



# Death in the City

It is a beautiful Monday morning. The birds are singing in the trees. The sun is dancing on the River Thames. London is so colourful in the early summer!

Alice Reynolds is cycling to work. She cycles from Battersea to Knightsbridge every day because it is the fastest way to **get around** the city. On Mondays she **has to** start work very early. Now it is almost 6 a.m.

**As usual**, she crosses the river, passes the church and turns left into a quiet side street. The houses are **worth** a lot of money in this part of town. A small **flat** for two people can cost half a million pounds.

A man is standing in the road next to an expensive car. He is wearing a designer suit and is talking on the phone. Without looking over his shoulder, he opens the car door.

Alice **rings the bell** on her bicycle and shouts at the man.

**“Look out!”**

“Hey, watch where you’re going!” he shouts back.



<b>to get around</b>	herumkommen, sich fortbewegen
<b>to have to do sth.</b>	etw. tun müssen
<b>as usual</b>	wie gewöhnlich
<b>worth</b>	wert
<b>flat</b>	Wohnung
<b>to ring (the bell)</b>	klingeln
<b>Look out!</b>	Vorsicht!

Alice cycles past him and **disappears** around the corner. Seconds later, she hears a car **screech to a halt** and a few moments later a woman's scream.

"Help! HELP!"

Alice gets off her bike and turns around. An **accident**? It sounds **serious**.

"Please, someone help!" the woman shouts.

Alice pushes her bike back around the corner. When she sees the woman at the side of the road, she drops the bike and runs over to her. There is blood on the woman's hands. Then Alice **notices** more blood on the road. It is coming from one of the cars.

"My God, there's blood everywhere!"

She begins to panic when she sees a pair of shoes under the open car door. The

man in the designer suit is lying on the ground. He is not moving. Alice cannot see his face. One arm is pointing up, and the other arm is pointing down. His mobile phone is next to his right hand.

"He's dead!" the other woman **cries**. There are **tears** on her face.

"Dead?! What? How? Are you sure?"


Alice puts her hand on the man's neck.

"Don't touch him! Call the police!"



<b>to disappear</b>	verschwinden
<b>to screech to a halt</b>	mit quietschenden Reifen zum Stehen kommen
<b>accident</b>	Unfall
<b>serious</b>	ernst
<b>to notice</b>	wahrnehmen, merken
<b>to cry</b>	schreien; weinen
<b>tear</b>	Träne

“We need an **ambulance**,” says Alice.

Suddenly she feels very cold. She **takes a deep breath** and tries to stay **calm**. “Let me call 999 ” 

Zwar ist heutzutage auch die europäische Notrufnummer 112 in Großbritannien und Irland gültig, trotzdem wählen fast alle Einheimischen noch 999. In den USA lautet die Notrufnummer 911.



The other woman is very nervous. She is looking around in every **direction**.

“Hello,” says Alice. “Ambulance, please The road? Barkston Gardens in Chelsea. Yes, it’s an **emergency** An accident. ”

“Not an accident!” the other woman cries.

She takes Alice by the arm and pulls her from the road. At the same time, she **grabs** Alice’s phone and shouts at the **operator**, “Send the police. The killer’s **still** here!”

A killer? Alice’s heart starts **beating** even faster. So it really wasn’t an accident! She notices that the woman’s car is more than five metres away from the man in the road.

The two women **hide** behind another car while they finish talking to the operator. Just as the call ends, a motorbike **roars off into the distance**.



<b>ambulance</b>	Krankenwagen
<b>to take a deep breath</b>	tief einatmen
<b>calm</b>	ruhig
<b>direction</b>	Richtung
<b>emergency</b>	Notfall
<b>to grab</b>	greifen, (sich) schnappen
<b>operator</b>	<i>hier:</i> Notruftelefonist
<b>still</b>	(immer) noch
<b>to beat</b>	schlagen
<b>to hide</b>	(sich) verstecken
<b>to roar off into the distance</b>	in die Ferne davonbrausen

**Exercise 1: Transport.** Welche Definition passt zum Verb? Ordnen Sie zu!

1.  **f** to fly                      a) to travel by car
2.  to drive                      b) to travel by bicycle
3.  to cycle                      c) to travel by ship
4.  to walk                      d) to travel on a motorbike or horse
5.  to sail                      e) to travel on foot
6.  to ride                      f) to travel by plane

Inspector Henry Mortimer is having a busy month. His boss, Chief Inspector Bridges, is giving him more and more work every day. Mortimer thinks that she is an **impatient** woman, but she is very efficient.

“Another one?” he asks. “Another dead banker?”

His boss **nods**. “Another very *rich* banker – Alan River, fifty-six years old. You must stop this, Mortimer. Find out who this killer is.”

“There’s nothing I want more,” he replies, “but we still have no **evidence**. Nothing **at all**.”

“So find something! We have two **witnesses** this time, and Alan River has friends and family in the city – two brothers



<b>impatient</b>	ungeduldig
<b>to nod</b>	nicken
<b>evidence</b>	Beweise
<b>at all</b>	überhaupt
<b>witness</b>	Zeuge, Zeugin