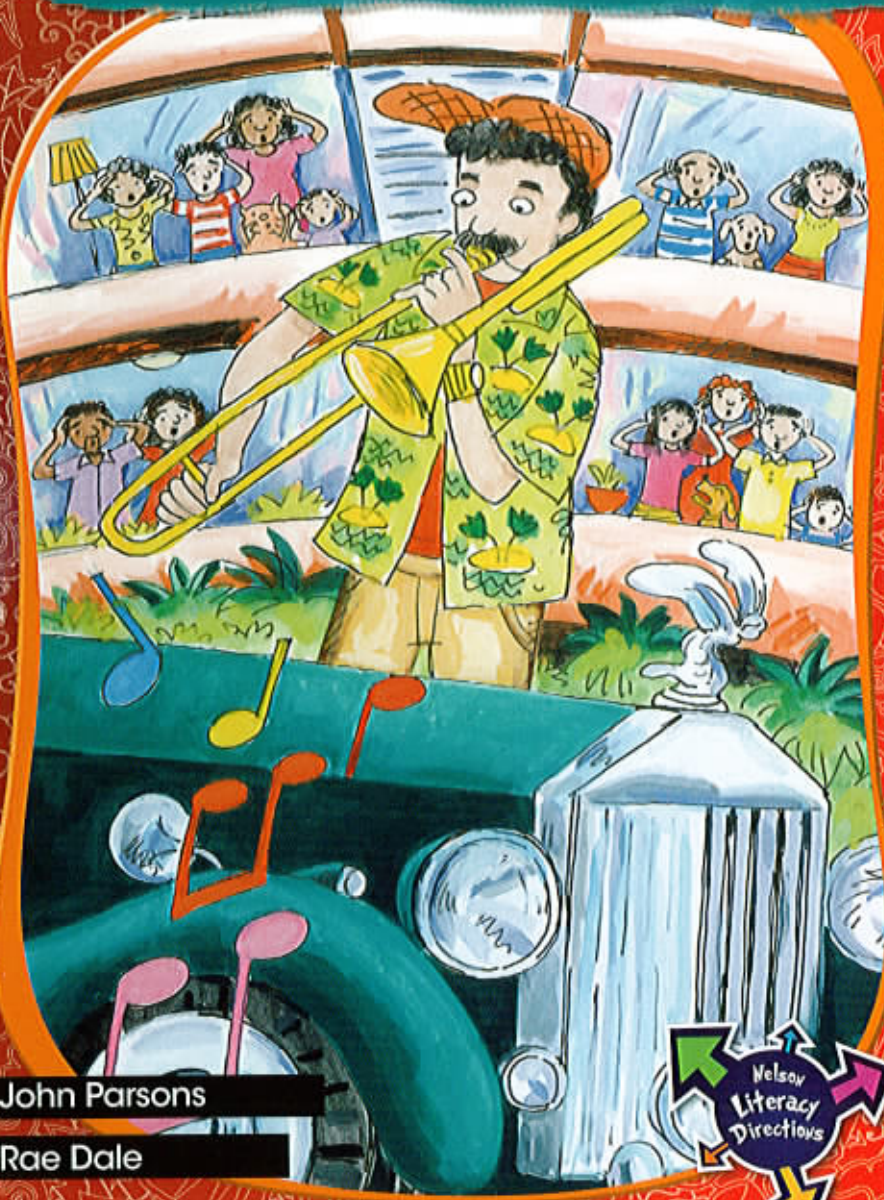
Uncle Jacob's TROUBLESOME TROMBONE



John Parsons

Rae Dale

Nelson Literacy Directions

NELSON
CENGAGE Learning

NLD Level: 6
Reading Age: 8.8–9.0
Text Type: Narrative

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Written by John Parsons
Illustrated by Rae Dale

Contents

1 Uncle Jacob Is Late 4
2 A Problem 14
3 A Residents' Meeting 21
4 A Happy Building 28

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Meet the Characters



Uncle Jacob

A trombone player.



Joy

Uncle Jacob's sister, and Dylan and Harry's mum.



Unhappy Residents

People who live in Uncle Jacob's apartment building.



Dylan



Harry

Uncle Jacob's nephews.

POST CARD

Dear Reader

Here's a fun story about a family that has an imaginative way of turning something people don't like into something they do like! I think I'll give a copy to my neighbour, who always complains when I practise my bagpipes at three o'clock in the morning! I can't imagine why they don't enjoy it, can you?

John Parsons
Author

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The Apartment Building



1. Uncle Jacob's apartment

1 Uncle Jacob Is Late

At 3.30 pm there was a long burst of the bell. At Parkview City School, desks were shut and bags were grabbed. A flood of kids swept into the playground.

Waiting mums and dads waved and chatted. They slowly drifted away with their kids. Soon the playground was empty.

Empty – except for two brothers, Dylan and Harry. They sat on a bench outside Room 9.

Suddenly, Dylan nudged his brother.

"I can hear running," he winked.

Harry grinned and nodded.

"Only ten minutes today," said Harry, looking at the clock.



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A man wearing a lime-green Hawaiian shirt raced around the corner.

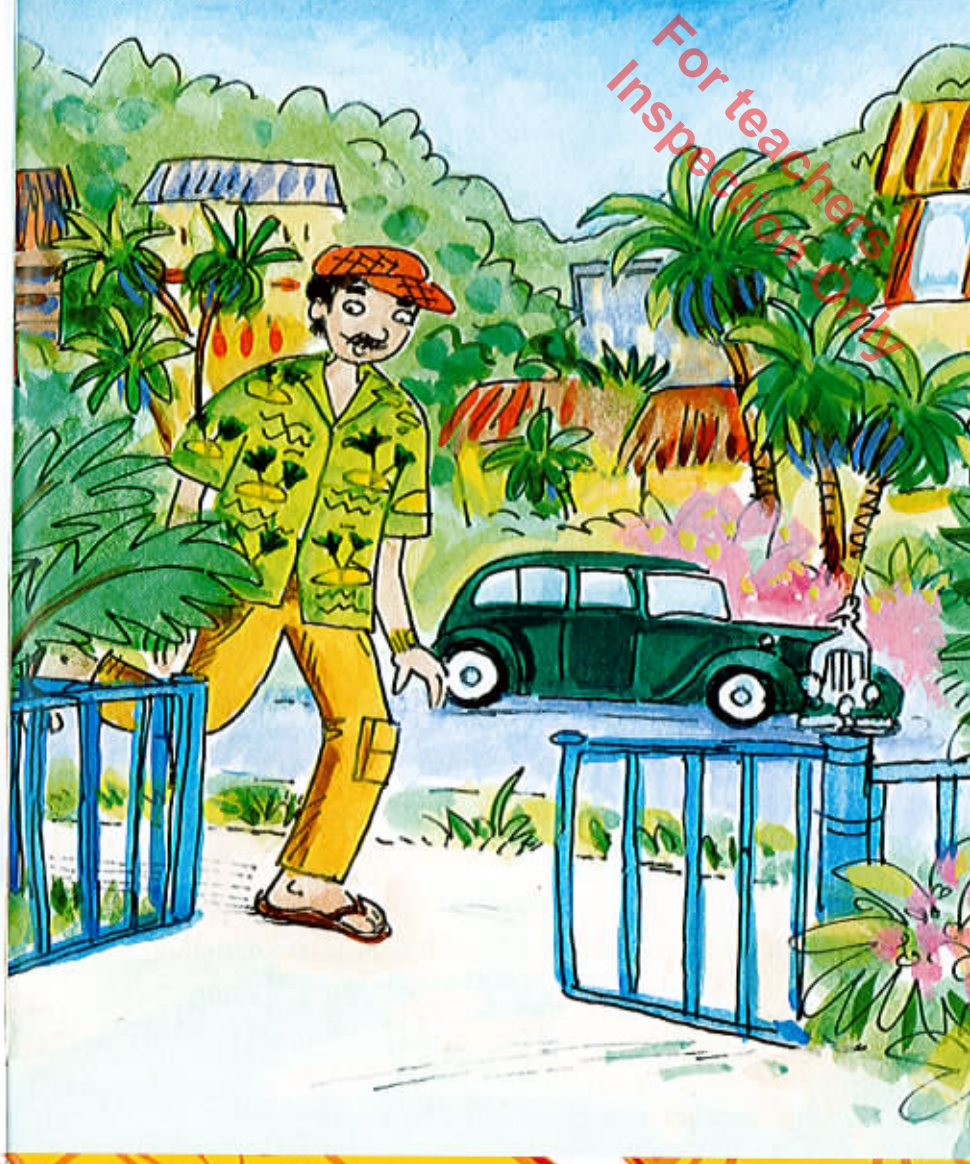
"Sorry, guys!" he panted. "*Talofa*! Hello!"

"*Talofa*, Uncle Jacob," said Dylan, who was pleased that his uncle had remembered to pick them up.

"I forgot the time," laughed Uncle Jacob. "Ever since your mum asked me to do school pick-ups, I always seem to forget!"

"That's OK, Uncle," said Harry. "You're getting better. It's still daylight – not like Monday."

"*Faafetai*, Harry," said Uncle Jacob. "Thanks!" With a chuckle, he led the boys out to the street. There, an old green car with white-wall tyres waited.



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