

# CHAPTER 1

Harry Mancini walked out of the restaurant. He was smiling as he counted the money.

“Four hundred pounds,” he said and put the money into his jacket pocket. “That’s three thousand pounds so far today.”

He looked at his expensive gold watch as he walked. It was ten past twelve.

“I’ll make one more stop and then finish for the day,” he thought. “There will be **plenty** of time to collect more money tomorrow. It’s nearly one o’clock, and the first race starts soon. I want to be at the racetrack in time. If I can pick the right horses, I might make some more money today.”

Harry whistled as he walked towards a new bar on the corner. It would be his first visit to this bar, so he wasn’t going to collect any money from them today. He was just going to introduce himself and explain that he was going to **protect** their business for a few hundred pounds a month. He knew the owner would **refuse** at first. They always did. He wasn’t worried though. He knew how to do his job.

**plenty** (pronoun) a large amount; more than enough

**protect** (verb) to keep someone or something safe from danger or harm

**refuse** (verb) to not accept



*Harry Mancini walked out of the restaurant.  
He was smiling as he counted the money.*

“Later tonight, I’ll return to the bar when it’s closed and throw a brick through the window,” he thought. “When I visit the owner next week, he’ll pay the money without **arguing**. He’ll understand that he needs me to protect his bar. After all, this is a dangerous city. Some bad people live here.”

Harry laughed. He was happy and enjoying life. He had a good job. He was making a lot of money. He was well-known in this part of the city, and people **respected** him. Best of all, he was having fun. He went to the races twice a week and he went to nightclubs even more often. He liked to go to the best nightclubs. Everyone knew him in these places. He drank expensive wines and bought lots of drinks for his friends. The prettiest women were always his friends.

Yes, life was going very well for him. He ate in the best restaurants, drove a nice car, and wore expensive clothes. What more could anybody want?

Suddenly, there was a shout.

“Hey, Harry!”

**argue** (verb) to discuss something with someone who thinks differently from you

**respect** (verb) to like someone because there are honest and fair

**fire** (verb) to shoot bullets

**gunman** (noun) a professional killer

Harry turned. He saw a man raise a gun at him. The man **fired** two shots into his chest from just a couple of metres away.

Harry fell backwards onto the pavement. The **gunman** stepped forward and fired a third and final shot before walking away, leaving Harry to die.



*The man fired two shots into his chest from just a couple of metres away.*

The gunman walked away. There were people on the street, but nobody tried to stop him. He turned into an **alley** where a motorbike was waiting. He could hear sirens behind him as he climbed onto the bike. *VROOOM!!!* Someone had called the police. But he was not worried. He knew no one would talk to the police about gangster business. Seconds later, he was **escaping** through the busy city streets. *VROOOM!!! VROOOM!!!*

Outside the bar, a **crowd** stood around the body on the ground. But there was nothing they could do. Nobody could help Harry Mancini now. He was dead.

**alley** (noun) a narrow way between or behind buildings

**escape** (verb) to get away

**crowd** (noun) a large group of people in the same place

## GLOSSARY

**admit** (verb) to accept; to agree that something is true

**aggressively** (adverb) in a way that is angry and ready to fight

**alley** (noun) a narrow way between or behind buildings

**argue** (verb) to discuss something with someone who thinks differently from you

**bait** (noun) someone/something that is used to attract something/someone else

**barman** (noun) a person who serves drinks at a bar

**be in a hurry** (idiom) to do something quickly

**boast** (verb) talk about yourself or your success with too much pride

**cheat** (verb) to behave in a dishonest way to gain something

**count on** (phrasal verb) to trust

**countryside** (noun) land that is away from cities and towns

**crowd** (noun) a large group of people in the same place

**disappear** (verb) to stop being visible; to no longer exist; to vanish

**emotional** (adjective) becoming easily upset or excited; showing strong emotions

**escape** (verb) to get away

**exact** (adjective) correct or true in every way

**exhausted** (adjective) very tired

**familiar** (adjective) well-known, easy to recognize

**fire** (verb) to shoot bullets

**frightened** (adjective) scared, afraid

**frown** (verb) to make a serious or angry facial expression by moving your eyebrows

**furious** (adjective) very angry

**gather** (verb) to come together; to bring together

**get rid of someone/something** (phrase) to make yourself free of someone/something that you don't like

**grab** (verb) to hold something/someone with your hand suddenly and firmly

**groan** (verb) to make a deep sound because you are in pain or angry

**gunman** (noun) a professional killer

**horrible** (adjective) very bad

## Quiz-2

### Choose the correct answer.

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1. The boy ..... to his friends that he had the best bike.  
a) cried                      b) boasted                      c) smiled
2. She touched the boiling hot plate and ..... burnt her hand.  
a) soon                      b) later                      c) instantly
3. If I kill you, that will make me a ..... .  
a) murderer                      b) teacher                      c) witness
4. .... your hand if you know the answer.  
a) Lower                      b) Raise                      c) Hold
5. The man was ..... that some children had damaged his car.  
a) happy                      b) furious                      c) glad
6. I know you did it. You need to tell the truth and ..... it.  
a) stop                      b) admit                      c) catch
7. Dad and I put out a ..... to catch the mouse.  
a) trap                      b) hole                      c) brick
8. We will ..... all the evidence and solve the crime.  
a) age                      b) time                      c) gather
9. I need to do more exercise because I am very ..... .  
a) tall                      b) fit                      c) unfit
10. "Listen to me!" said the angry customer.  
"Don't ..... me!"  
a) ignore                      b) help                      c) trick