

# The Radio That Played Tomorrow

*A Fleydo English School Story*

*A2 Level | Teens (11–16) | Reading | Story | 16 Pages*

Seb is a sixteen-year-old boy who discovers an old radio in his grandmother's attic. The radio plays tomorrow's news — and every prediction comes true. Seb uses it to save boats, prevent accidents, and evacuate families before a landslide. But when lottery numbers tempt him, he must choose between selfishness and responsibility.

## Learning Objectives

- Read and understand an A2-level story about responsibility (16 pages)
- Learn 53 new vocabulary words in context
- Practise vocabulary with matching and fill-in-the-blank exercises
- Test reading comprehension with 10 multiple-choice questions
- Discuss themes: responsibility, honesty, temptation, and helping others

## 1 Read the Story

### Chapter 1

## The Attic

*Seb finds something that shouldn't exist*

Sebastian — everyone called him Seb — was sixteen and bored. It was the first Saturday of the summer holidays, it was raining, and there was nothing to do in Millford, the small coastal town where he lived with his grandmother.

“Why don’t you clean the attic?” his grandmother suggested. “There are boxes up there from before you were born. Maybe you’ll find something interesting.”

He climbed the narrow stairs and stepped into a world of dust and old memories. The attic was full of boxes, old furniture, and things covered in white sheets.

Then, behind a stack of boxes in the darkest corner, he found it. A radio. Not a modern radio — an old one, the size of a small suitcase, made of dark wood with brass dials and a fabric-covered speaker. The brand name was written in gold letters: KRONOS.



### Chapter 2

## Tomorrow's News

*The radio plays something impossible*

Seb carried the radio to his bedroom and plugged it in. The dial lit up with a soft green glow. He turned the tuning dial slowly. Static. Then a clear voice: “Good morning! This is Millford Community Radio with your news for Sunday, July the seventh.”

Today was Saturday, July the sixth. The radio was playing tomorrow’s news. It reported three things: a water pipe would burst on Oak Street, the Millford Dolphins would win three-one, and a dog named Biscuit would go missing from the harbour.

The next morning, all three predictions came true. The pipe burst. The football score was exact. A poster appeared: MISSING DOG — BISCUIT — LAST SEEN NEAR THE HARBOUR. Three predictions. All correct. The radio wasn’t playing a recording. It was playing tomorrow.



## Chapter 3

**The First Good Deed***Seb uses the radio to help someone*

That night, the radio announced a severe storm for Monday at two o'clock. Several boats would be damaged and a festival marquee on the seafront would collapse.

Seb went to the harbour master, Mr. Novak, and mentioned the weather forecast. Mr. Novak checked — a big storm was indeed coming. He secured the boats. Seb then warned Mrs. Darby, the festival organiser, who moved everything into the community hall.

At exactly two o'clock, the storm hit. Rain hammered the windows. Wind tore through the harbour. But the boats were secure and the festival was safe.

Mr. Novak found Seb the next day. "You saved six boats yesterday, son. Thank you." Seb smiled. The radio worked. And he could use it to help people.

## Chapter 4

**The Temptation***Seb faces a difficult choice*

Over two weeks, Seb prevented accidents, warned a cyclist about a pothole, saved a bakery from a fire, and reunited lost pets with their owners. People called him "Lucky Seb." Nobody knew about the radio.

Then the radio said something different. Tomorrow's lottery numbers. The jackpot was two hundred thousand pounds. His grandmother worked in a charity shop for almost no money. Their house needed a new roof. His school shoes had holes.

He wrote the numbers down. But using the radio for money felt like cheating. Every time he had helped someone, it felt warm and good. The lottery numbers felt cold and wrong.

"If I start using this for myself, when do I stop?" He tore up the paper. The next day, the numbers were exactly right. Two hundred thousand pounds, gone. Seb didn't regret it.

## Chapter 5

**The Big Warning***The radio delivers its most important message*

In the third week of July, the message was longer and much more serious. A major landslide would hit the cliffs above Harbour Road at eleven o'clock on Thursday. Two houses would be destroyed. Three people would be injured.

This time, he couldn't just mention a weather forecast. He needed people to evacuate. He went to his grandmother and told her everything.

She listened without interrupting. Then she said, "Show me the radio." She listened to it. "I believe you. That radio belonged to your grandfather. He always seemed to know things before they happened."

"What do we do?" "We go to the police. We show them the cracks in the cliffs. We make them look."

## Chapter 6

### The Race Against Time

*Seb and his grandmother fight to save lives*

They walked along Harbour Road and found deep cracks in the cliffs. At the police station, Officer Chen was sceptical, but Seb's grandmother insisted he come and see. A geologist was called. He turned pale.

"These cliffs could collapse at any time. We need to evacuate immediately." Both houses were evacuated. The road was closed. Families were relocated to a hotel.

On Thursday at eleven fifteen, the cliff collapsed. Thousands of tonnes of rock buried the houses. If anyone had been inside, they would have been killed.

Reporters came from everywhere. "Millford Miracle: Grandmother and Grandson Save Lives." His grandmother told them calmly, "We noticed the cracks. We knew something wasn't right." It wasn't the whole truth. But it was enough.

## Chapter 7

### The Last Broadcast

*The radio has one final message*

That night, Seb turned on the radio for the last time. The voice was quieter. "This is the final broadcast. The radio has served its purpose. It was built to help, and it has helped. The future is not something to fear or to exploit. It is something to protect. Goodbye, Sebastian."

The green light faded. The dial went dark. The radio was silent. Whatever mechanism had allowed it to play tomorrow's news was gone.

His grandmother sat beside him. “Your grandfather always helped people. Maybe now I understand how. You’re a lot like him, Sebastian.”

Seb put the radio back in the attic. Maybe someday, someone else would find it. Outside, the summer evening was warm and golden. He walked down to the harbour. The cliff had collapsed, but the town was safe. The people were safe.

He didn’t need a radio to know that tomorrow would be a good day. Some things, you just know.

*The future is not something to fear or to exploit.  
It is something to protect.  
— The Kronos Radio*



## 2 Key Vocabulary

These words from the story will help you improve your English.

Word	Type	Definition	Example
<b>attic</b>	noun	the space under the roof	<i>Seb found the radio in the attic.</i>
<b>creaking</b>	adj	making a high sound when moved	<i>He pushed open the creaking door.</i>
<b>decorations</b>	noun	things to make a place look nice	<i>Christmas decorations were in the boxes.</i>
<b>dials</b>	noun	round controls you turn	<i>The radio had brass dials.</i>
<b>plugged</b>	verb	connected to a power source	<i>He plugged the radio in.</i>
<b>tuning</b>	verb	adjusting a radio to a station	<i>He turned the tuning dial slowly.</i>
<b>frowned</b>	verb	made a confused face	<i>Seb frowned at the date.</i>
<b>broadcast</b>	noun	a programme on radio or TV	<i>The broadcast reported three things.</i>
<b>recording</b>	noun	stored sound	<i>It had to be a recording.</i>
<b>frequency</b>	noun	radio waves for finding stations	<i>Someone's joke on a strange frequency.</i>
<b>shouting</b>	verb	speaking very loudly	<i>His grandmother was shouting.</i>
<b>gushing</b>	verb	flowing quickly in large amounts	<i>Water was gushing from a pipe.</i>
<b>lamppost</b>	noun	a tall street post with a light	<i>A poster on the lamppost.</i>
<b>severe</b>	adj	very bad or serious	<i>A severe storm will hit.</i>
<b>marquee</b>	noun	a large tent for events	<i>The festival marquee would collapse.</i>
<b>warn</b>	verb	tell about possible danger	<i>He could warn people.</i>
<b>clever</b>	adj	quick to find solutions	<i>He needed to be clever about it.</i>
<b>forecast</b>	noun	a report about future weather	<i>Have you seen the forecast?</i>
<b>satellite</b>	noun	object in space sending weather info	<i>The satellite images show a storm.</i>

<b>secured</b>	verb	fastened safely	<i>The boats were secured.</i>
<b>organiser</b>	noun	person who plans events	<i>He found the organiser.</i>
<b>hammered</b>	verb	hit with great force	<i>Rain hammered the windows.</i>
<b>damage</b>	noun	physical harm to something	<i>The damage would have been terrible.</i>
<b>accidents</b>	noun	unexpected harmful events	<i>He learned about accidents.</i>
<b>bakery</b>	noun	where bread and cakes are made	<i>He warned the bakery owner.</i>
<b>reunited</b>	verb	brought back together	<i>He reunited lost pets with owners.</i>
<b>lottery</b>	noun	game to win money with tickets	<i>Tomorrow's lottery numbers.</i>
<b>jackpot</b>	noun	biggest prize in a game	<i>The jackpot is £200,000.</i>
<b>charity</b>	noun	organisation helping those in need	<i>She worked in a charity shop.</i>
<b>cheating</b>	verb	acting dishonestly for advantage	<i>Using it for money felt like cheating.</i>
<b>announced</b>	verb	said something publicly	<i>The radio announced the numbers.</i>
<b>regret</b>	verb	feel sad about a choice	<i>Seb didn't regret it.</i>
<b>landslide</b>	noun	earth falling down a hillside	<i>A major landslide on the cliffs.</i>
<b>collapse</b>	noun	something falling down suddenly	<i>The collapse will destroy two houses.</i>
<b>injured</b>	adj	physically hurt	<i>Three people will be injured.</i>
<b>evacuate</b>	verb	leave a dangerous place	<i>He needed people to evacuate.</i>
<b>interrupting</b>	verb	stopping someone speaking	<i>She listened without interrupting.</i>
<b>observant</b>	adj	good at noticing things	<i>I thought he was just observant.</i>
<b>unstable</b>	adj	not firm; likely to fall	<i>The cliffs are unstable.</i>
<b>sceptical</b>	adj	having doubts	<i>Officer Chen was sceptical.</i>
<b>geological</b>	adj	relating to rocks and earth	<i>The geological team arrived.</i>

<b>geologist</b>	noun	scientist studying rocks	<i>The geologist turned pale.</i>
<b>relocated</b>	verb	moved to a new place	<i>Families were relocated.</i>
<b>tonnes</b>	noun	units of weight (1,000 kg)	<i>Thousands of tonnes of rock.</i>
<b>buried</b>	verb	covered completely	<i>The houses were buried.</i>
<b>reporters</b>	noun	people who tell news stories	<i>Reporters came from everywhere.</i>
<b>purpose</b>	noun	reason something exists	<i>The radio served its purpose.</i>
<b>exploit</b>	verb	use unfairly for advantage	<i>Not something to exploit.</i>
<b>mechanism</b>	noun	system of parts working together	<i>Whatever mechanism had allowed it.</i>
<b>grateful</b>	adjective	feeling thankful	<i>Seb felt grateful.</i>
<b>responsibility</b>	noun	a duty; something right to do	<i>Knowing the future is a responsibility.</i>
<b>tempted</b>	adjective	wanting to do something wrong	<i>He had been tempted.</i>

### 3 Fill in the Blanks

Choose the correct word to complete each sentence.

**Word Bank:** attic | broadcast | forecast | warn | sceptical | evacuate | geologist | cheating | responsibility | grateful

1. Seb found the old radio in the \_\_\_\_\_ of his grandmother's house.
2. The radio was playing a \_\_\_\_\_ from tomorrow's news programme.
3. The weather \_\_\_\_\_ said a big storm was coming from the west.
4. Seb decided to \_\_\_\_\_ people about the storm before it arrived.
5. Mrs. Darby was \_\_\_\_\_ because the sky looked perfectly blue.
6. The police told families to \_\_\_\_\_ their homes before the landslide.
7. The \_\_\_\_\_ said the cliffs could collapse at any time.
8. Seb felt it would be \_\_\_\_\_ to use the radio to win the lottery.
9. The radio taught Seb that knowing the future is a \_\_\_\_\_.
10. Seb was \_\_\_\_\_ for the time he had with the magical radio.

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#### Answer Key

1. attic
2. broadcast
3. forecast
4. warn
5. sceptical
6. evacuate
7. geologist
8. cheating
9. responsibility
10. grateful

## 4 Comprehension Quiz

Choose the correct answer for each question.

### Question 1. Where did Seb find the radio?

- A) In a shop
- B) In his grandmother's attic
- C) On the beach
- D) At school

### Question 2. What was unusual about the radio's broadcast?

- A) It played music from the 1960s
- B) It played tomorrow's news
- C) It only worked at night
- D) It spoke in a foreign language

### Question 3. How did Seb confirm the radio told the truth?

- A) He asked his grandmother
- B) He searched the internet
- C) All three predictions came true
- D) A scientist tested it

### Question 4. How did Seb warn people about the storm?

- A) He told them about the radio
- B) He suggested they check the forecast
- C) He called the police
- D) He posted warnings online

### Question 5. Why did Seb tear up the lottery numbers?

- A) He didn't believe them
- B) Using the radio for money felt like cheating
- C) His grandmother told him to
- D) The numbers were wrong

### Question 6. What serious event did the radio predict?

- A) A tsunami
- B) An earthquake
- C) A landslide on the cliffs
- D) A factory explosion

### Question 7. Who helped Seb convince the authorities?

- A) His best friend
- B) Mr. Novak
- C) His grandmother
- D) The mayor

### Question 8. What happened to the houses on Harbour Road?

- A) They were flooded
- B) They caught fire
- C) They were buried under rock
- D) They were sold

**Question 9. What happened to the radio at the end?**

- A) Seb sold it
- B) It broke into pieces
- C) It stopped working after a final message
- D) His grandmother threw it away

**Question 10. What is the main lesson of the story?**

- A) Old radios are valuable
- B) The future should be feared
- C) Power and knowledge come with responsibility
- D) Grandmothers always know best

## 5 Quiz Answer Key

Q	Correct Answer
1	B) In his grandmother's attic
2	B) It played tomorrow's news
3	C) All three predictions came true
4	B) He suggested they check the forecast
5	B) Using the radio for money felt like cheating
6	C) A landslide on the cliffs
7	C) His grandmother
8	C) They were buried under rock
9	C) It stopped working after a final message
10	C) Power and knowledge come with responsibility



*“The future is not something to fear or to exploit. It is something to protect.”*

— The Kronos Radio