

Read the text and answer the questions below.

The Chase

In an instant, Theo changed direction, hurtling up a side road and into an alleyway. He skidded to a halt, gasping for breath and desperately looking around for a safe place. Spying a large wheelie bin, Theo ducked behind it and collapsed on to the ground, exhausted. With his heart pounding in his chest, he strained his ears for the sound of
5 footsteps pursuing him. He couldn't hear anything. Had he lost them?

A few minutes passed. Still no footsteps. Theo's breathing was beginning to return to normal. He didn't dare move, though, just in case they were lurking round the corner, waiting for him to break cover. Ten more minutes passed ... then another ten. After what
10 seemed like an eternity, Theo allowed himself to peer around the side of the bin. There wasn't a soul in sight.

Cautiously, Theo crept along the alleyway, keeping close to the wall to conceal himself as best as he could. Reaching the end, he poked his head around the corner, glancing nervously left and right. He half expected someone to grab him and pull him out of the shadows, but nobody did. All was quiet and the street was deserted.

15 Relieved, Theo set off in the direction of the safe house. Although it would take longer, he decided to take the less obvious route, sticking to the smaller side streets as much as possible. He glanced at his watch. It was 6.45 p.m. With any luck, he'd make it back by nightfall. If he didn't ... the consequences didn't bear thinking about.

Write **A**, **B**, **C** or **D** on the answer line.

1. What did Theo hide behind?

- A a car
- B a bin
- C a hedge
- D a wall

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2. What did Theo listen out for while he was hiding?

- A heavy breathing
- B someone calling his name
- C screaming
- D footsteps

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3. About how long did Theo remain hidden?

- A 1 minute
- B a day
- C 25 minutes
- D 6 hours 45 minutes

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4. At what time of day is the story set?

- A evening
- B morning
- C midnight
- D early afternoon

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