Passage 1

"The sun came up at six," said Ted. "With luck we can get to the top by ten."

"Can we sit for a bit?" said Sam. "Can you get this pack off my back?"

Ted had to tug on the pack. "What is in this pack?" he said. "A lot of rocks? You can not get up the hills with this."

Passage 2

Tom and Ricky looked back at the four men by the van. Then they looked at Eddie's bike.

"Eddie, your bike is all bent up. What is going on?" Tom said.

"Does all of this have something to do with those men down the street?" Ricky asked.

"Did they bend up your bike?" Tom asked.
Passage 3

The group did not have to go far. There was a store near school. When they got there, Tess, Nate, and Val looked at Sam. He was all set to film them. But this did not seem right. What was he going to film in a store?

"Here's what I want you to do," said Sam. "I want each of you to go through the store."

Passage 4

Brett could see the look of horror on Peggy's face. He wanted to say something that would help. But it was all he could do to hang on to the side of the rubber boat.

"Shark, Brett. A shark. You've got to get in the boat. Try to lift yourself up." Peggy pulled at his arm.

Passage 5

Jim could see the car long before it got to town. It would take the state people another fifteen minutes to get to Oasis. That's how far away the were. The air was clean in the desert, but the car left a trail of dust behind it. That made it easy to watch.

Inside it were Paul Knight and Cassie Monroe. They were both scientists from the state health department.