

COURSE: **Destination Reading IV**

UNIT 25: Fast Forward: Watching the Time



Comprehension Strategy: Visualizing

Complete the following items to practice the comprehension strategy for this unit.

Detective Manning and the Mysterious Watch

"And there's the culprit!" exclaimed Detective Manning, pointing accusingly at Val Brims, the butler, who looked like he could die of fright. We all looked at the butler, and Mrs. Julliard, the owner of the house, put her hand over her mouth in shock.

"W-w-what are you talking about?" Mr. Brims stammered, looking away guiltily. "I swear to you—I didn't do it!"

"Don't try to deny it now!" thundered Detective Manning, with the fierceness of a thousand tigers. "This robbery could only have been your work because you had both motive and opportunity."

"No," Mr. Brims protested, edging away like a scared cat. "I would never have taken anything from Mrs. Julliard. I mean, I have worked here for over twenty years!"

"Save your breath," said Detective Manning, "I have proof!" He swiftly drew out a gold watch and held it up for the party guests to see. "This is the watch," he went on, "that has puzzled everyone from the beginning of the case. On it, if you will remember, are inscribed the initials *P. B.* I will admit that, at first, I could not think who those initials could belong to." The detective smirked triumphantly, savoring the moment of revelation. "But as I sat at my desk, a flash of insight came to me, and I knew the answer to the riddle." He turned quickly to the butler and pointed to the inscription on the back of the watch. "You had us chasing after Patricia Brown like a pack of crazed clowns. You thought you were safe, you see, because nobody guessed your name—Val—was short for Percival!"

Learning Objective:

 Use visualization to improve comprehension and enjoyment.

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Detective Manning and the Mysterious Watch

He got no further with this enlightening explanation, because, suddenly, Mr. Brims jumped up and sprinted out the door like he was being chased by a pack of hungry wolves. Detective Manning bolted after him, and I followed. My heart was pounding so loudly the neighbors could hear it! We nearly caught the thief, but as we began to catch up, Mr. Brims ran out the glass door and slammed it behind him, shattering the pane and blocking our path.

"Ugh!" I cried. "I was within a millimeter of his arm when he got out that door!" I was panting and severely out of breath from the chase. Before we could decide what to do next, we heard sirens outside, then tires screeching and car doors slamming. We ran out the door and saw about a million police cars in the street. An officer was intercepting Mr. Brims, and the butler was soon arrested for forgery, robbery, and resisting arrest. I sighed and congratulated Detective Manning on his fine work. The case was closed, but I'd had the most exciting experience of my life.

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Read each sentence from the passage, and form a mental picture of what is happening. Then, complete the sentences.

- **1.** "No," Mr. Brims protested, edging away like a scared cat.
 - A. When I read this sentence, I visualize
 - B. The words that helped me visualize what is happening are

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