

Sentence structure and punctuation

Commas separating names

Complex sentence containing short phrases and clauses to indicate Sophie's speed of movement. Clause, marked by commas, dropped into sentence to provide quick picture of Sophie

Vocabulary — verbs and adverbs — (shaded) chosen to describe actions precisely

Composition and effect

Colloquial speech to portray character of teenager in a hurry commanding a close friend and to indicate the relationship of Winston with his sister.

Opening

Mac's Short Adventure

Winston watched rain pelt down the window panes in icy cold needles. He sighed.

"This is just typical! School holidays and it rains!"

His younger sister, Hannah, didn't answer and carried on rolling around the floor with Grandma's dog, Mac, barking excitedly at her ankles.

A moment later, a key turned in the latch, the door opened and 16-year-old Sophie, headphones glued as usual to her ears, bounded upstairs shouting as she went, "Stay at the door, Trace, right."

Mac certainly needed no second chance and was out of the lounge and into the garden before Hannah could get to her feet.

"You idiot, Sophie!" Winston yelled pointlessly at the retreating figure. "We're supposed to keep him in. He doesn't know his way around this end of town."

Text structure and organisation

*Story opening: setting
Such a boring setting suggests that something might be going to happen*

*Characters quickly established:
Winston by his words, and the two girls by their actions*

Phrase connecting the two paragraphs

Plot gets under way. Dilemma introduced. Reason for problem

Spelling

*certainly — 'c' and 'ai'
doesn't — contraction of 'not'
answer — 'w'
excitedly — 'x' and 'c'*