Sophie had never really thought twice about what her mum's job was, but ever since she'd turned eight she'd started getting a little more curious.

"What do you mean this isn't the supermarket you work in?" she asked.

"No, I've told you before Sophie, the one I work in is on the other side of town," her mum replied quickly whilst looking away and changing the subject, "Ooh look! These come in a strawberry flavour now!"

A few days later, as she was chasing her rabbit down the stairs and into the kitchen, Sophie tripped over something and landed face first on the carpet. She stood up, brushed off her knees and realised her mum's handbag had been left in the middle of the hallway. She started picking everything back up.

Just then, something caught her eye. It was a feather, but not like any she'd seen before. It was far longer than the ones she would always find in the school field, and instead of being grey or brown like normal bird feathers, it was multicoloured. The tip of it was a bright turquoise, fading into beautiful pinks, purples and emerald greens.

She ran into the kitchen. "What's this mum?" she asked, her eyes gleaming with excitement.

When her mum turned around and saw the feather, she went bright red and started mumbling. "Oh... um... nothing sweetie, I just found it on the way home and er... thought it would look great on your Halloween costume!".

"What? My Halloween costume is an archaeologist!" Sophie replied, more confused than ever before.

"Look. If you don't want it for yours I'll just keep it. Now run along and find something better to do than chasing that poor rabbit," her mum snapped.

Just a few weeks later, everything was revealed. Sophie was digging through the mess in the cupboard under the stairs, when she came across a huge, glistening eye staring out at her. The creature loudly let out a squawk that sounded like a cross between a car horn and a lawnmower.

Mum came running down the stairs as Sophie jumped back and slammed the door shut. "Sophie... I'd been meaning to tell you about my new job I promise! Now it's incredibly important that this stays between us."

Lesson 1:

Watch the video and practise reading the text fluently.