

“Can I take Lob with me?”

“You know Aunt Becky doesn’t really like dogs—Oh, very well.” Mrs. Pengelly sighed. “I suppose she’ll have to put up with him as well as you.”

Reluctantly Sandy tidied herself, took her schoolbag, put on the damp  
190 raincoat she had just taken off, fastened Lob’s lead to his collar, and set  
off to walk through the dusk to Aunt Becky’s cottage, which was five  
minutes’ climb up the steep hill. **F**

The wind was howling through the shrouds<sup>12</sup> of boats drawn up on  
the Hard.

“Put some cheerful music on, do,” said Jean Pengelly to the nearest  
twin. “Anything to drown that wretched sound while I make your dad’s  
supper.” So Don, who had just come in, put on some rock music, loud.  
Which was why the Pengellys did not hear the truck hurtle down the hill  
and crash against the post office wall a few minutes later. **G**

200 **D**r. Travers was driving through Cornwall with his wife, taking a  
late holiday before patients began coming down with winter colds  
and flu. He saw the sign that said STEEP HILL. LOW GEAR FOR 1½ MILES.  
Dutifully he changed into second gear.

“We must be nearly there,” said his wife, looking out of her window.  
“I noticed a sign on the coast road that said the Fisherman’s Arms was

**F FORESHADOWING**

Reread lines 189–192.

Why might the narrator  
be drawing attention to  
the steep hill again?

**G FORESHADOWING**

Reread lines 195–199.

What might the  
description of the crash  
suggest?

12. **shrouds** (shroudz): ropes or cables on a boat’s mast, the vertical pole that supports the sails.



**ANALYZE VISUALS**

What **details** in the  
illustration suggest that  
the hill is steep?