

Settings

The places where the novel is set (or settings) are very important in the novel. Try to read the descriptions of the following settings and then explain what sort of impression it gives you of the place (the first one has been done for you); in other words what do you think of the place from the way it is described. Think about any similarities each setting has to others that Ridley, the author, writes about.

Bailey's new neighbourhood

'Grey concrete buildings, grey concrete walls and grey concrete pavements. Most of the concrete was covered in a mixture of graffiti, birds' mess and weeds. When some of the concrete had cracked, it had fallen away altogether, it had been replaced with corrugated iron. That's grey corrugated iron, of course.'

Everything is the same, dull colour. Nothing is looked after: it is all shabby and unkempt. The place is also badly maintained and when it breaks it is haphazardly mended.

The Spanglemobile

Bailey's family's flat

The Unemployment Office

The garage where Bailey lives with his dad

The cinema

Ziggy's flat

Pa Punkrock's shop

Planet Scribbleboy