



Strangers on a Train

INTERMEDIATE

4

Answers to Book activities

- 1 Open answers
- 2 architect – plans
divorce – couple
pregnant – baby
Open answers
- 3 a Guy is one of the strangers on the train. He is an architect and is married to Miriam. They are separated and he is staying in Mexico City with his girlfriend, Anne. His father is dead and his mother lives in Metcalf.
b Bruno is the other stranger on the train. He is young and lives in Long Island. His full name is Charles Anthony Bruno. He drinks heavily and smokes. He hates his father and wants to kill him.
c Miriam is Guy's wife but they are separated. She lives in Metcalf. She is pregnant but the baby is not Guy's. She is slightly fat and has red hair. Anne is Guy's girlfriend. She is rich and clever. She is staying with her parents in Mexico City.
Mr Brillhart owns a sports club in Florida.
- 4 Open answers.
- 5 Open answers, but we believe he will because he says to Anne that Miriam will soon mean nothing to him.
- 6 b
- 7 a Tulsa. So that they don't know that he is going to Metcalf.
b Metcalf
c She lives at 1253 Magnolia Street. He knows her family name is Joyce, so he looks it up in the telephone book.
d Lake Metcalf's Land of Entertainment.
e On the island in the lake. He strangles her.
- 8 Open answers
- 9 The people in the picture are probably Guy with Anne and Bruno in the background.
Open answers
- 10 a scratched b truth
- 11 a Guy says this outside his flat to Bruno. He is with Anne and doesn't want to talk to him.
b Guy says this to Bruno when they are in a bar later and Bruno says he knows all about Anne.
c Bruno writes this in a letter to Guy explaining how he wants Guy to murder his father.
d Mr Frear says this to Guy when he receives a letter from Bruno saying that Guy knew about his wife's murder.
e Bruno says this to Guy in the evening when he knows that Guy is ready to kill his father.
- 12 Open answer
- 13 Open answer
- 14 Open answer
- 15 a Because he finds torn pieces of the gloves.
b Because he cannot sleep very much because of the murder and he needs something to occupy his time.
c Because he is angry with himself for being ready to marry Anne when he is a murderer. He feels that he is so bad when she is so good.

- d Because he sends her flowers to apologise for being drunk at the party.
- e He tells Guy that the servant saw him leave the house on the night of the murder
- 17 Open answer
- 18 a True
b True. He knows that Bruno was at the scene of the crime but he cannot prove it.
c True
d False. He feels very lonely, as if he has lost a brother.
e False. Guy tells him while he is confessing to Owen because Gerard is listening on the phone.

19 Open answers

20–25 Open answers

Answers to Factsheet activities

Communicative activities

Activities before reading the book

Open answer

Student's activities

Activities before reading the book

Open answer

Activities after reading a section

CHAPTERS 1–3

Chapter 1

- 1 (a) (vii), (b) (iii), (c) (vi), (d) (v), (e) (iv), (f) (i), (g) (ii)
- 2 Bruno drinks too much. He wants to talk all the time. He talks about murdering Miriam. He says that Guy can murder his father, who he hates. He says the police will never find them because they are 'strangers on a train – the perfect murder'. Guy hates this idea and never wants to see Bruno again.

Chapter 2 & 3

- 1 (a) She is two months pregnant.
(b) She says she wants to go to Florida with him for a few months until December. Guy is starting a new job in Florida. He does not want his wife there when she is pregnant by another man.
(c) He hates her. She uses him and tries to make life difficult for him. She loves arguing.
(d) Because then Miriam cannot go to Florida with him.
(e) In Mexico City.
(f) She is calm and rich and clever and happy. Guy does not feel he is these things. He does not have much money.
(g) It says that Miriam has lost her baby. She is very sad and wants to see him.
- 2 Open answer

CHAPTERS 4–7

Chapters 4 & 5

- 1 (a) he thinks that if Miriam dies now, Guy can get the Florida job back.
(b) he can never tell his mother about the murder.
(c) he knows that Miriam lives there.
(d) he knows that Miriam lives there.
(e) one of the men calls her Miriam.

- (f) she is dead.
(g) has murdered Miriam.
- 2 (a) He goes to Metcalf station and looks for Miriam's address in the telephone book. He knows her family name. There are seven people called Joyce in the book. One is called Mrs M. Joyce. Bruno thinks that is Miriam's mother and that she is called Miriam too. He goes to that address and waits near the house. Two men and a woman come out and he follows their car in a taxi. They go to 'Lake Metcalf's Land of Entertainment'. Then they take a boat to an island in the lake. The two men leave Miriam for a short time and Bruno puts his hands round her throat and kills her.
(b) He thinks she is ugly. She is quite fat and wears red socks with red shoes - Bruno doesn't like this. She eats ice cream and he thinks she is a pig to do this when she has ten minutes to live. He hates her soft, fat face and her stupid laugh.
- 3 Open answer

Chapters 6 & 7

- 1 (d), (b), (e), (a), (c)
- 2 (a) Because he gets a letter from Bruno. In the letter Bruno says, 'Look Guy, don't worry, I'm going to be very careful.' Bruno talked about murdering Miriam and Guy immediately understands that this is why Bruno says he will be careful.
(b) Because Guy sends him a letter saying that he doesn't understand Bruno's letter and doesn't want to hear from him again. Bruno wants to talk to Guy about the murder and he wants Guy to murder his father.
- 3 Open answer
- 4 Open answer

CHAPTERS 8–10

Chapter 8

- 1 (a)(ii), (b)(ii), (c)(ii), (d)(i), (e)(ii), (f)(ii), (g)(i)
- 2 (a) Bruno says that Guy must kill his father or he will tell the police that Guy paid him to kill Miriam. The problem is that Guy knows the police will probably believe Bruno. They will not understand that Bruno is rather mad. Guy cannot prove to the police that he did not do this. Also, Miriam was causing him trouble and the police would discover this. Bruno also says that he will tell Anne the same thing. He actually writes a letter to Anne saying this. Then he writes the same kind of letter to a man Guy wanted a job from. Guy cannot see a way out of this. Bruno is destroying his life.
(b) Open answer
(c) Open answer
(d) Open answer

Chapters 9 & 10

- 1 (a) job/letter (b) Bruno (c) gun/gloves
(d) map of the house (e) gun (f) gloves
(g) scratches
- 2 When he enters the house, Guy feels like 'an actor in a play he'd already done hundreds of times. When he sees Bruno's



Penguin Readers Answer Key

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father asleep he shakes with fear. When he fires the gun he feels it is a dream, a play. then he runs and feels he is in a bad dream. He runs through trees and can't see or think. He loses his gloves but is too tired to go back and look. The next day his body is heavy and tired. He feels he can never sleep enough.

CHAPTERS 11-15

Chapters 11-13

- 1 (a) Gerard knows Bruno hated his father. Bruno says he was at Clarke's bar, but no one saw him there. It's strange that his father died on the night he left. The murderer knew where to go. It is clear that the whole thing was planned. There was a box next to the wall and a broken back door for the murderer to get in.
- (b) Guy cleans his flat again and again, especially at night. He can only sleep for two or three hours. On the day of his wedding, while he is waiting in the church, Guy throws a bottle of whisky at the wall and breaks it.
- (c) Bruno comes to the wedding. He introduces himself to Anne and says he's his oldest friend and that they went to school together. This frightens Guy who doesn't want people to know that he knows Bruno.
Guy also believes that Bruno is mad.

2 Open answer

Chapters 14-15

- 1 Example answer:
Chapter 14: Guy takes a job with a company and builds a big shop for them. He and Anne have a party and Bruno comes to it. Bruno gets very drunk. After the party Bruno sends Anne flowers. Guy and Bruno meet at a restaurant and Bruno gives Guy four ties. Guy runs out of the restaurant. Gerald sees the bill for flowers for Anne and asks Bruno how he knows Guy.
Chapter 15: Guy goes on a sailing holiday with Anne for three weeks and feels much better. But then Gerard comes to see him and questions him. Bruno comes to see him again and says that Guy is in more trouble than he is. On Anne's boat, Anne asks questions about Bruno - she knows something is wrong. Guy throws his gun into the sea.
- 2 Bruno can't stop thinking about Guy. In a very strange way, he seems to love him - he is always trying to see him. He gives him four ties as presents. But he also hates and wants to destroy him. He threatened Guy and made him murder his father. When he comes to see Guy he says drunkenly, 'I'll tell her, I'll tell her'.

CHAPTERS 16-19

Chapters 16 & 17

- 1 (a) Gerard found phone bills with phone calls from Bruno to Guy eighteen months ago. The waiter also told Gerard the two men met on the train.
 - (b) she says that Guy was very nervous in March (when he murdered Bruno's father.)
 - (c) he doesn't want the police to use his information to hang an innocent man.
 - (d) someone remember him going to the railway station on the day of the murder, a taxi driver took him to the amusement park, and another man remembers him near the amusement park. Also, Gerard has bills of phone calls Bruno made to Metcalf. Gerard says that Bruno planned the perfect crime: each man would kill the other's father/wife.
- 2 Open answer

Chapters 18 & 19

- 1 A pregnancy: While Guy is living in Canada, Anne tells her that she is pregnant with their child. Anne, Guy, Helen Heyburn and Bruno go out on Anne's boat. Bruno is drunk and when a large wave hits the boat, Bruno falls into the sea and dies. Guy decides he has to tell someone about the murders. He decides to tell Owen Markham, Miriam's boyfriend. But Guy does not know that when he tells Owen the story, the phone is lying near his chair so that someone can listen to what he is saying.
- 2 After Bruno dies, only Guy knows the truth about the murders. This is too much for Guy. Guy is not a bad man in the way that Bruno is. He has to talk about what he has done - he feels too bad about it. Perhaps he really wants the police to know - he wants to be punished for his crime.

Activities after reading the book

- 1 Open answer
- 2 (a) West page 19 (b) Charles Anthony Bruno page 2 (c) At the Parker Institute page 37 (d) On Long Island page 2 (e) The India page 39 (f) June page 48 (g) Whisky page 3 (h) Houston, Texas page 52 (i) Four page 2 (j) Mexico page 9.

