



NB: This is not a word-for-word transcript

Language focus: Linking devices of cause and effect: due to, owing to, because, because of, consequently, as a result, result in, as a result of; thus, therefore

Mary narrating

The Vicar of Altarnum has just told me he knows who murdered my uncle and aunt. I look at him in **horror**, and slowly, the awful truth becomes clear...

Vicar

Yes, Mary. I planned the **wrecks**. Your uncle followed my **orders** but they thought *hewas* the leader. He loved that. No one knew about me. But then you came and asked questions. **They had to die because of that...** The end was near in any case. The fool got drunk on Christmas Eve. Well, you saw what happened... the whole country knew what he'd done. With a rope round his neck, he'd have told them about me.

Mary

At least my uncle didn't lie - he talked and dreamt about his crimes. You... you hid yours behind the cross and the face of a priest. But why are you telling me all this now?

Vicar

I know you found the picture... I saw it had been moved. It frightened you, didn't it? "Who is this strange man?" you thought. Yes, Mary I am strange. Oh, but they listened to me in church and followed me like sheep.

Now, get ready. We've got to leave.

Mary

We?!

Vicar

Yes, you're coming with me - you'll be a good **companion**. I've admired your courage since we first met.

Mary

And if I don't come with you?

Vicar

You're no fool, Mary. There are no houses nearby and your screams won't be heard.

Mary

You know that I'll run away at the first village.

Vicar

You won't be able to. **There aren't any villages on the Cornish coast because of the steep cliffs...** just birds, and when we're on the ship...

Mary

You're leaving England?

Vicar

Of course - we'll go to Spain, to Africa... Get ready now.

Mary narrating

I think quickly. I look at the clock... Jem will have reached the **blacksmith** and will know the truth. **He'll realise I'm in serious danger so he will follow us...** If I go with the vicar, at least I'll slow him down a bit, so Jem will have a chance to catch up...

I have no choice in any case.

We cross the dark, empty moor quickly, avoiding the roads. The moon is hidden behind clouds... The Vicar has luck on his side.

As the ground becomes softer, we slow down... The **marshes** lie waiting. The Vicar knows, as I do, that **one wrong step will result in a horrible death.**

Mary

Oh, where is Jem?

Vicar

Whoah!

Mary narrating

A wall of fog rises in front of us.

Vicar

It's no good. We can't see anything. We'll have to wait until light. We'll sleep here... on these rocks, out of the wind.

Mary narrating

I **drift in and out** of sleep.

Vicar

Shhh! Be quiet!

Mary narrating

I'm woken by his cold hand on my mouth.

I can still hear the wind, but there is something else, too...

We leave the horses and he **drags** me higher and higher...

Mary

I can't go any further.

Vicar

Stay here, then.

Mary narrating

The last I see of him - he's standing on a rock with his arms stretched out...

Vicar

(gunshot) Aaaaah!

Mary narrating

I look up. Jem is about 100 metres away behind a rock with a gun.

I haven't seen Jem since he shot the vicar. The Bassat family have been looking after me. They've asked me to stay and look after their children... but I **long for** the green fields and valleys of Helford. I'm walking for the last time on the moor. Tomorrow I'll go back and live quietly on the farm.

Mary

Someone is coming this way... but I can't see who because the sun is in my eyes...

Jem

Hello Mary. I heard you're going to go and live at North Hill?

Mary

They've asked me, but no... I'm going back to Helford tomorrow... And you, are you leaving Cornwall?

Jem

Yes, I'm going to start a new life... I've got my whole home with me here. I may go north. Perhaps I'll **breed** horses instead of stealing them. Come with me, Mary.

Mary

I miss my home in Helford... I want to see the trees and animals...

Jem

Go then and live on your farm.

Mary

That's not very kind.

Jem

I speak unkindly to my horses when they're **obstinate**. it doesn't mean I don't love them. Well, I'll be on my way... Goodbye Mary.

Mary

Wait! Are you saying you love me?

Jem

Maybe... It'll be a hard life.

Mary

I know, I'll take my chance... and we'll be together.

Mary narrating

So, I cross the moor for the last time - and for the first time, it looks beautiful in the sunshine. Behind me lies Jamaica Inn, empty, no more secrets - they have all been told... my new life is about to begin.

Vocabulary

horror

great fear or shock

wrecks

ships that are destroyed at sea

orders

instructions given and which you are expected to obey

companion

a person you spend time with

blacksmith

a person who makes and repairs horseshoes

marshes

areas of soft wet land

drift in and out

to move slowly without control of which direction you are going in

drag

pull something along the ground with difficulty

long for

to want something very much

threat

warning of danger or harm

breed

keep animals and produce young from them

obstinate

not wanting to do something even though it may be the right thing to do