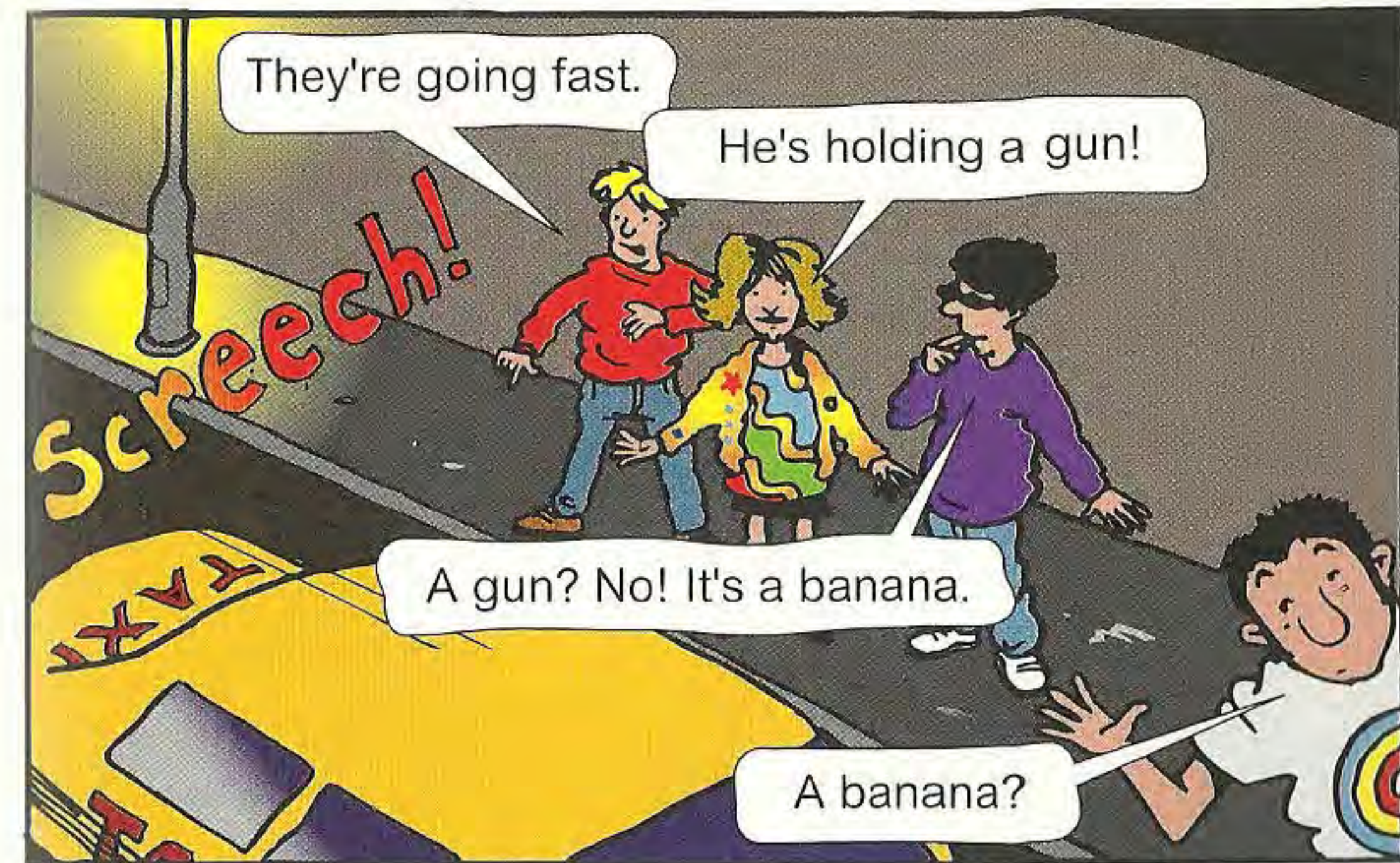
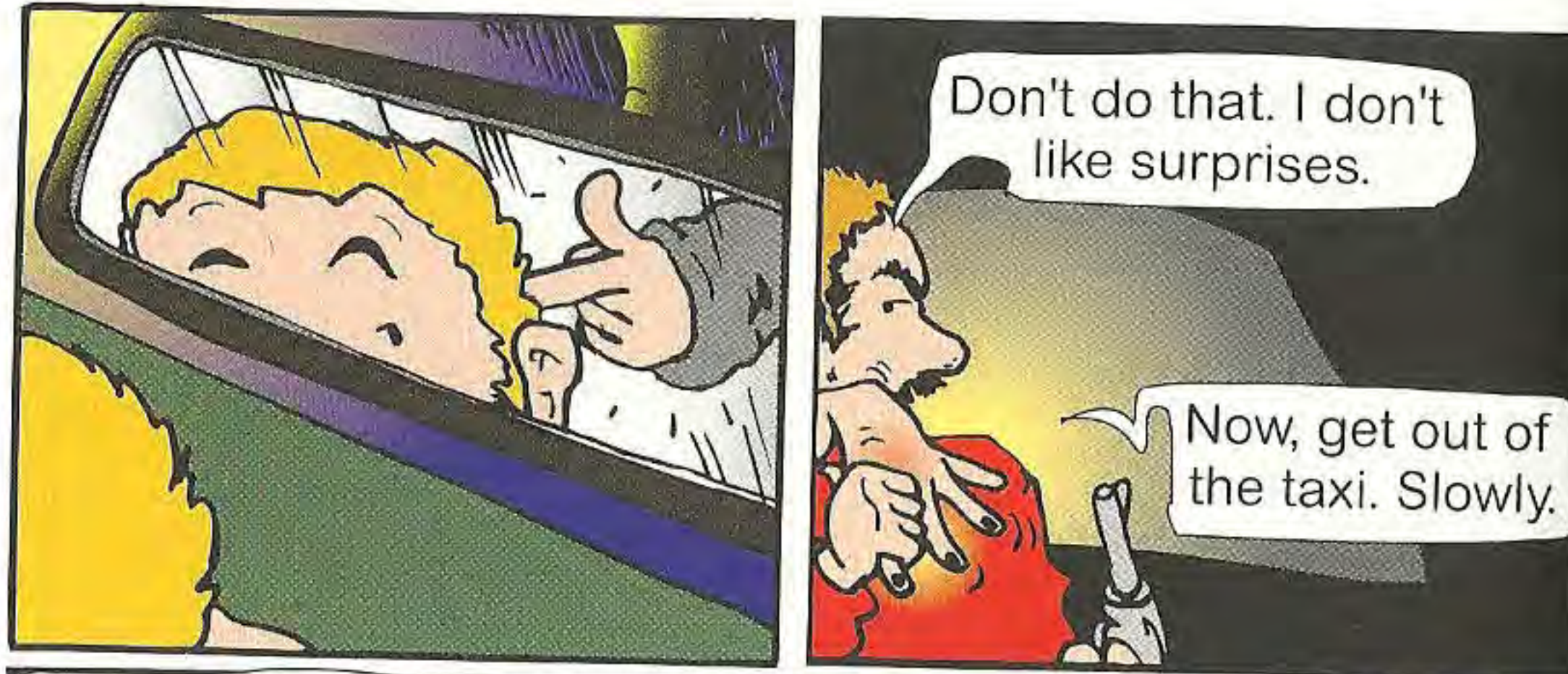
Left here, fast.

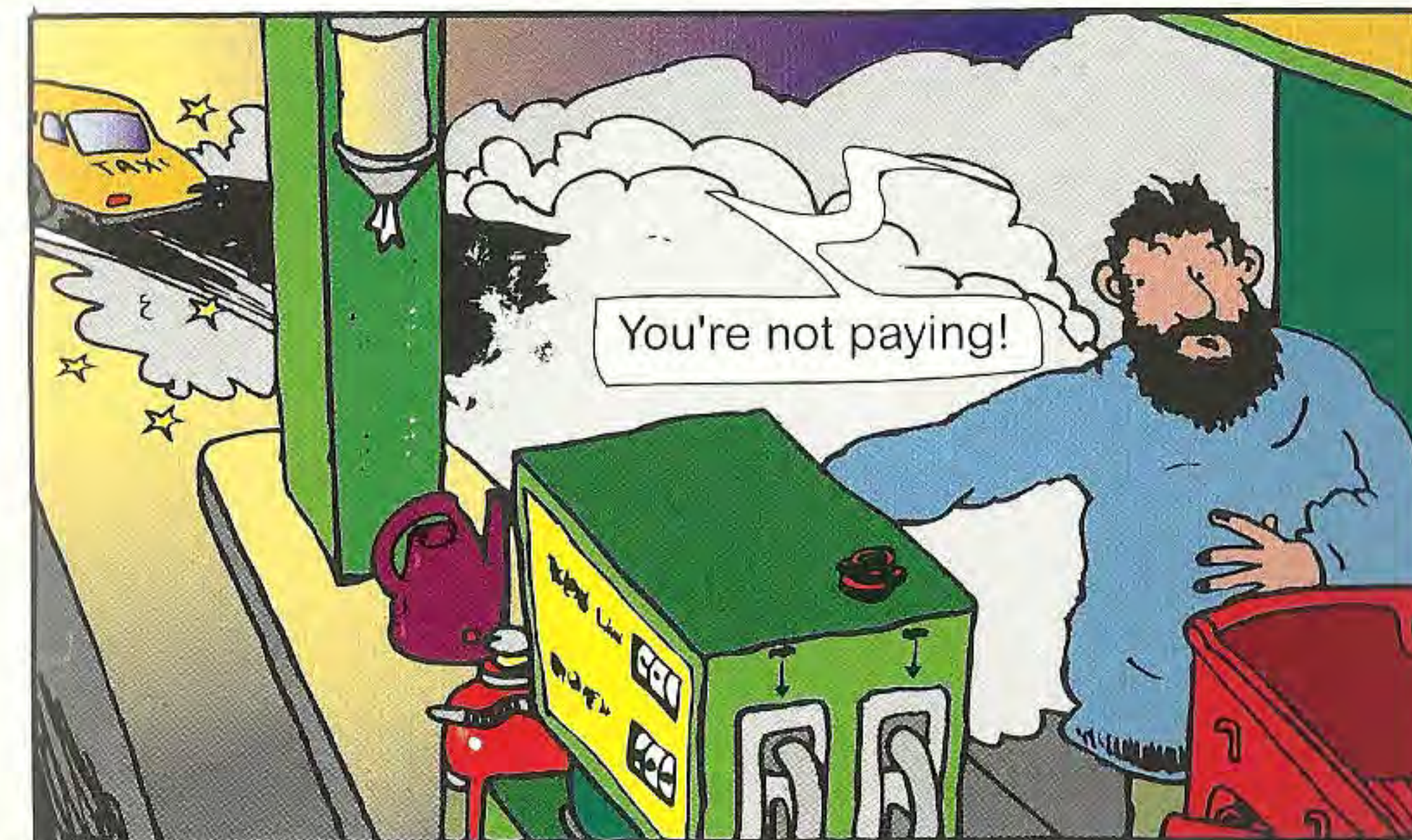
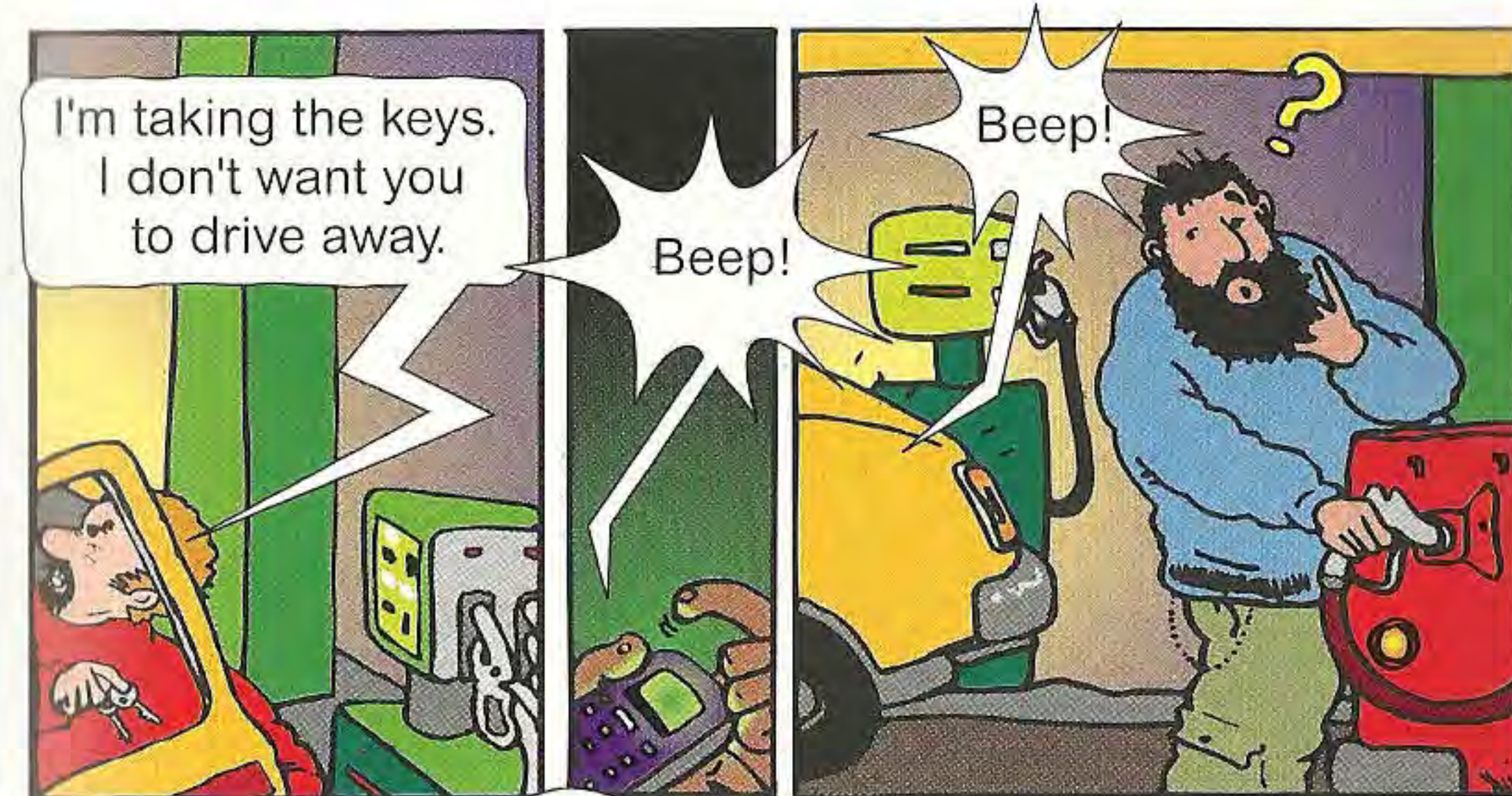
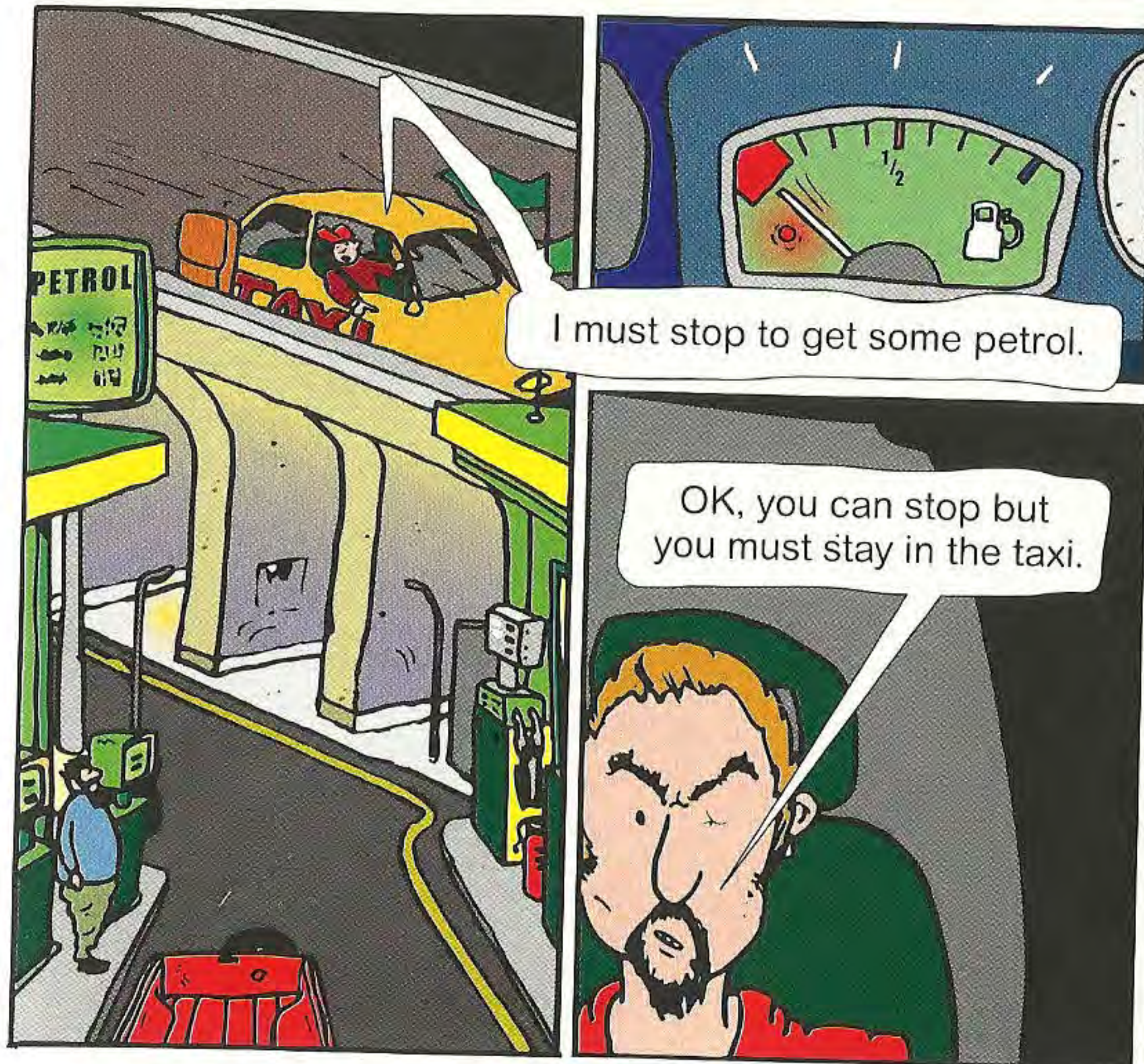


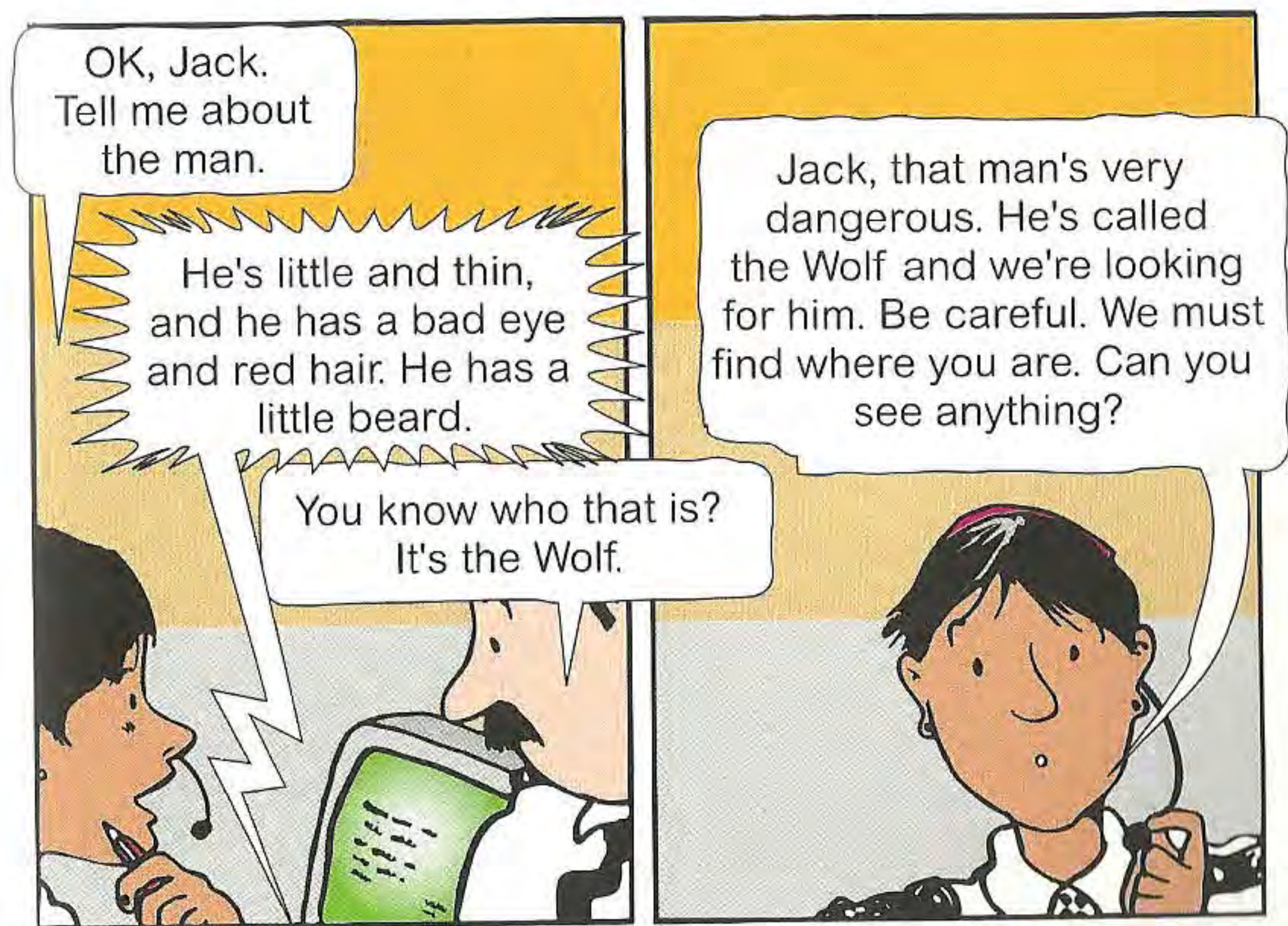
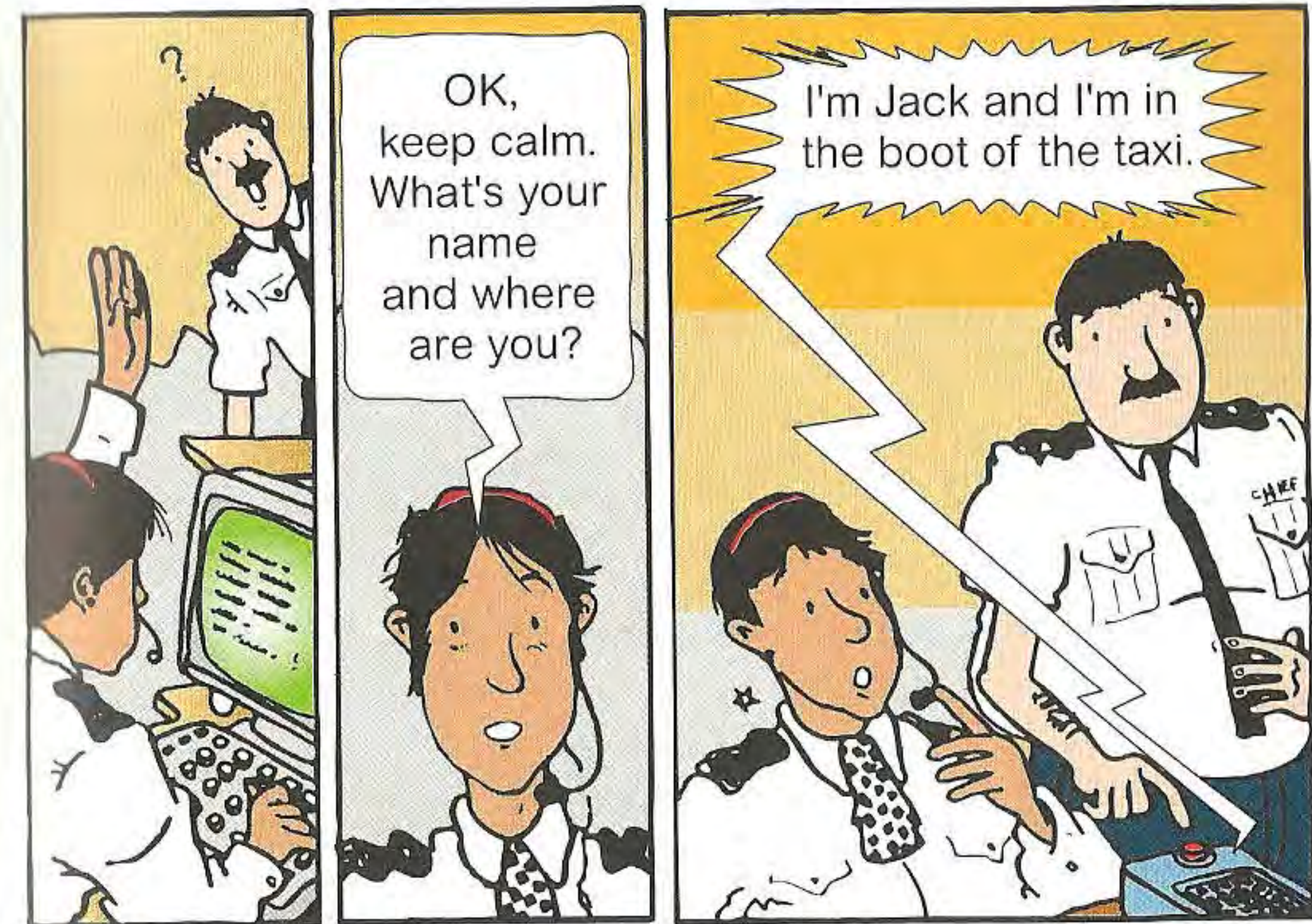
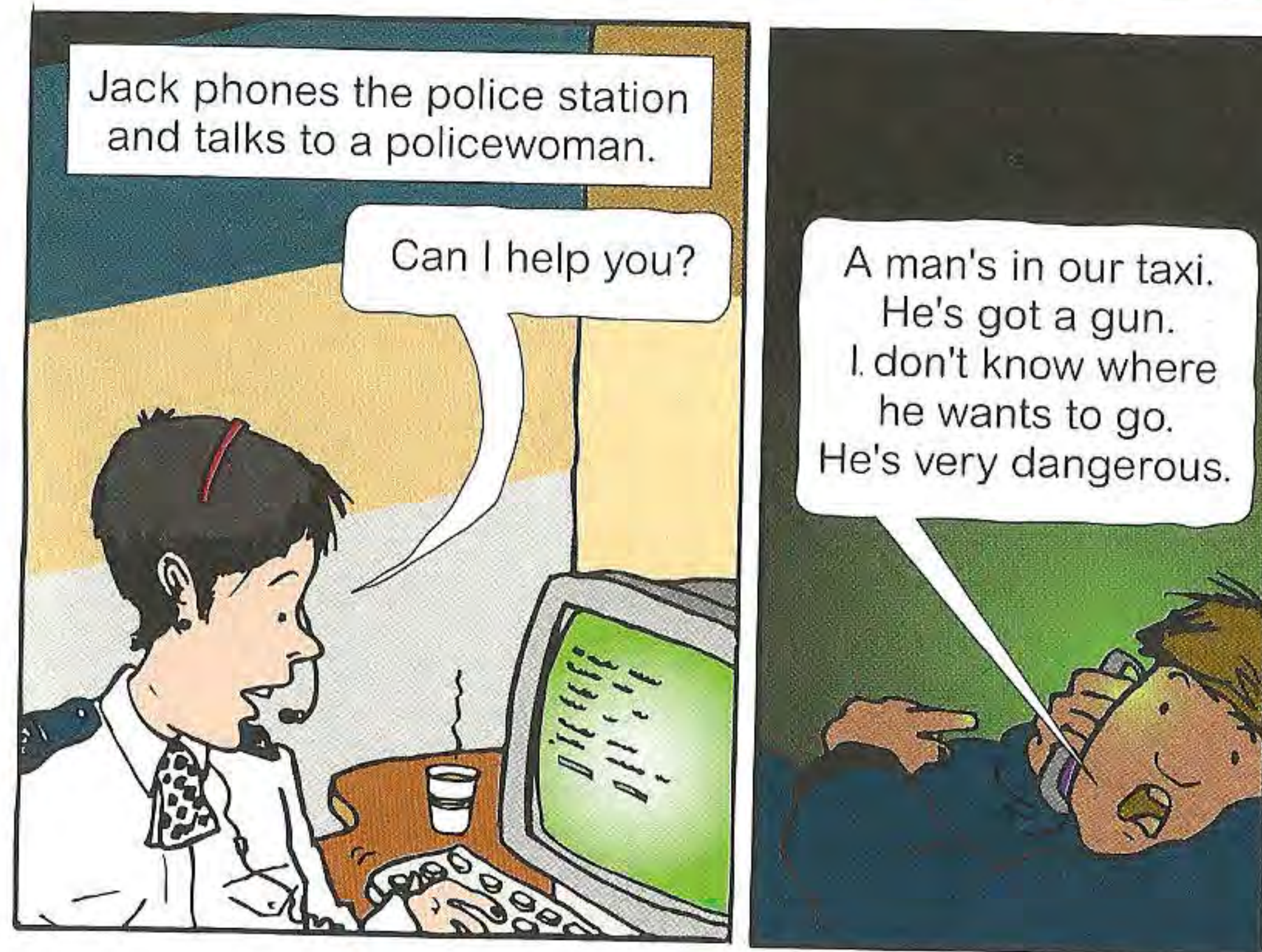
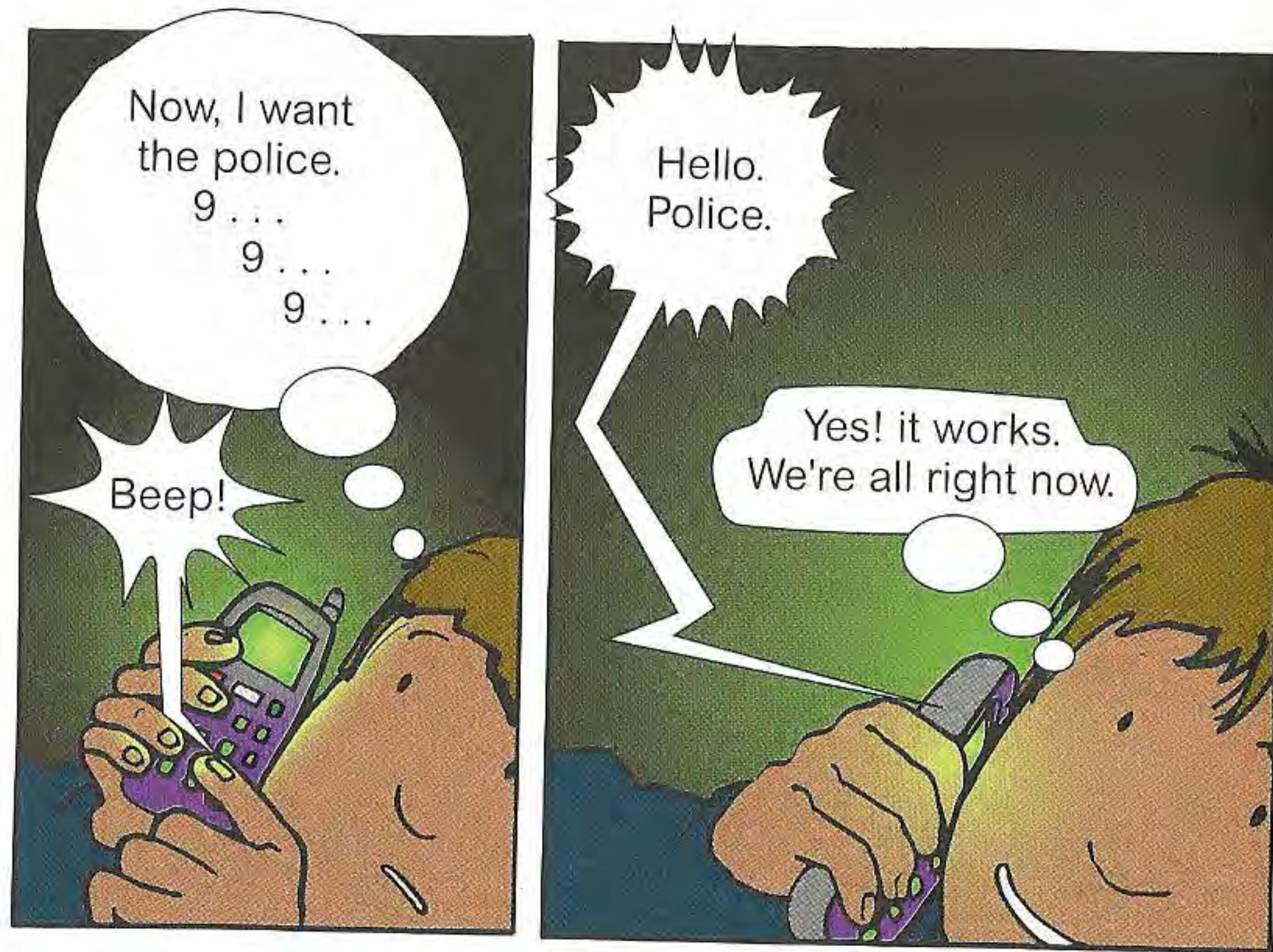
. . . then right next to the hospital.









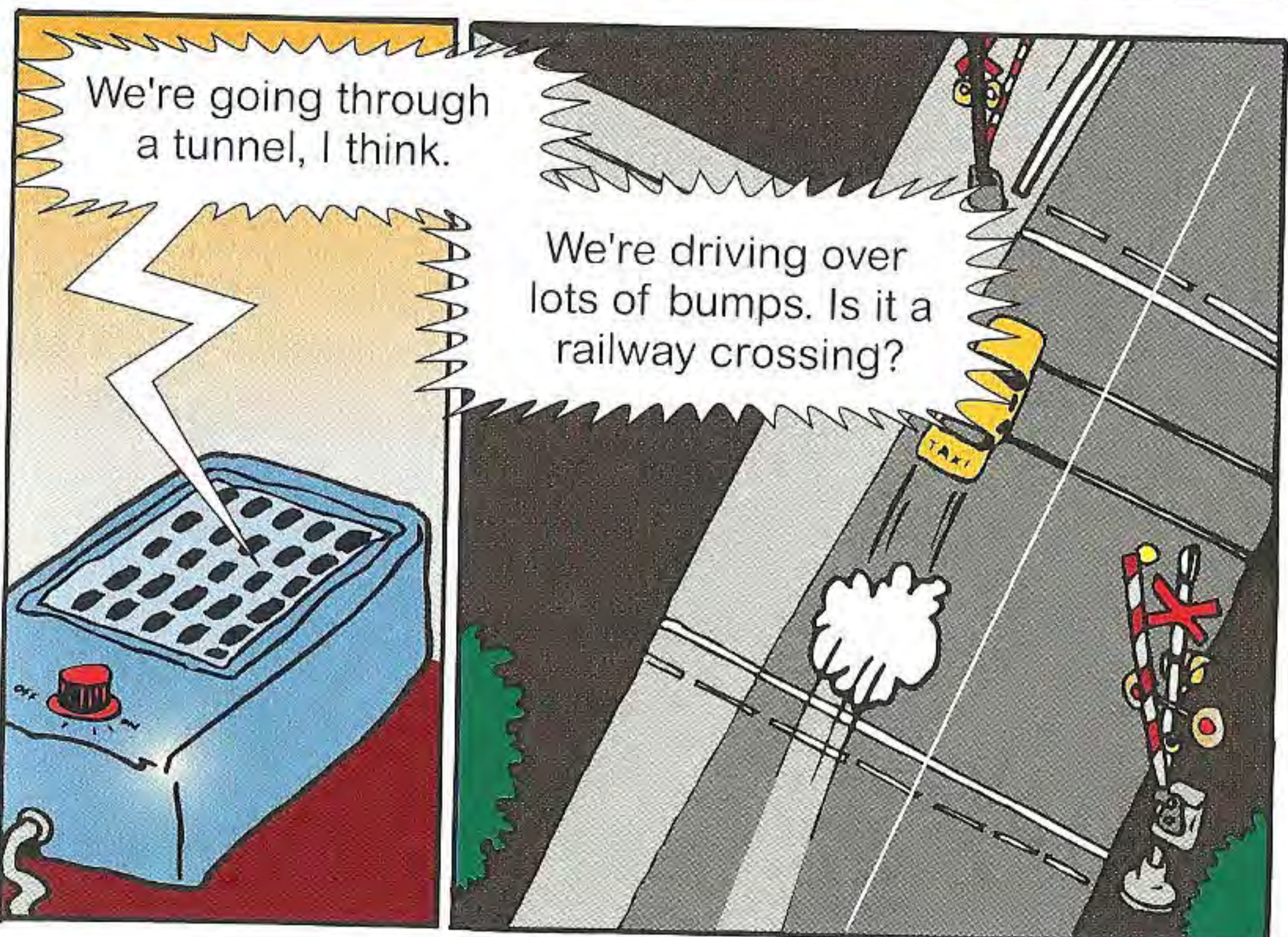




I can't see anything but I hear a clock. It sounds very loud and very near.

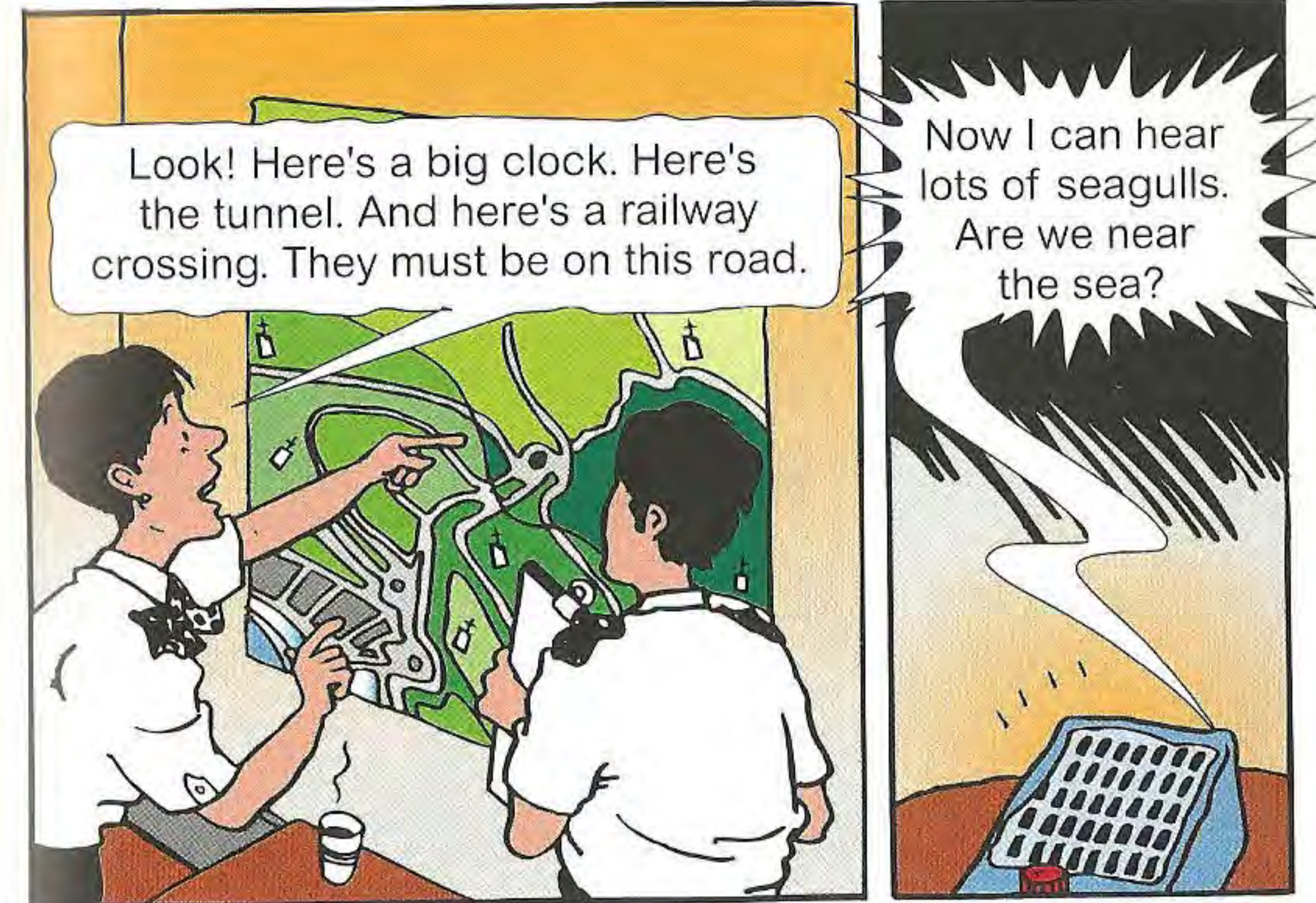
Can you see a big clock?

There are lots in the town.



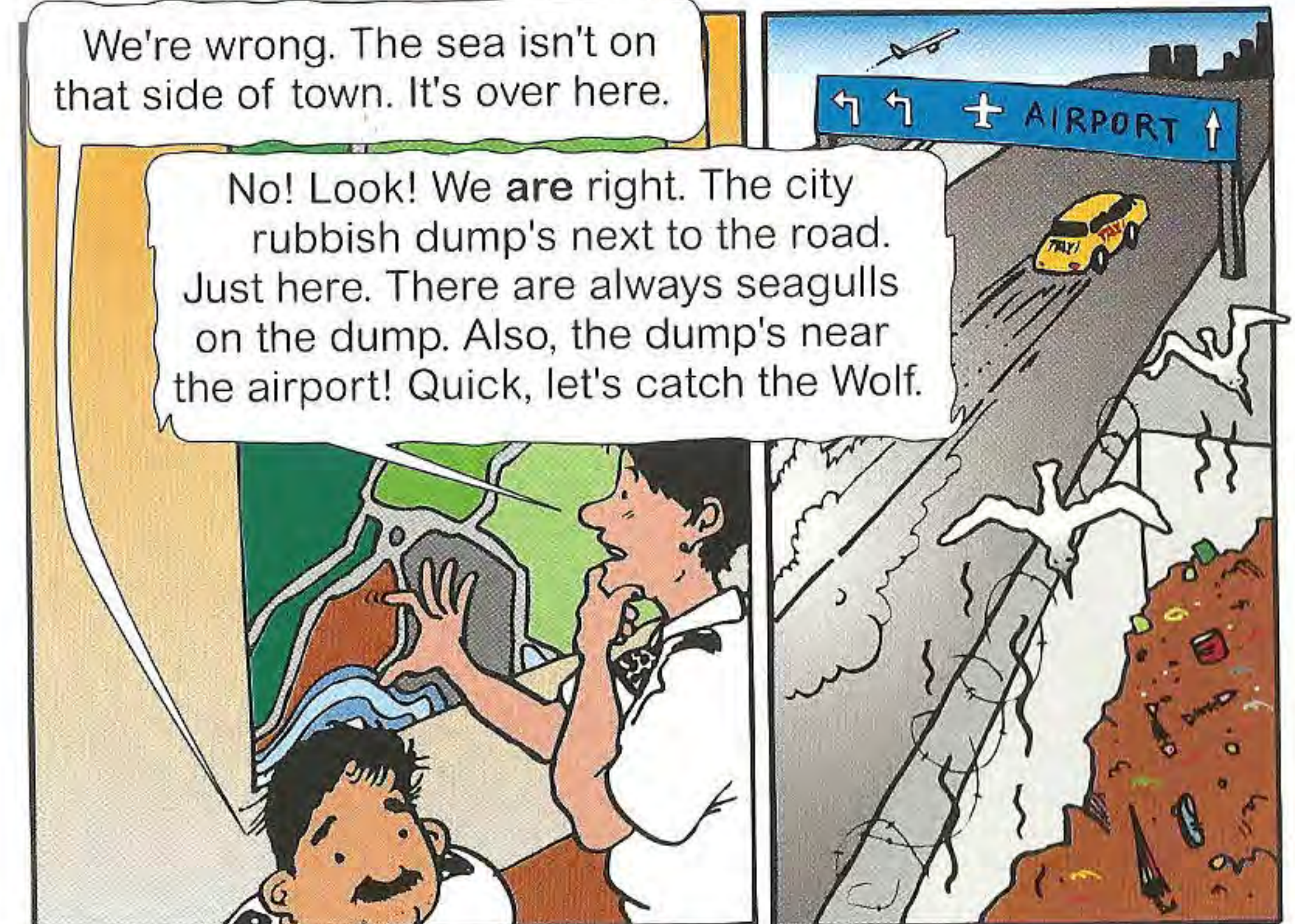
We're going through a tunnel, I think.

We're driving over lots of bumps. Is it a railway crossing?



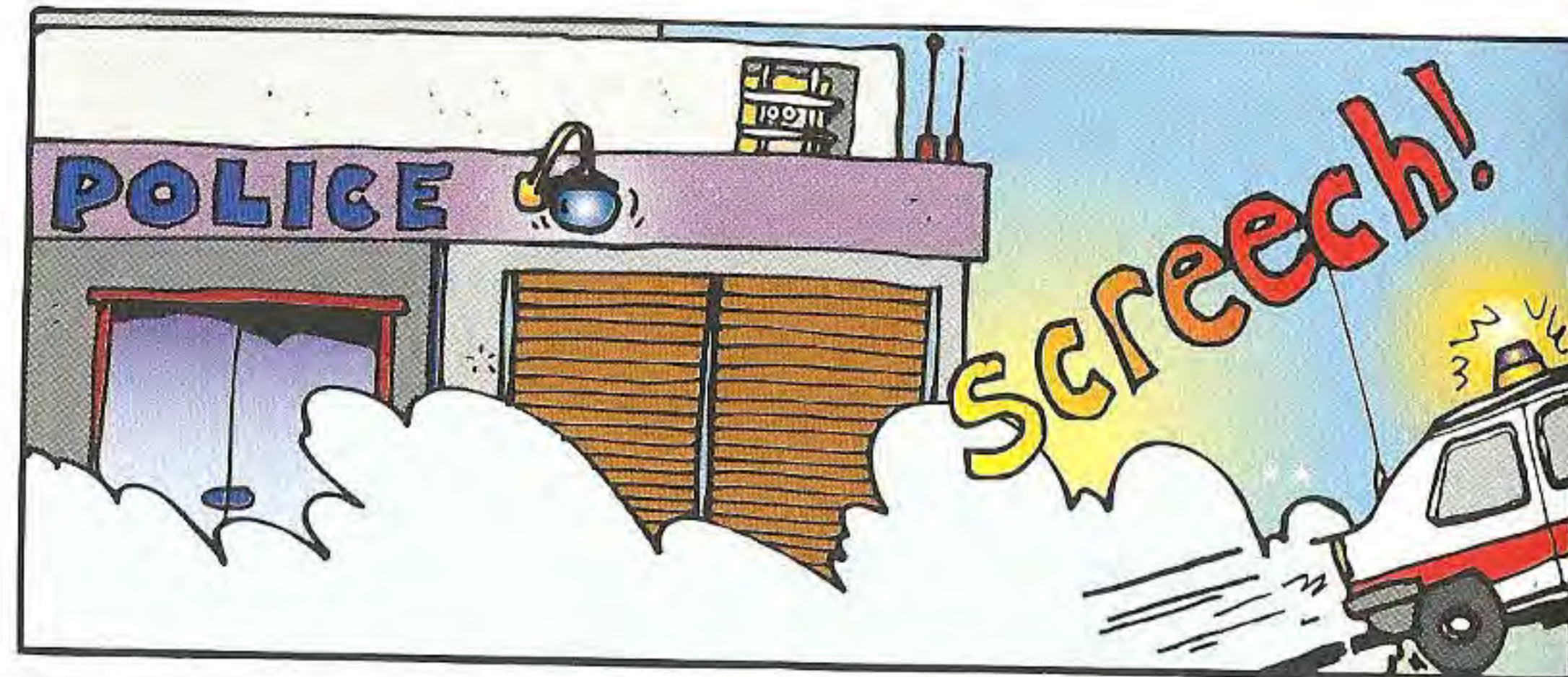
Look! Here's a big clock. Here's the tunnel. And here's a railway crossing. They must be on this road.

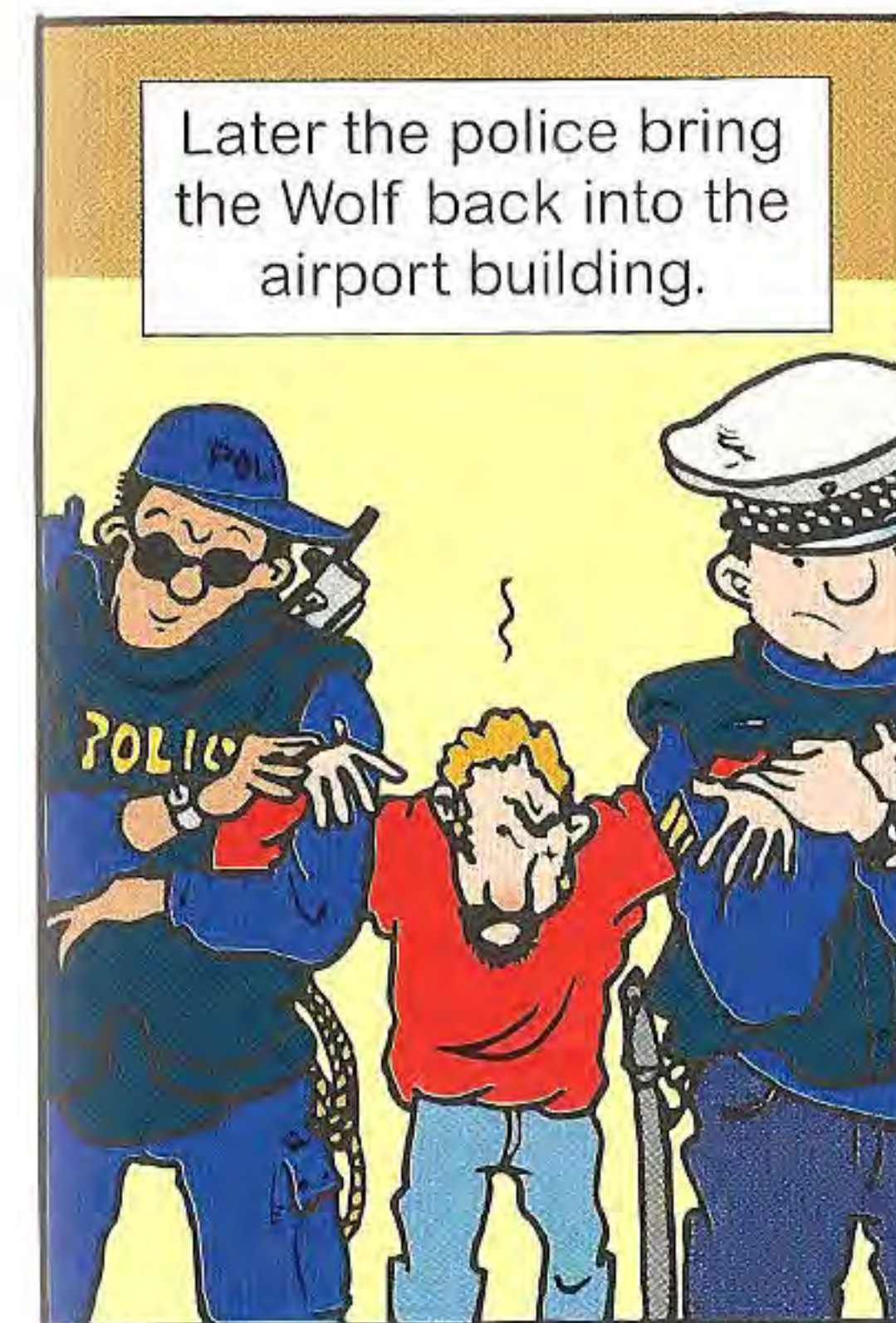
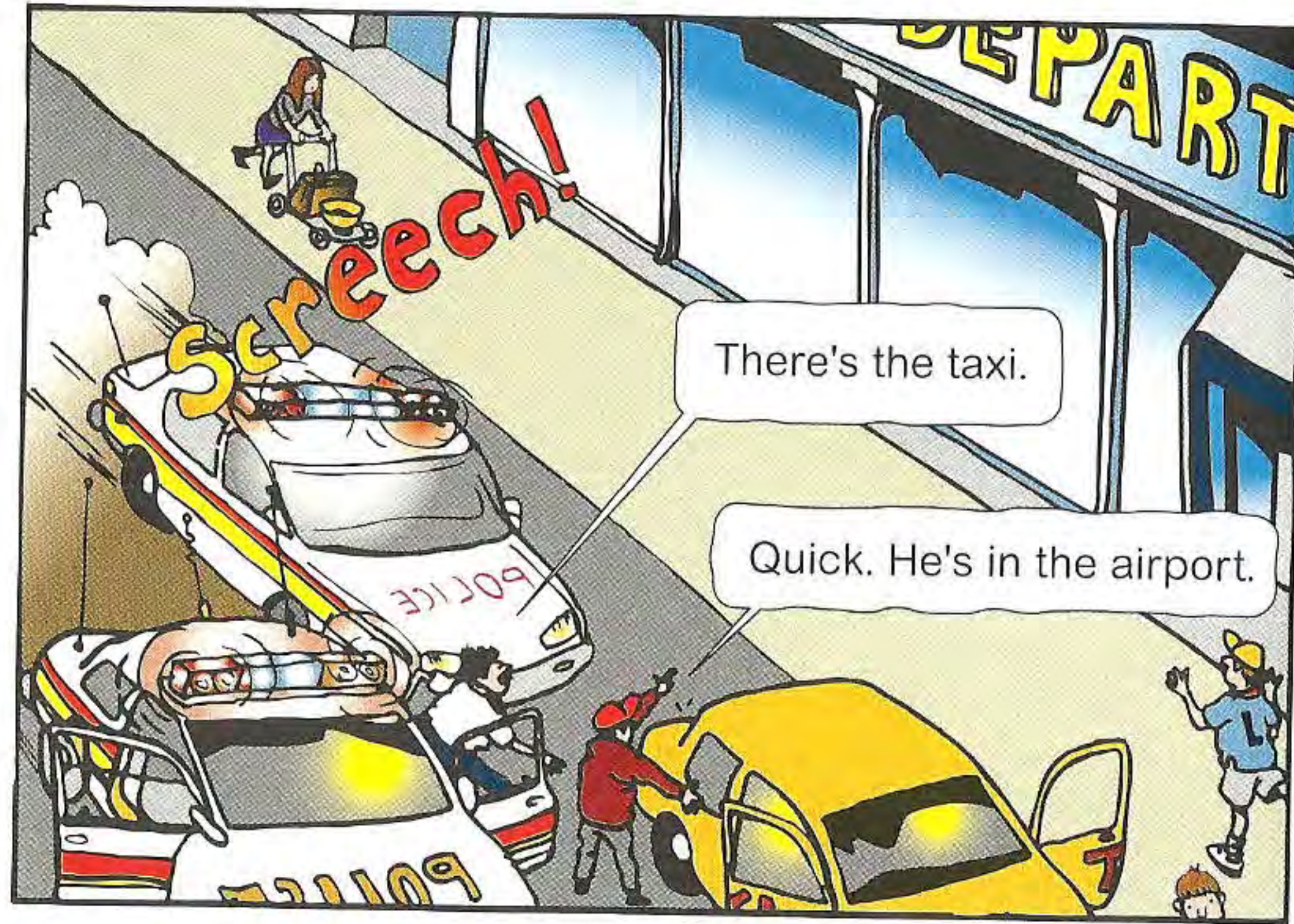
Now I can hear lots of seagulls. Are we near the sea?



We're wrong. The sea isn't on that side of town. It's over here.

No! Look! We are right. The city rubbish dump's next to the road. Just here. There are always seagulls on the dump. Also, the dump's near the airport! Quick, let's catch the Wolf.







GLOSSARY

banana something you eat; it grows on trees

calm not angry

clever you are clever if you understand things easily

dangerous something that can hurt you is dangerous

enjoy like doing something

great very good

hurt be in pain; a broken leg hurts

job work people do to earn money

kind if you are good to other people you are kind

loud a noise that is not quiet

luck you have luck if good things happen to you

ouch what you say when you are in pain

seagull a bird that lives by the sea

tunnel where a road goes under the ground

turn change the way you are going

way a road or course

wolf a wild animal; it is like a big dog

Taxi of Terror

ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITIES

Before Reading

- 1 Look at the front and back cover of the book. Now complete these sentences.
 - 1 The taxi in the story is ...
 - a black.
 - b yellow.
 - c blue.
 - 2 Imagine you are the taxi driver. You are ...
 - a afraid.
 - b happy.
 - c not interested.
 - 3 The story happens ...
 - a in a town.
 - b in the country.
 - c not in a or b.
 - 4 At the end of the story the police catch ...
 - a a bad man.
 - b the taxi driver.
 - c Jack.

ACTIVITIES

While Reading

1 Read pages 1–6, then answer these questions.

- 1 Why is Jack leaving his job?
- 2 How does Jack decide to get home?
- 3 Where does the taxi stop?

2 Read pages 7–12, then answer these questions.

- 1 Does the Wolf want money?
- 2 Does the taxi turn right or left next to the hospital?
- 3 Write a description of the Wolf.



.....

4 What is the number of the Taxi?

3 Read pages 13–18.

Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)?

- 1 He gets in the boot of the taxi.
- 2 He phones his mum.
- 3 He escapes from the boot.
- 4 He talks to a policeman.
- 5 He tells the police the Wolf has a small nose.
- 6 He hears a clock.

| T | F |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

4 Read pages 19–24. Complete the sentences with the following words:

airport beard boot plane seagulls

1



Now I can hear lots of Are we near the sea?

2



Drive to the I must get on that

3



Are you looking for that bad man with the ? He's over there.

4



Can someone open the ?

ACTIVITIES

After Reading

1 Answer these questions.

- 1 Who
- a ... does the Wolf put in the boot of the taxi?
 - b ... does Jack call on his mobile phone?
 - c ... gets knocked over by the Wolf?
 - d ... says: 'That's £16.50 please'?
- 2 What
- a ... almost crashes into the taxi?
 - b ... is the Wolf trying to catch?
 - c ... can Jack hear at the dump?
 - d ... do the police look at on the wall?
- 3 Where
- a ... does the taxi go over some bumps?
 - b ... is Jack at the beginning of the story?
 - c ... do the police catch up with the Wolf?
 - d ... does the Wolf get in the taxi?

2 Put these sentences in the correct order.

- a The taxi drives next to a rubbish dump.
- b The taxi arrives at the airport.
- c Jack calls the police with his mobile phone.
- d The taxi drives through a tunnel.
- e The taxi drives near a clock.

3 Use these words to fill in the gaps.

*airport boot catch gun hear job
mobile phone pleased police taxi*

Jack is leaving his old His friends give him a as a leaving present. He is very On his way home Jack falls asleep in a Suddenly at some traffic lights, a dangerous man called the Wolf gets in the taxi – he has a The taxi driver does what the Wolf tells him. Jack wakes up and is soon put in the of the taxi. Then he has an idea – he calls the with his phone. Jack tells them what he can from inside the boot. The police find out that the taxi is driving to the The police get there just in time to the Wolf.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Mark Foster and Phillip Burrows have worked as a writer/illustrator team since 1991. They were born three years and many miles apart, but they are very nearly twins. They drive the same car, work on the same computers, and wear the same wellington boots – but not at the same time! They spend all the money they get from writing on gadgets, but please don't tell their wives. Mark and Phill have worked together on several Bookworms titles, including *Starman* (Starter, Fantasy & Horror) and *Escape* (Starter, Thriller & Adventure). When they meet to write, they like to go to expensive hotels, eat chips dipped in coffee, and laugh at their own jokes.

OXFORD BOOKWORMS LIBRARY

Classics • Crime & Mystery • Factfiles • Fantasy & Horror
Human Interest • Playscripts • Thriller & Adventure
True Stories • World Stories

The OXFORD BOOKWORMS LIBRARY provides enjoyable reading in English, with a wide range of classic and modern fiction, non-fiction, and plays. It includes original and adapted texts in seven carefully graded language stages, which take learners from beginner to advanced level. An overview is given on the next pages.

All Stage 1 titles are available as audio recordings, as well as over eighty other titles from Starter to Stage 6. All Starters and many titles at Stages 1 to 4 are specially recommended for younger learners. Every Bookworm is illustrated, and Starters and Factfiles have full-colour illustrations.

The OXFORD BOOKWORMS LIBRARY also offers extensive support. Each book contains an introduction to the story, notes about the author, a glossary, and activities. Additional resources include tests and worksheets, and answers for these and for the activities in the books. There is advice on running a class library, using audio recordings, and the many ways of using Oxford Bookworms in reading programmes. Resource materials are available on the website <www.oup.com/bookworms>.

The *Oxford Bookworms Collection* is a series for advanced learners. It consists of volumes of short stories by well-known authors, both classic and modern. Texts are not abridged or adapted in any way, but carefully selected to be accessible to the advanced student.

You can find details and a full list of titles in the *Oxford Bookworms Library Catalogue* and *Oxford English Language Teaching Catalogues*, and on the website <www.oup.com/bookworms>.