

Three Tomorrows

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Before reading

1. What do you understand by the title *Three Tomorrows*?
2. Look at the cover of the book. What ideas does it give you about the content of the book?
3. What do you understand about the structure of the book from the genre note on the back cover?
4. What links the three stories in the book according to the blurb on the back cover?
5. What kinds of stories are you expecting?

Check your reading

Story 1: "Spam"

Section 1: pages 4–6

1. Look at the top of page 4. How far in the future is the story set?
2. Look at the picture on page 4. Who are the people?
3. How does the man in the picture feel and why?
4. True or false?
 - a Louise is Joe's wife.
 - b Louise is fourteen years old.
 - c Louise and Joe repaired the computer last weekend.
 - d Joe often reads the news on the Internet.
 - e People hate spam on their computers.
 - f Only Joe's family got the software to stop spam.
5. What do you understand from the last sentence ('That's what they thought.')?

Section 2: pages 6–10

1. Correct the statement: Louise went on holiday to a hostel with her family.
2. What did her parents hear about while Louise was away?
3. How long was Louise away on holiday?
4. Look at the picture on page 8. What did Louise's parents buy?
5. Why is it strange that her father buys gardening tools?
6. Put the events in order:
 - a People thought shopping was a new virus.
 - b Everybody bought too many things which they didn't need.
 - c Everybody talked about shopping.
 - d People didn't even open the things they bought.
 - e People spent money they didn't have.

Sections 3 and 4: pages 10–12

1. Louise realised something was wrong with the computer:
 - a when her mother said she was waiting for an email.
 - b when her mother's eyes became big as she read one email.
 - c when her mother went to the computer with her credit card.
 - d when her mother wanted to buy her father a purple shirt.

(NB: two answers are correct)

2. Louise removed the shopping company's email address from the computer. True or false?
3. How did Louise solve the problem?
4. How did Joe and Inez react when they opened the new email?
5. The internet shopping company put a programme into people's computers which made them buy things. Correct the statement.
6. Look at the picture on page 13. Why is it a good thing that Louise likes chocolate cake?

Story 2: "A Flower for Lumus"

Section 1: pages 14–15

1. Look at the top of page 14. How far in the future is this story?
2. Look at the picture on page 14 and answer these questions:
 - a What is Fleur doing to Lumus?
 - b Where are Fleur and Lumus?
 - c What do you notice about the waiters?
3. How does Fleur feel about the waiters? a angry b happy
c sad d bad
4. What name is given to the similar waiters?
5. Are the waiters human?

Section 2: pages 16–20

1. Match the beginnings to the endings.
 - 1 People didn't walk outside in 2106
 - 2 All the animals and trees outside
 - 3 People went for a walk
 - 4 You had to buy a ticket
 - 5 You told the computer
 - a were gone now.
 - b to go into the Sun Room.
 - c what you wanted to see on your walk.
 - d because it was too expensive.
 - e in big Sun Rooms.
2. Look at the picture of Fleur and Lumus on page 17 and the photograph of them when they got married on page 18. What differences do you notice in them?
3. Read what Fleur says on the telephone. What does it tell you about Lumus?
 - a He is the best helper of all.
 - b He isn't nice to her.
 - c He is too young for her.
 - d Even though he's a nice helper, he isn't like a real man.

(NB: two answers are correct)

5. Look at the picture on page 19. What is Fleur going to do to Lumus?

Story 3: "Zima's Last Dream"

Section 1: pages 21–23

1. Look at the top of page 21. How far in the future is this story set?
2. Look at the picture on page 21. What is the world like?
3. Which of these things about Zima's past are true?
 - a Her parents were rich.
 - b She had to try and drink dirty water.
 - c There were animals and trees around.
 - d She didn't get married.
4. Where are the animals, trees, cities and people she remembers now?
5. What other things have gone from her life?

Section 2: pages 23–26

1. How long after our time did the machines come to Earth?
2. What was the world like when the Machines came?
3. Look at the picture on page 24. What can you see?
4. What did the Machines want from the Old Ones?
5. Look at the picture on page 25. Connect it to your answers to (4).
6. Why did Zima feel very sad at the end of this section?

Sections 3–4: pages 26–28

1. Look at the picture on page 27. What living things does Zima remember?
2. What question from Section 2 do the Machines want Zima to answer?
3. How does Zima feel
 - a when she thinks about insects?
 - b when she thinks about her family?
4. What is Zima remembering in the picture on page 29?
5. What happens to Zima in the end?
6. Does she answer the machine's question?

After reading

Choose some of these activities.

1. Which of the three stories did you like best and why?
2. Which of the stories seems most possible in the future? Why?
3. Imagine you are a television interviewer. Write an interview with Louise from "Spam" about how she beat the email virus.
4. What do you think the people will do with all the extra things they bought in "Spam"?
5. Look at the picture on page 24 and write a very detailed description of what you can see.
6. What do you think Fleur will do next at the end of "A Flower for Lumus"?
7. Imagine you were able to have a 'helper'. What would you want him/her to do?
8. Why do you think it was so important for the Machines to know who made them in "Zima's Last Dream"? Who do *you* think made them?
9. What do you think will happen to the Machines and the world now that the last of the Old Ones is dead?
10. Make a quiz for other students where they have to remember which story the people and events were in.