

Reading 1 — An Accident in the Rain

The lightning flashed and the thunder boomed. Eric and his sister, Eleanor, were already late for school. They huddled under the umbrella. When they reached the main road, the light was red.

As the children were very late, they decided to dash across the road. Eric grabbed his sister's arm and pulled her after him. They had to dodge cars and jump over puddles to avoid getting splashed. They were in the middle of the road when someone pressed a horn very loudly. The children almost jumped out of their skin. Eric stared in horror as a car rushed towards them. He wanted to get out of the way but it was too late. The car crashed right into them just before screeching to a stop. Eric was flung onto the bonnet of the car and Eleanor was thrown a few metres away. The driver of the car rushed out in the pouring rain. Passersby rushed to help the two children. Rain splashed onto the two unconscious children. Blood from their wounds was quickly washed away by the rain.

The ambulance arrived ten minutes later. The children were whisked away to the nearest hospital. Only their umbrella was left upturned on the ground.