

- 120 limp: *walk unevenly*  
 122 abstractedly: *while thinking of something else*  
 124 ragged: *torn and in bad condition*  
 124 blinds: *coverings for windows*  
 129-32 Il dit .. Vingt-cinq (French): *He said he made the doll's house for the Du Ponts. He's going to do it. How much? Twenty-five (dollars).*  
 142 too summarily disposed of: *killed too quickly*  
 148 odd doings: *strange events*

### Lamb to the Slaughter

- 1 drawn: *closed*  
 2 sideboard: *piece of furniture; drawers and cupboards with a surface on top for putting things on*  
 4 Thermos bucket: *container for keeping things cold*  
 11 with child: *pregnant*  
 11 translucent: *clear*  
 12 placid: *calm*  
 15 gravel: *small pieces of stone used to make a path or drive*  
 26 blissful: *extremely happy*  
 33 strides: *paces*  
 40 drain: *to drink from a glass or cup until it is empty*  
 48 amber: *orange*  
 52 sip: *to drink slowly*  
 53 swirls: *curling patterns*  
 63 stuff: *things*  
 65 nod: *an up-and-down movement of the head, meaning 'yes'*  
 67 crackers: *biscuits*  
 81 bewildered: *confused and worried*  
 93 dazed: *shocked and confused*  
 98 fuss: *trouble, scandal*  
 99 it occurred to her: *she thought*  
 101 went about her business: *continued normally*  
 122 club: *thick, heavy stick used as a weapon*  
 125 sway: *to move slowly from side to side, or backwards and forwards*  
 128 blink: *to open and close one's eyes quickly*  
 133 penalty: *the punishment for a crime*  
 141 shove: *to push*  
 149 rehearse: *to practise (it normally refers to practising a scene in a play)*  
 159 catch: *to surprise*  
 180 tasty: *with a good taste, delicious*  
 183 frantic: *desperate*  
 191 hum: *to sing softly with the lips closed, without saying the words of the song*

- 196 longing: *desire*  
 196 well up: *to rise up*  
 197 to cry one's heart out: *to cry passionately*  
 205 sob: *to speak while crying*  
 206 Be right over: *we'll come immediately*  
 209 precinct: *area of a town or city where a policeman works*  
 216 congealed: *hard, no longer wet*  
 222 mutter: *to speak softly*  
 228 slip out: *to go out*  
 239 corpse: *dead body*  
 239 stretcher: *a kind of bed used for transporting dead or wounded people*  
 243 put someone up: *let someone sleep in your house*  
 256 administered: *given*  
 256 blunt: *not sharp*  
 259 premises: *the house*  
 264 spanner: *a metal tool, used for turning nuts and bolts*  
 272 chink: *a small gap*  
 273 mantel: *shelf above the fireplace*  
 274 a trifle exasperated: *a little frustrated*  
 283 a drop: *a small drink*  
 284 a nip: *a small drink*  
 288 on: *switched on*  
 305 Wouldn't dream of it: *I would never consider the idea*  
 306 beg: *to ask insistently*  
 314 sloppy: *wet*  
 320 the hell of a (slang): *very*  
 321 doc (slang): *doctor*  
 321 skull: *the bones of the head*  
 322 sledge-hammer: *very heavy hammer used for breaking bricks and stone*  
 327 belch: *to make a noise from your mouth as a result of eating too much*  
 329 under one's nose: *(metaphorically) very near; Dahl also plays on the literal meaning of this phrase*  
 330 giggle: *to laugh softly, but uncontrollably*

### Ace in the Hole

- 3 tubes: *parts of the radio*  
 4 She'll pop her lid: *She'll get really angry*  
 5 irk: *to irritate*  
 6 static: *interference on the radio*  
 8 Blueberry Hill: *famous pop song of the 1950s*  
 10-14 Ace lights a cigarette and throws away the match. *For verbs used in lines 9-16, see Vocabulary section*  
 14 gutter: *channel between pavement and road*  
 18 jerk: *to move suddenly*  
 21 bust: *break*