

Zoo Escape

1 My name is Anna. My friend, Tia, and I walked to school today. It was a very **unusual** day. We walked through a park. I saw something in a tree. I said, "Tia, there is a big bird in that tree." We looked up. A brown animal jumped out of the tree. It ran behind a garbage can. I looked at
5 Tia. She said, "I need new glasses. That looked like a monkey." I said, "I know, but it must be a big squirrel." Tia said, "You are right. Let's go to school."

We walked some more. We stopped. I showed Tia the new pens in my backpack. We looked back at the street. There was an **antelope** on the
10 street. It walked around a corner. I said, "Tia, did you see that?" She said, "I thought I saw an antelope!" We ran to the corner. We looked around, and there was nothing!

We did not talk. There was no time. We heard an elephant **trumpet**. "That sound came from the school," Tia said. We ran. We ran really fast.
15 We reached the school. The teachers called all the students. They said, "Come into the school quickly!" There were three elephants on the soccer field!

We ran into the school. We tried to look out a window, but there were too many people. We talked to our friends. A lot of people saw animals



20 near the school. Bobby saw a kangaroo. Devon saw a giraffe.

Finally the teachers called us into the **gymnasium**. They told us why there were animals everywhere. The new zookeeper left gates open. Many animals **escaped**.

The gymnasium **was crowded with** many people. When we were in the
 25 gymnasium, a strange man asked me a question, "How do you feel now?" He told me that he was a **reporter** from the *Town Daily*. I told him what I saw on the way to the school. He wrote down what I said in his notebook. I looked at Tia. She was being interviewed by a reporter holding a microphone. A cameraman videotaped her.

30 We had to stay at school late until the zoo people caught all the animals. A big truck picked up the elephants. After the animals were caught, we went home. Today was very crowded and busy. Tomorrow I will take a bus to school. They might leave the lion **cage** open!

Vocabulary Build Up

A. Match the words to the correct definitions.

- | | | |
|--------------------|---|---|
| 1. unusual | • | • not usual and common; strange |
| 2. antelope | • | • a loud sound, such as the cry of an elephant |
| 3. trumpet | • | • a large room where you do exercise indoors |
| 4. gymnasium | • | • an animal like a deer, with long legs and horns |
| 5. escape | • | • to be full of |
| 6. be crowded with | • | • a container where animals are kept |
| 7. reporter | • | • to get away from a place |
| 8. cage | • | • someone who writes news articles or who broadcasts news reports |

B. Choose the best words to fill in the blanks.

1. They built a new _____. It has a full of range of sports equipment.
(a) pool (b) tennis court (c) playground (d) gymnasium
2. I'll give some snacks to that tiger in the _____.
(a) antelope (b) cage (c) reporter (d) cage
3. A prisoner has _____ from a jail in Scotland.
(a) made (b) escaped (c) shoot (d) trumpeted
4. It was a very _____ day. Mom let me play games for three hours!
(a) common (b) usual (c) unusual (d) normal
5. The sky is _____ with stars. What a beautiful night!
(a) crowded (b) appeared (c) hid (d) held

Comprehension Check Up**A. Check True or False.**

1. Anna and Tia saw three lions on the soccer field. ☐ T ☐ F
2. Zoo people and a reporter from the *Town Daily* came to school. ☐ T ☐ F

B. Choose the best answers.

1. How did Anna and Tia get to school today?
- (a) They rode a bicycle. (b) They walked.
(c) They rode a car. (d) They rode the subway.
2. What did Anna and Tia see around a corner?
- (a) a bird (b) a squirrel (c) an antelope (d) an elephant
3. Who did a cameraman videotape?
- (a) teachers (b) Anna (c) Tia (d) a new zookeeper
4. Which of the following is not unusual?
- (a) Zoo animals escaped from the zoo.
(b) Teachers called students into the gymnasium.
(c) Children heard an elephant trumpet.
(d) Too many people came to the school.

C. Write the best answers.

1. Why were there animals near the school?

2. Why is Anna going to take a bus to school tomorrow?

Reading Skill Up

Point of View

In short fiction, who tells the story is an important issue for an author to decide. The tone and feel of the story, and even its meaning can change depending on who is telling the story. That is point of view.

This is the closing part of the story. Change the point of view from Anna's to the third person who does not appear in the story.

We had to stay at school late until the zoo people caught all the animals. A big truck picked up the elephants. After the animals were caught, we went home. Today was very crowded and busy. Tomorrow I will take a bus to school. They might leave the lion cage open!



Story Summary Up**Complete the summary by filling in the blanks.**

bird bus cage caught escaped gymnasium reporters unusual

It was an _____ day. On the way to school, Anna and Tia saw a big _____ in a tree, a brown animal, and an antelope. When they got to school, there were animals, too! Teachers called the students into the _____ and told them the animals had _____ from the zoo. The gym was very crowded with people and _____. After the zoo people _____ the animals, the students could go home. Anna will take a _____ tomorrow. The zookeeper might leave the lion _____ open.

Think and Act Out**Write or say your own opinions.**

- What would you say to the reporter if you were Anna?
- What would you do if you saw zoo animals on the street?