

Karen Beddow is an award-winning blogger and **Lyndsay Macaulay** is an acclaimed educational consultant. *The Clock Thief* is their second children's story in the Extraordinary Travellers series. *The Clock Thief* is a story about an extraordinary family who race across Spain to find Athena Strong's missing invention.



EXTRAORDINARY TRAVELLERS

THE CLOCK THIEF

Extract 2

Mum's study was a place of organised chaos. To any outsider, it looked more like unorganised chaos. It was packed from floor to ceiling. Bookshelves strained under the weight of piles of books in different languages. On the desk sat a framed, faded photograph of Athena Strong, gazing knowingly out to sea.

Lucy loved Mum's study. It was the home of the Extraordinary Travellers. And the beginning of a new adventure.



Lucy and Tom had become the newest members of the Extraordinary Travellers last year. As French treasures started to disappear, Lucy and Tom had stepped in. They had helped the President solve the mystery of Sylvie and the Little Museum. Their adventure had uncovered a family secret – their great great grandmother, Athena Strong.

Lucy smiled at the photograph of Athena as she wondered what the day might bring, knowing that what caused the cathedral to rise must be one of her extraordinary inventions. ‘What do you have in store for us this time, Athena?’ she thought.

Tom glanced around at the piles of paper, maps, gadgets, old coffee cups, the half-eaten sandwich and apple core from lunchtime. He shuddered.

Tom and Lucy were as different as chalk and cheese. Lucy was a whirl of wavy hair and bright ideas. Tom was more refined. His neat hair matched his neat, precise mind. He liked details and logic. They made a brilliant team.



1. What does “Organised Chaos” mean? Can you think of another word combination that is used in that way?

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2. What do you think of when you hear the words ‘Extraordinary Travellers’?

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3. Which of these items are in Mum’s study. Circle the correct ones.

Whole Apple Glass Paper Map Photograph Bin

4. Can you provide another example of something that can be described as “chalk and cheese”.

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5. In the later paragraph of this extract we find out a bit about Tom and Lucy’s personalities. What do you think their reactions would be to finding out there is a floating cathedral in Barcelona and how might their reactions be different?

Tom’s Reaction

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Lucy’s Reaction

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