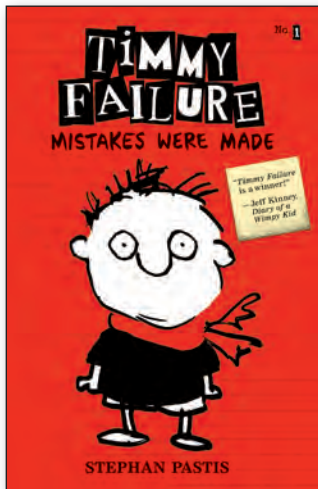
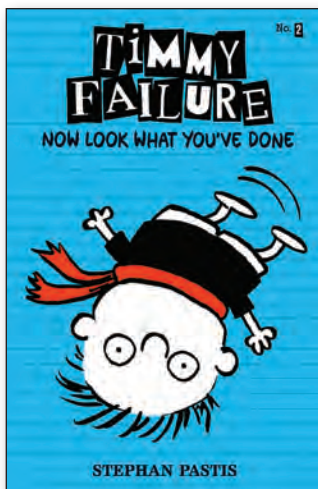


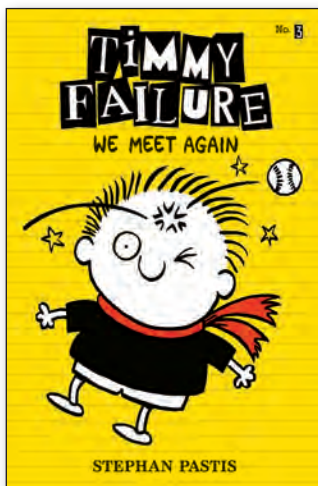
TIMMY FAILURE



HC: 978-0-7636-6050-5
PB: 978-0-7636-6927-0
E-book: 978-0-7636-6358-2



HC: 978-0-7636-6051-2
E-book: 978-0-7636-7011-5



HC: 978-0-7636-7375-8
E-book: 978-0-7636-7585-1

MEMO

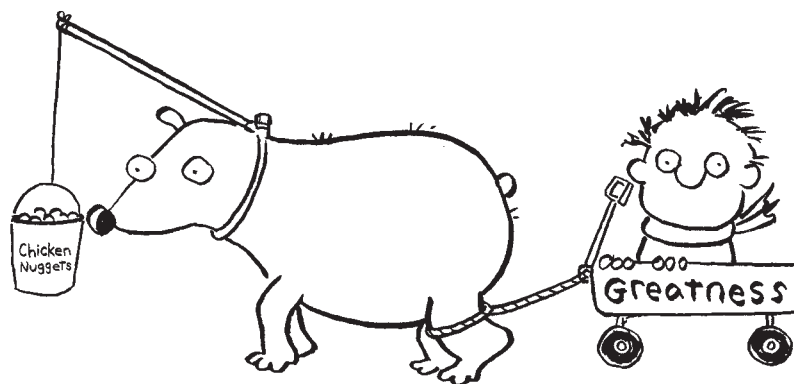
Welcome to the World of
Timmy Failure, Ace Detective!

ATTENTION: Detectives in Training

Welcome to Total Failure, Inc., the kid-run detective agency that is sure to tickle your students' funny bones and inspire them to become top investigators. That is, if they can stop laughing long enough at the clueless CEO Timmy and his sidekick polar bear, Total.

In the enclosed kit for budding crime solvers, your students will learn how to identify the four obstacles detectives face (yes, there are only four), solve cases and become masters at deciphering clues (no matter how obvious), learn the all-important detective lingo by passing a vocabulary test (using Timmy's foolproof method), and maybe even write their own mystery story to boot!

CONFIDENTIAL: While doing these activities, your students are bound to think critically and creatively and learn some new and very useful vocabulary. Do NOT let on that any of this is educational!



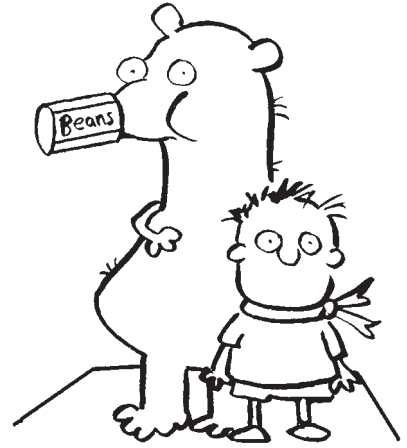
Visit timmyfailure.com for printable vocabulary cards and how-to-doodle videos with Stephan Pastis himself!

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TIMMY FAILURE

The Challenge!

Timmy begins the book's prologue with the three sentences given below—*except* we've left some blanks so you can create your own versions. Each missing word is a noun (i.e., an object, animal, or person) (but you knew that, right?) First brainstorm a list of nouns. Then choose three nouns from the list and fill in the blanks. Do they make sense? Timmy's lines make perfect sense. If you don't believe me, read Timmy's actual lines from the prologue to *Timmy Failure: Mistakes Were Made*.



It's harder to drive a _____
(noun 1)

into somebody's _____ than you'd think.
(noun 2)

You need a _____
(noun 2)

that's big enough to fit a _____.
(noun 3)

You need a _____
(noun 3)

that's big enough to fit a _____.
(noun 1)

And you need a _____
(noun 1)

that's big enough to not point out your errors.

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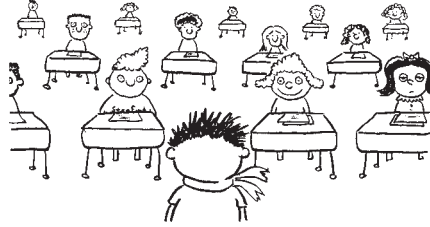
TIMMY FAILURE

Overcoming Obstacles: The Key to Success!

Unfortunately, Timmy Failure faces four obstacles to success as a detective:



his mother



his school



his best friend



his fifteen-hundred-pound polar bear

As a detective, you'll face obstacles too, but no more than four. (No successful detective has ever faced *more than* four obstacles. No successful detective has ever faced *fewer than* four obstacles.

Remember, four is the magic number.) List your four obstacles and sketch a picture of each:

1. my _____	2. my _____
3. my _____	4. my _____

TIMMY FAILURE

Master of Disguise

A great detective needs to protect his identity while he prowls around searching for clues.

Draw a disguise for Timmy that will keep him hidden from potential suspects.



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TIMMY FAILURE

Design Your Own Failuremobile

No professional detective can get around without a sleuthy set of wheels. Timmy rides a Segway to follow clues and make great first impressions on potential clients.

What would you choose as the mode of transport for your detective agency? Draw it here.



PUTT PUTT PUTT

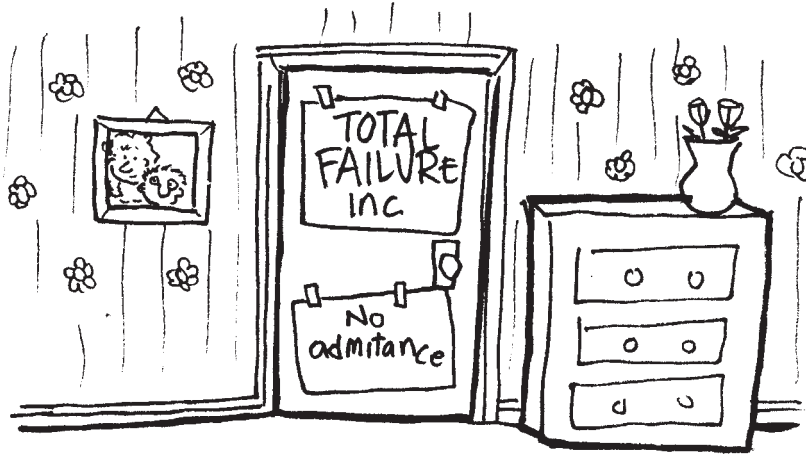
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TIMMY FAILURE

Advertise Your Awesome Agency Services



Timmy may not be much of a case solver, but his detective lingo is without parallel.

To create an advertisement for your own detective agency, fill in the top blank of the template that follows with your agency's name. Then create the text of your ad from this glossary of Timmy's many sayings—or make up your own. Fill in the last blank with your agency's motto.

(Are you facing . . .)

- industrial sabotage
- major international intrigue
- a possible lawsuit
- an unsolved crime, such as candy larceny, hamster-cide, or TP vandalism

(We offer . . .)

- invaluable expertise
- multipronged strategies
- brilliantly conceived global planning
- teleconferencing capabilities
- high-tech surveillance equipment
- free cheese

(We are experienced in . . .)

- uncanny clue detection
- never-fail interrogation techniques
- making excellent first impressions (they *are* critical)
- investigatory enterprise
- ingenious infiltration tactics
- overall greatness

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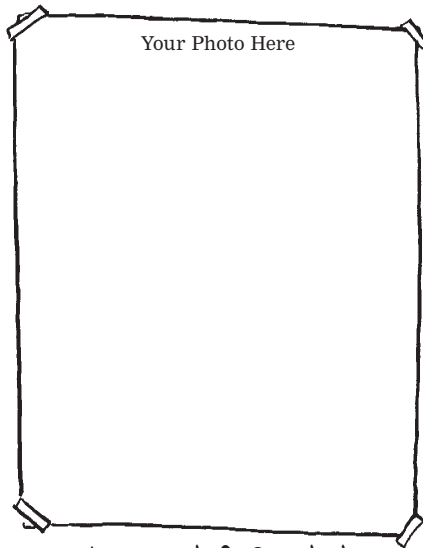
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TIMMY FAILURE

*

*



Are you facing _____

or _____ ?

Then you need us!

* * * * *

We offer _____,

_____,

and _____.

We are experienced in _____,

_____,

and _____.

GIVE US A CALL!



*

*

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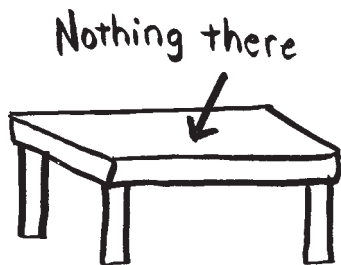
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TIMMY FAILURE

Case Solving

Help Timmy solve the cases below, then read *Timmy Failure: Mistakes Were Made* to find out if you're right. Remember, you're bound to be a better detective than he is!

The Case of the Missing Halloween Candy



Scene of the crime:

Empty table by Gunnar's bed

Victim: Gunnar

Type of crime: Theft

Missing items:

Plastic pumpkin filled with Halloween candy

Witnesses: None known

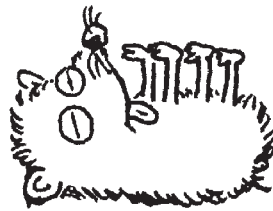
Suspects:

Brother Gabe sitting on his bed

Evidence:

1. Candy wrappers surrounding Gabe on his bed
2. Chocolate smeared on Gabe's face
3. Empty plastic pumpkin on Gabe's floor

The Case of the Dead Hamster



Scene of the crime:

Max Hodge's bedroom

Victim: Max's hamster

Type of crime: Murder?

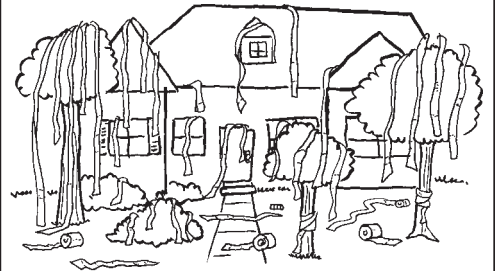
Witnesses: Max Hodge

Suspects: None

Evidence:

1. Motionless hamster in hamster cage
2. Scratched-up hamster tube

The Case of the Toilet-Paper Devastation



Scene of the crime:

Weber residence

Victim: Weber house

Type of crime: Vandalism

Witnesses: None known

Suspects: None

Evidence:

1. House strung with toilet paper
2. Tops of trees strung with toilet paper
3. Toilet paper hanging in Molly Moskins's bathroom

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Who Done It?

Have you ever thought about writing your own mystery story? Now's the time! Use this handy-dandy and possibly helpful planning form to decide the important details of your story in advance. Then hurry and write your mystery, because if you don't, Corinna Corinna will steal your details and write her own story!



Scene of the crime: _____

Victim: _____

Type of crime: _____

Witnesses: _____

Suspects: _____

Evidence: _____



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Vocabulary by Scantron

Timmy Failure is a world-champion Scantron test taker *and* a world-champion vocabularian. In other words, he has one superb vocabulary! Take this vocabulary test to *Scantronically* reveal the name of his sidekick.



1. Our educational system's _____ are no cause for celebration.

The missing word means faults.

A. shortcomings B. successes C. relevance D. excellence E. advances

2. That's called _____ (i.e., a tendency to relapse into criminal behavior).

A. recidivism B. recidivism C. recidivism D. recidivism E. recidivism

3. My cramped office conditions must be _____.

The missing word means improved or corrected.

A. alleviated B. deserved C. fair D. useful E. spectacular

4. **Freebie! Leave this column blank.**

5. One day we could be _____ and _____ for trade _____.

The first missing word means taken prisoner.

The second missing word means questioned.

The third missing word means things that are hidden or unknown.

A. released B. captured C. interrogated D. secrets E. applauded

6. Polar bears are _____ and _____.

The first missing word means violent or mean.

The second missing word means difficult to predict.

A. fierce B. cuddly C. happy D. friendly E. unpredictable

7. I have decided to publish this history because my _____ is _____ to anyone who ever wanted to be a _____.

The first missing word means knowledge.

The second missing word means precious.

The third missing word means someone who solves mysterious cases.

A. ignorance B. expertise C. invaluable D. detective E. dentist

8. **Freebie! Leave this column blank.**

9. I now believe he is purposely _____ the agency.

The missing word means obstructing, undermining, or seeking to destroy.

A. sabotaging B. entertaining C. joining D. advertising E. celebrating

10. Real detectives do _____ the old-fashioned way. With their own two eyes.

The missing word means careful watching.

A. surveillance B. surveillance C. surveillance D. surveillance E. surveillance

11. I head downtown to do _____ on CCIA headquarters.

The missing word means investigation.

A. reconnaissance B. artwork C. graffiti D. mail delivery E. cleaning

12. **Freebie! Leave this column blank.**

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13. Normally I'd call a board meeting to discuss this _____ arrangement.

The missing word means **unacceptable**.

- A. happy B. untenable C. untenable D. untenable E. untenable

14. I am _____ by two _____ who have never run a business.

The first missing word means **blocked on both sides**.

The second missing word means **people who aren't trained for a job**.

- A. bookended B. dropped C. amateurs D. professionals E. presidents

15. The _____ nature of the flyer is the subject of an electronic-mail complaint I have sent to the Better Detective Bureau.

The missing word means **insulting**.

- A. complimentary B. defamatory C. defamatory D. defamatory E. defamatory

16. **Freebie!** Leave this column blank.

17. I had brilliantly solved all my _____.

The missing word means **matters requiring investigation**.

- A. cases B. cases C. cases D. cases E. cases

18. For today it is the scene of total _____.

The missing word means **destruction**.

- A. renewal B. creation C. construction D. building E. devastation

19. As a result, I have filed a _____ with the Better Detective Bureau.

The missing word means **objection or protest**.

- A. compliment B. recommendation C. tribute D. honor E. complaint

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Ⓐ	Ⓐ	Ⓐ	Ⓐ	Ⓐ	Ⓐ	Ⓐ	Ⓐ	Ⓐ	Ⓐ	Ⓐ	Ⓐ	Ⓐ	Ⓐ	Ⓐ	Ⓐ	Ⓐ	Ⓐ	Ⓐ
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ANSWERS: 1. A; 2. ALL; 3. A; 4. BLANK; 5. B; C; D; 6. A; E; 7. B; C; D; 8. BLANK; 9. A; 10. ALL; 11. A; 12. BLANK; 13. B; C; D; E; 14. A; C; 15. B; C; D; E; 16. BLANK; 17. ALL; 18. E; 19. E

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