

# CHAPTER 1

“Welcome to Pendrill Hall!” said Adam.

He smiled at the group of six guests. There was a couple, two women, and a father and daughter. They looked nervous and frightened already. “That’s good,” he thought. “It looks like tonight will be easy.”

Adam and his friend, Joe, owned the company, Amazing Tours. They organised lots of different events for people to do. Once a week, they took people around Pendrill Hall on a ghost tour. Adam enjoyed these **tours** because he liked telling spooky stories. Joe enjoyed the tours because he liked **playing tricks on** people.

Pendrill Hall was more than three hundred years old. It was a large, stone building from the seventeenth century. The building had lots of dark corridors and dusty rooms. The rooms were full of old furniture. It was the perfect place for a ghost tour.

Adam and Joe wrote to Lord Pendrill six months ago. They asked **permission** to take people on the tours.

“We can share the money from the tours,” said Adam.

Lord Pendrill agreed. He needed money to repair the hall. It was very old. He needed money to **fix** the roof, the windows and the stairs. He needed money to buy new carpets. In fact, he needed money for almost everything.

**tour** (noun) a short journey around a building or a place

**play tricks on someone** (idiom) to deceive; to make someone believe something that is not true as a joke

**permission** (noun) allowing somebody to do something

**fix** (verb) to repair



*“Welcome to Pendrill Hall!” said Adam.*

“How much money will I make?” asked Lord Pendrill. “I need to make a lot of money.”

“We will have a tour every week,” said Adam. “We can have twelve people on each tour. The price of the tour will be £40 per person.”

Lord Pendrill was **pleased**. The tours should make £480 every week. Half of the money was Lord Pendrill’s. That was about £1,000 every month to pay for repairs.

There was a problem. There were other old halls that needed repairs. There were lots of other buildings – castles, churches, even old theatres. They all needed repairs and they all needed money. Some of these buildings had ghost tours as well. It was not a new idea.

Amazing Tours did not get a lot of customers. The tours were once a month, not once a week. Usually, there were only about six customers. They paid £25 each. Lord Pendrill only got about £75 a month for repairs. He needed a lot more money to repair the hall. He was angry with Amazing Tours. Joe was unhappy too.

“Amazing Tours is not making enough money,” he said. “If we do not find a way to make it more popular, we will have to stop the tours.”

**pleased** (adjective) happy and satisfied; glad

## CHAPTER 2

“Come **closer**, Ladies and Gentlemen,” Adam said to the group. “I want to tell you the story of the first Lord Pendrill.”

The six guests stood around him. They were outside the door to the hall. The night was dark and cold. The only light was from Adam’s torch. Adam spoke in a **quiet** voice.

“Lord Douglas Pendrill built this hall in the seventeenth century. He wanted the perfect house for his new wife when he married Lady Mary Stewart in 1685. Mary was the most beautiful woman in England, and Lord Pendrill was very much in love. He wanted his wife to have the most beautiful house in England. However, there was a problem.”

**close** (adjective) near; not far away

**quiet** (adjective) making a little noise

Adam opened the front door of the building and walked inside. The guests followed. Inside, the hall was darker and colder than outside. Adam stopped by the stairs. He turned to speak to the guests. He saw one guest **shiver**. Was she cold or **frightened**? He smiled to himself. It was probably both. The lights were off. Adam turned them off earlier. The heating was off because it did not work.

Adam continued the story.

“The problem was Lady Mary. Her parents **forced her to marry** Lord Pendrill. She did not want to marry him. She did not love him. She loved someone else. She loved a man called Charles. Charles was not a lord. He was not rich. Lady Mary did not love Lord Pendrill.

‘I want to marry Charles,’ she told her father. ‘I love him and he loves me.’

‘You cannot marry a poor man!’ shouted her father. ‘You will marry Lord Pendrill!’

**shiver** (verb) to shake slightly because of cold or fear

**frightened** (adjective) afraid, scared

**force somebody to do something** to make somebody do something that they don't want to do



*Lady Mary did not love Lord Pendrill.*

# VOCABULARY QUIZZES

## Quiz-1

**Choose the correct answer.**

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1. After he died, we went to his .....  
a) funeral                      b) wedding                      c) birthday
2. At the big house, the ..... did all the work.  
a) paintings                      b) servants                      c) cleaning
3. I'm so sorry! I will ..... the broken plate.  
a) make                              b) fit                              c) fix
4. I ran out into the snow and started .....  
a) protecting                      b) shivering                      c) shining
5. Thank you. You are very ..... to help me.  
a) cruel                              b) kind                              c) loud
6. The teacher was so angry because the students did not .....  
a) behave                              b) affect                              c) control
7. The rabbit ..... after the magician put it in the hat.  
a) discovered                      b) disappeared                      c) entered
8. His parents didn't give him ..... to go to the party on his own.  
a) present                              b) friend                              c) permission
9. He ..... a surprise party for me on my birthday.  
a) managed                              b) planted                              c) organised
10. Last summer, they went on a ..... of South America.  
a) tour                              b) trip                              c) visit

## Quiz-2

**Complete the sentences with the words below.**

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**ghost      loudly      frightened      torch      nervous**  
**cruel      guest      screamed      paintings      disappeared**

1. He was angry and shouted .....
2. She jumped out and ..... me.
3. The test today is making me .....
4. At the party, the food quickly .....
5. I was a ..... at Tony's party.
6. "Don't be ..... to your sister," said Mum.
7. We saw some lovely ..... at the art gallery.
8. After the old man died, he became a .....
9. I saw a spider and .....
10. It was dark, so I turned on my .....