

## The Trail of Terror

The warmth of the evening sun gave way to silvery half-light as the moon rose above the houses. Clouds scudded across the hazy sky. I walked quickly; I was late tonight and wanted to be at home, safe and warm in my cosy house.

**PREDICTION 1: Who is the lead character? What do you know about them so far? What is their personality like? What evidence is there in the text to support your answer?**

I heard a noise behind me, it was only faint but there was definitely something there. I quickened my pace, aware that I was on my own, no one to call out to or ask for help. The noise became louder: it was the sound of heavy footsteps behind me.

**PREDICTION 2: Who or what do you think the heavy footsteps belong to? Why do you think that?**

I was running now, running blindly through the darkness. My heart was pounding and my mouth was dry with fear. I tripped and fell clumsily on the rough path, my knees and hands stung with a sharp pain where I scrabbled in panic to get up, to carry on fleeing from the unknown danger, which was so quickly gaining on me.

I felt the rush of the wind as a figure passed me then stopped and turned to face me. A thin, bony hand reached out towards me, I heard a scream rise from deep within me but it made no sound; fear had taken over. I was paralysed, chilled to my very soul with the sight of the horrific face in front of me. Suddenly...

**PREDICTION 3: Using what you know from the text, what do you think is going to happen next? What makes you think that?**