

Mr and Mrs Twit are not nice people! They enjoy doing bad things, and they are not kind to the animals in their garden. But the animals have a plan. What funny things will the animals do? Can the animals stop the Twits from doing more bad things?

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ROALD DAHL

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	CEFR level	Story word count	Headwords
1	A1	1,000–2,000	550
2	A1+	3,000–4,000	700
3	A2	5,000–7,000	1,000
4	A2+	8,000–10,000	1,200

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THE TWITS



Illustrated by Quentin Blake

ROALD DAHL

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THE TWITS

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LEVEL

2

This book has been simplified for English Language Learners
by Hannah Fish
Series Editor: Madeleine Burgess

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ABOUT ROALD DAHL AND QUENTIN BLAKE



Roald Dahl was a children's writer, and many of his stories are very famous across the world. Do you know any Roald Dahl books?



Quentin Blake drew pictures for Roald Dahl's stories. Do you like the pictures in this book? Which is your favourite picture?

About this story

This story is about a husband and a wife. Their names are Mr Twit and Mrs Twit. The word "twit" means "a silly person" in English, and Mr and Mrs Twit are not nice or kind!

In this story, the Roly-Poly Bird flies from his home in Africa to the Twits' garden in England. Many African birds fly to England every year. In autumn, the weather starts to get colder in England, and the birds fly back to Africa. The Roly-Poly Bird meets a family of monkeys in the garden, and these monkeys are from Africa, too.

MEET ...



Mr Twit



Mrs Twit



Muggle-Wump the
Monkey and his family



The Roly-Poly
Bird

Chapter 1 and Chapter 2
NEW WORDS



a beard (n.)



smelly (adj.)



a walking stick (n.)



horrible (adj.)

Chapter 1 and Chapter 2
WHAT DO YOU THINK?

What will happen in the story?
Answer the questions.

- 1 Look at the picture on page 10.
What can you see in Mr Twit's beard?
- 2 Look at the picture on page 14.
What is Mr Twit doing?
- 3 Look at the picture on page 15.
What can Mr Twit see in his cup?

Now let's read Chapter 1 and Chapter 2!

CHAPTER 1

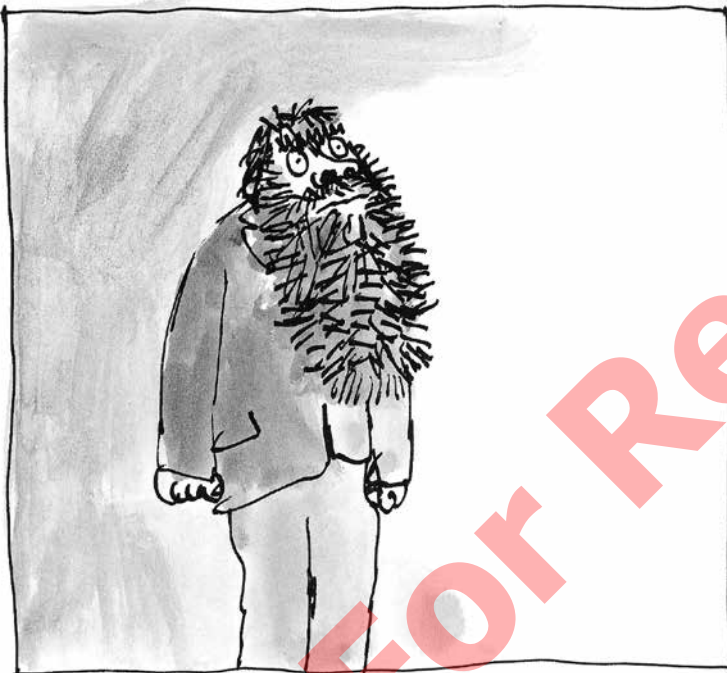
Mr and Mrs Twit

There are a lot of men with **beards**, and Mr Twit was one of them. A lot of his face had dark hair on it, and you could only see his eyes and his nose and the top of his head.

Mr Twit liked his beard very much. *I look very important and clever because of my big beard*, he thought.

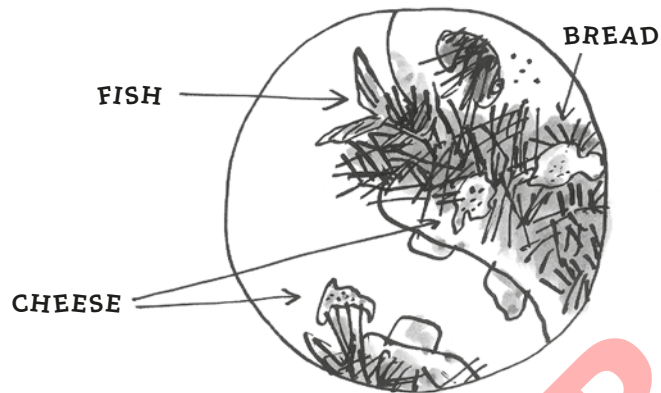
But it was not true. Mr Twit did not look important or clever because he was a very silly man. He was nearly 60 years old, and he was getting sillier and sillier every day.

The hair on Mr Twit's face did not look nice, and it was always dirty. Usually, a man with a beard has to wash his face very often. This is because there is always food in the hairs near his



mouth. He has to wash the food from his beard, or his beard gets very **smelly**.

But how often did Mr Twit wash that beard? The answer is NEVER. There was a lot of old food in his beard, and he could always find something to eat there. Mr Twit was never hungry because of his dirty beard.



Mr Twit's beard was very smelly, and Mr Twit was also not a nice man. I will tell you more about him later.

Mrs Twit was not better than her husband, Mr Twit. Of course, she did not have a smelly beard on her face, but she was not nice or kind.



Mrs Twit always carried a **walking stick** in her right hand. "I need my walking stick because I have bad feet," she told people. But it was not true. She used a walking stick because she liked hitting dogs and cats and small children with it.

CHAPTER 2

The glass eye



Mrs Twit liked doing **horrible** things to Mr Twit. She had a glass eye, and she could take her glass eye out of her face. You can do lots of bad things with a glass eye, and Mrs Twit knew all of them.

One morning, Mrs Twit took out her glass eye and put it in Mr Twit's cup. Mr Twit did not see the eye, and he started to drink from his cup slowly.

"You're very quiet," Mrs Twit said to him. She did not look at him because she did not want him to see her face with only one eye. "Are you planning something?"

Mr Twit did not answer, but Mrs Twit was right.



I want to be very horrible to Mrs Twit today, he thought. What bad things can I do to her?

"Listen to me," said Mrs Twit. "You can't do anything to me because I'm watching you!"

"Shut up!" Mr Twit said, and he finished his drink. Then he saw Mrs Twit's glass eye in his cup.

"You horrible woman!" shouted Mr Twit, and he stood up quickly.

Mrs Twit laughed. "I told you," she said, happily. "I'm always watching you!"



Chapter 1 and Chapter 2
WHAT CAN YOU REMEMBER?

Match the pictures to the words.



horrible



smelly



a beard



a walking stick

Circle the correct word.

- 1 Mr Twit likes / **does not like** his beard very much.
- 2 Mr Twit is a very **silly** / **clever** man.
- 3 Mrs Twit is Mr Twit's **wife** / **mother**.
- 4 Mrs Twit always carries **a cup** / **a walking stick** in her right hand.
- 5 Mrs Twit has a glass **eye** / **beard**.
- 6 Mrs Twit puts something in Mr Twit's **bed** / **cup**.