

Benha University
Faculty of Arts

Reading

Comprehension Passages

**For university students
(Open Education)**

Cod (123)

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Introduction

This book provides material for reading and listening comprehension and can be used in the year preceding the Cambridge First Certificate (or any other comparable) examination. The texts although written with the needs of students at this level in mind, are not graded, so that throughout, the learners are being exposed to natural language. The book is divided into three related sections:

Section One : This consists of thirty texts, with exercises for oral and written work. The following points should be noted:

Exercise 1 Multiple choice type questions, phased out as the book progresses.

Exercise 2 Wh- type questions, increased as the book progresses.

Exercise 3* (Passages 1-20 only) Yes/No type questions.

Exercise 4* Completion type exercises, which involve restatement (and therefore interpretation) of part of the text.

* Since Exercise 3 is discontinued after Passage 20, Exercise 4 becomes Exercise 3 (and so on.)

Exercise 5 Vocabulary exercises (multiple choice in the early stages.)

Exercise 6 Guided composition exercises, which involve re-presentation of part of the text, usually from a personal angle.

Exercise 7 Practice in some point of usage in the text.

Section Two : This consists of Recall Exercises. These are extracts from the texts in Section One, with certain grammatical features omitted or incomplete. The extracts are arranged in four groups; tenses, articles, prepositions and adverbial particles, and linking words. References for each extract are provided; they can therefore be corrected by the students themselves and are thus suitable for self-access work.

How to use this material

The following approach is suggested:

I. Use one of the reading goals (provided at the end of the book) to get the students to do a quick first reading of the text.

a. Read the text aloud to the class and/or get them to read it again silently. If the students are reading silently, use either Exercise I or 3 as a reading incentive.

3 Discuss any points of interest (e.g, what the text is about.) Since the texts are mostly narrative, it is a good idea at this stage to get, them to supply some background (e.g. for the people, places and other events. mentioned in the story.) In short, try to bring the text alive IS much as possible. Here or later the students may like to suggest a tide for the text.

4 Do the text-related exercises 1-5. The students may work individually, in pairs or in groups. These exercises follow a set pattern, IS indicated in the Introduction.

You may wish to do alternative or additional exercises in connection with the text. The following are some possibilities. All references are to the first text:

a Are the following statements true or false? If they are false, give the correct statement.

For example: The writer was driving the car.

This is false - the writer's companion, John, was driving.

b Give more details.

For example: We had little food with us.

They only had a few biscuits and some chocolate.

c Explain why.

For example: John went for a walk.

He was a poor sleeper.

d What do you think they said?

For example: I asked John to drive more slowly.

'Will you please drive more slowly ... Hey! Not so fast!'

5 Get the students to react to the text. For this type of largely narrative text, there are two main ways in which this can be done:

a Ask the students to suggest a continuation to the story where this is appropriate. Another possibility is to ask them to decide on a hypothetical turn of events (e.g. What would have happened if they had both gone to sleep?) The students may also be asked to say what they would have done in the circumstances.

b Ask the students to relate any similar experience they have had.

6 Exercises 6 and 7 may be done at any convenient point. Exercise 6 is particularly suitable for homework. In the early stages, some class preparation will usually be necessary to show the students how to extract relevant ideas and how to re-present these in a properly sequenced form. It is not necessary to insist on the word limit suggested in the exercise, especially if there is any risk of inhibiting the students from using linking words.

Note that the 'continuation' activity, suggested in 5 above, can also be done as a writing activity.

7 The exercises in Section Two are best done about a week after the other activities.

8 Follow the usual procedure for reading aloud the listening comprehension .

Section one
Comprehension passage I

1

We were standing on the bridge, trying to catch some fish for supper when a small red plane flew almost directly above our heads. We could even see the pilot's face. "What on earth is he up to?" I asked. I felt rather annoyed.

"I think he's in trouble," Jack said. "His engine is making a strange noise." "Well, we can't do anything, can we?" I said. "We can't even phone from here." We were on a boating holiday and we were miles from the nearest town.

"We can follow the plane down the river." Jack said. "Come on! Let's go!" I must admit I liked the idea. There weren't many fish in that part of the river and I was bored. We dropped our fishing lines and ran towards our boat. It lay under some bushes about a hundred yards down the river. Luckily the engine started almost at once and soon we were roaring down the river.

"But can the pilot land here?" I asked Jack. He came to this part of the country for a holiday almost every year and he knew the area well.

"There's a lake about fifteen miles down the river," Jack said. "If the pilot really is in trouble, he'll probably try to land there."

The river was already becoming wider. We went round a bend and there was the lake in front of us.

"Can you see anything?" Jack asked.

I looked across the lake. "No, absolutely nothing," I replied. "Wait a minute, though. There's something in the water, near that island in the middle." It was the small red plane!

We raced across the lake. By the time we reached the island, the pilot a very young woman! - was sitting on top of the plane.

"Hi!" she called out to us. "Thanks for coming to help me. I'm sorry I disturbed you while you were fishing. Anyway, would you like some fish for supper?"

She reached into the plane and pulled out a large fish, "There's plenty more in here!" she said, laughing.

A. Find these words and phrases in the text:

What ... is he up to?; in trouble; bored; wider; bend; raced; disturbed .

Now choose the right meaning,

- | | |
|-----------|-------------------|
| 1. bigger | 5. not interested |
|-----------|-------------------|

2. went quickly 6. (the river was) not straight
3. What is he trying to do? 7. having difficulties
4. interrupted

B. Choose the right answer.

١. When the plane flew over their heads. Jack and his friend were: a) having supper b) fishing c) doing nothing
٢. Jack said, "I think the pilot's in trouble" because: a) the plane was making a strange noise b) they could see the pilot's face c) the plane was very low.
٣. Jack knew the area well because: a) he had a boat b) he often came there c) he lived there
٤. They saw the plane in the middle of: a) the lake b) the island c) the trees
٥. When they reached the island, the pilot: a) was fishing b) was waiting for them c) was swimming.

C. What do the words in italics refer to?

١. It lay under some bushes.
٢. "He'll probably try to land *there*."
٣. *It* was the small red plane.
٤. "There's plenty more *in here!*"

D. Right or wrong?

١. The pilot was a friend of Jack's.
٢. Jack's friend did not want to go down the river.
٣. Jack and his friend had a fast boat.
٤. The river went into a lake.
٥. Jack saw the red plane first.
٦. Jack and his friend did not want to help the pilot.
٧. Jack and his friend got a lot of fish for supper.

E. Put these sentences in the correct order.

١. The engine was making a strange noise.
٢. Jack and his friend found the plane in the middle of the lake.
٣. Jack and his friend were fishing.
٤. The pilot was safe.
٥. Jack and his friend went down the river in their boat.
٦. Jack and his friend decided to follow the plane.
٧. Jack and his friend came to a lake.
٨. A plane flew over their heads.

F Vocabulary practice. Complete these sentences, using these words

(admit , bend, directly, flew, island, wider, area , bored, disturb, holiday , noise)

١. I'm sorry I made a lot of ... last night. I hope I didn't ... you.
٢. This is the first week of our ... , so we don't know the . . . very well yet.
٣. What shall we do? Have you any ideas? I must . . . I'm feeling . . . !
٤. The valley is just round this You'll see it in a minute when the path gets
٥. The house was on an . . . , in the middle of a lake, and we ... almost . . . over it.

H. Discussion

The pilot was in trouble and Jack and his friend helped her.

Have you ever helped anyone like this? Have you ever been in trouble like this? (For example, in a boat?)

2

The two boys walked slowly across the valley. Then suddenly Fred stopped and sat down on a large stone. "It's no use," he said. "I can't go any further. I'm absolutely exhausted!"

George looked at him for a minute. "Oh come on!" he said. "It's not very far now. Only five or six miles at the most."

"Yes, but it's uphill most of the way," Fred said. He pointed to the path in front of them. It went straight up the side of the valley. George sat down too. For a while the two boys said nothing. Then Fred pointed to some trees about half a mile ahead.

"There's a hut among those trees," he said. "Perhaps we can spend the night there."

"I'll go and take a look," George said. He ran down the path towards the hut and vanished among the trees. Fred followed more slowly.

"What's it like inside?" he asked when he reached the hut.

"Not bad." George called back. "It feels a little damp, but there's some wood in one corner, so we can light a fire."

The two boys cleaned out the hut and lit a fire. Then they had supper. They were both tired and they did not talk much. Before they went to bed, they put plenty of wood on the fire. George fell asleep almost at once, but Fred lay awake for a long time, watching the flames. Then he too fell asleep.

Suddenly he was awake again. The fire was nearly out. He could hear noises outside. It sounded like voices. He woke up George.

"It's only the wind," he grumbled. "Go to sleep again!"

But it wasn't the wind! The voices came nearer until they were just outside the hut. The door opened and a light shone on their faces "They're here!" a voice called out. A policeman was standing in the doorway. He addressed the two boys. "You've given us a lot of trouble," he said. "We looked all over the valley for you two!"

A. Find these words in the text:

Exhausted; straight; ahead; hut; damp; addressed.

Now choose the right meaning.

- | | |
|----------------|-------------|
| 1. small house | 4 spoke to |
| 2. directly | 5. in front |
| 3. very tired | 6. wet |

B. Choose the right answer.

١. Fred wanted to stop, but George wanted to: a) go back
b) go on c) talk.
٢. The path in front of them was: a) long b) easy c)
difficult.
٣. The boys lit a fire because: a) they could not see b) the
hut was damp c) they wanted to cook.
٤. After supper, the boys: a) went to bed b) sat and talked
c) cleaned out the hut.
٥. Fred woke up because: a) he heard a noise b) he was
afraid c) he was cold.
٦. The policeman who came to the hut: a) wanted to sleep
there b) was looking for the boys c) wanted to catch the
boys.

C. What do the words in italics refer to?

١. *He* pointed to the path in front of *them*.
٢. Perhaps we can spend the night *there*.

٢. *It feels* a little damp.
٤. "*It's* only the wind," *he* grumbled.
٥. "*They'*re here," a voice called out.

E. Put these sentences in the correct order.

١. The boys did not talk much.
٢. The boys cleaned the hut out.
٣. Fred watched the flames for a long time.
٤. The boys went to bed.
٥. Fred fell asleep.
٦. The boys found a hut among the trees.
٧. The boys had supper.
٨. George fell asleep quickly.
٩. The boys lit a fire.
١٠. The boys *put plenty* of wood on the fire.

F. Vocabulary practice. Complete these sentences, using these words.

(absolutely, at the most, damp, hut, path , valley, ahead,
awake exhausted, noise, straight)

١. We lay ... for a long time, listening to the ... of the wind.

- ϣ. Most of the rooms were warm and dry, but my room felt a little
- ϣ. There's a small town not very far It's only two or three miles away
- ϣ. Follow this . . . through the trees. It goes ... to the village.
- ϣ. Is that a house on the other side of the . . . ? No, it's too small. It's probably a
- ϣ. I went to bed early last night. I was !

G. Discussion

Have you ever stayed away from home like this? (Why? What happened?)

Suggest an ending for this story.

3

They could see the smoke from the end of the street.

"It's *our* house!" Elsa shouted.

"It can't be," Alan said. But he knew that Elsa was right and they both began to run.

There was a small crowd in the street outside their house. Smoke was coming out of the front window of the downstairs room, but there was no sign of any flames.

.And there was no sign of old Mr Cox, Elsa's father. He lived with them and had a room upstairs at the back of the house. He was not among the people in the crowd.

"Alan!" his wife shouted. "He's asleep upstairs! He probably went to bed and left the fire on in the front room!"

Her husband began to push his way through the crowd towards the front door.

"Don't be a fool!" someone shouted. "Wait for the firemen. They'll be here any minute."

But Alan knew that he must not wait. He put a handkerchief over his face and ran up the stairs. He pushed open the door of his father-in-law's room. Old Mr Cox was sleeping peacefully.

"What's the matter?" he cried as he woke up.

"Nothing to worry about. Just a small fire downstairs," Alan told him. "Now, get a coat on and put a handkerchief over your face like this."

At the top of the stairs Alan made old Mr Cox climb onto his back. Then he put a handkerchief over his own face and went down the stairs as quickly as he could. There was a cheer from the crowd as he came out of the house.

The fire engine and an ambulance arrived more or less at that moment. The first flames were just beginning to come out of the front window. "It's all my fault!" moaned old Mr Cox as they carried him into the ambulance. "I was reading the newspaper and I left it near the electric fire."

A Find these words and phrases in the text:

there was no sign of ; any minute ; stairs ; peacefully; a cheer; ambulance .

Now choose the right meaning.

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 a shout of happiness | 4 a car to take people to hospital |
| 2 they couldn't see (him) | 5 quietly |
| 3 very soon | 6 steps inside the house |

B Choose the right answer.

١. Elsa and Alan ran to their house because they saw: a) flames b) smoke c) a crowd
٢. Outside their house Elsa and Alan found: a) their family b) Elsa's father c) some people
٣. Elsa's father lived: a) with them b) in the next house c) in the front room
٤. Alan went into the house because he wanted: a) to see the fire b) to talk to Elsa's father c) to save Elsa's father.
٥. When Alan found him, Elsa's father was: a) behind the door b) on the stairs c) in bed
٦. Alan brought Elsa's father out of the house: a) in his arms b) in his coat c) on his back

C What do the words in italics refer to?

١. But *he* knew *she* was right.
٢. *He* lived with *them*.
٣. "*They'll* be here any minute."

E Put these sentences in the correct order.

١. Elsa's father went to bed.
٢. Smoke came out of the front room window.
٣. Elsa's old father stayed at home.

- ξ. Elsa's father did not know this.
- ο. Elsa and Alan went for a walk.
- Ϛ. The neighbours phoned for the fire engine.
- ϛ. Elsa's father left his newspaper near the electric fire.
- Ϝ. Elsa's father was asleep.
- ϝ. The newspaper began to burn.
- Ϟ. Elsa's father was reading the newspaper in the front room.

F Vocabulary practice. Complete these sentences, using the words in the box.

(ambulance – back - fault - matter - moke - asleep
crowd - fire - sign - upstairs)

- ϟ. I'm sorry they disturbed you while you were It really wasn't my
- Ϡ. Luckily my room is . . . , and at the ... of the house too, so it's quite peaceful!
- ϡ. There's no ... of any flames, but I'm sure I can smell . . .
- Ϣ. Please don't leave the electric ... on when you go out.
- ϣ. What on earth's the . . . ? There's a big ... in the street and an ... is just coming!

H Discussion

Elsa's father started a fire in the house. What are other causes of fires in the house? Have you ever (nearly) caused a fire?

4

We had an enormous apple tree in our garden only a few yards from the kitchen window.

"We really must cut that tree down," my husband said, soon after we moved into the house. "I'm sure it's dangerous."

"Don't be silly," I said. I quite liked the tree myself. "It's quite safe. It isn't going to fall down on the house!"

"Well, I read something in the paper only the other day," he said. "A tree crashed into a woman's bedroom during a storm. She was going to get rid of the tree - and now she's in hospital!"

In the end, after several arguments of this kind, we asked a couple of workmen to come along and cut the tree down. It was not an easy Job. In fact, it took them all morning. But at last the tree was lying on the ground.

"What about the roots?" the men asked. "Shall we take them out too or leave them?"

"Oh, take them out," I said. "Let's make a good Job of it!"

This took all afternoon and I was beginning to think about the size of the bill! There was also a big hole in the garden!

"You'll be able to put all your old rubbish in there!" the men said as they left.

My husband climbed down into the hole and began to look around.

"Hey, look!" he called up to me. "There are some old coins here! And I think they're gold!"

I climbed down into the hole and we started to dig around, hoping to find some more coins. We did - and we also found a small metal box. We broke it open. It was full of jewellery - rings, necklaces, and bracelets!

"Gosh!" I said, "I suppose someone hid these things in the ground — perhaps during a war!"

"They're probably worth a small fortune!" my husband said. "Well, aren't you glad now that you got rid of that old tree?"

A Find these words and phrases in the text:

Enormous ; in the end; make a good job of it; rubbish; coins; suppose; got rid of.

Now choose the right meaning.

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 removed | 5 finally |
| 2 do it very well | 6 things you do not want |
| 3 very big | 7 money made of metal |
| 4 think | |

B Choose the right answer.

١. The man wanted to get rid of the apple tree because it was: too near the house **b) too old** c) too big
٢. The man's wife liked the tree but in the end she: a) went to hospital b) agreed c) helped to cut the tree down
٣. The men who came to cut the tree down: a) had to work hard b) argued a lot c) worked during a storm
٤. The workmen made a big hole because: a) they were looking for money b) they wanted to hide some rubbish c) they took
٥. out the roots of the tree When the man climbed down into the hole, he found: a) some money b) some rubbish c) some apples
٦. Later, the man and his wife found a box. The things in the box were: a) valuable b) important c) useful

C What do the words in italics refer to?

١. "*It's* quite safe."
٢. "... and now *she's* in hospital."
٣. "Shall we take *them* out too or leave them?"
٤. "You'll be able to put all your old rubbish in *there*."
٥. We *did*, and we also found a small metal box.
٦. *It* was full of jewellery.

Y. *"They're probably worth a fortune!"*

D Put in the correct word.

- 1 ... wanted to cut the tree down.
- 2 ... was not worried about the tree.
- 3 ... had to work all day.
- 4 ... left a big hole in the garden.
- 5 ... found some coins in the hole.
- 6 ... found a box full of jewellery.

E Who said it?

- 1 "We really must cut that tree down."
- 2 "It's quite safe."
- 3 "What about the roots?"
- 4 "Let's make a good job of it!"
- 5 "They're probably worth a fortune!"

F Guided composition. Complete this extract from the man's diary.

Wednesday March 1st Two . . . came today to get rid of that . . . the one that was just a few . . . from In the morning, they ... the tree Then, in the . . . , they . . . out. As you can imagine, they left ... in the However, that's not all! I climbed down into . . . and found Then we both

found It was full of . . . ! Well, we're both glad we ... that old tree!

G Vocabulary practice. Complete these sentences, using the words in the box.

(coins – enormous - hole - rid of – workmen - dangerous
hid – jewellery – rubbish – worth).

- 1 What shall we do with all this old . . . ? Oh, throw it in that ... at the end of the garden.
- 2 The . . . made a very good job of the kitchen - but the bill was absolutely . . .!
- 3 She put all her ... in a small metal box and then ... it in her bedroom!
- 4 You say the car's safe - but I think it's . . . ! So let's get ... it!
- 5 I've just found these old ... in the garden. Do you think they're . . . anything?

H Discussion

Have you ever found anything valuable? (Where? What was it?)

People often find old things in the ground (or in the sea). Do you think they should keep them or give them to a museum?

5

The two men, Lacey and Barnes, waited in their car about a quarter of a mile from the big house. They sat there in the darkness, smoking, hardly talking. It was now a little after midnight.

At last they saw a light in one of the upstairs windows. It flashed once, twice, three times. "That's the signal," Lacey said. Both men got out of the car. They were wearing dark clothes. They now put on gloves. Lacey had a small bag of tools.

"Can I bring the gun?" Barnes asked.

"How many times must I tell you! No guns!" Lacey snapped. "Not while you're working with me."

They entered the garden through a small side gate.

"I hope there aren't any dogs," Barnes said as they crept round the edge of the garden. They were going towards the back of the house.

"There are no dogs and no people here." Lacey told him. "Except for our friend upstairs. Now keep quiet and follow me?"

They entered a big yard at the back of the house.

"That's the window over there," Lacey said, pointing to a small window near the kitchen door. "You wait here. I'll get

through the kitchen window. **If** I can't open the door, you'll have to climb through the window too."

Lacey crossed the yard. He opened the window without difficulty and climbed through. But the kitchen door was locked and the key was not there.

He went to the window and whistled to Barnes.

"You'll have to climb through the window, too," he said.

Just at that moment they heard the sound of a car. It was approaching the house at great speed and its lights lit up the house as it got nearer. People got out and they could hear voices.

"It's the police!" Barnes said. "It's a trap. I knew it!"

"Don't panic!" Lacey told him. "Now listen to me. Go back to the car and wait for me there. I'll join you as soon as **I** can. Off you go - and keep well in the shadows."

A Find these words and phrases in the text:

hardly; flashed ;edge; yard; at great speed; panic, keep well.

Now choose the right meaning.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 be afraid | 5 stay as much as possible |
| 2 a piece of open ground | 6 side |
| 3 shone | 7 very quickly |
| 4 not very much | |

B Choose the right answer.

١. Lacey and Barnes were waiting for: a) midnight
b) a signal c) a friend
٢. The signal told them to: a) go to the house b)
stop smoking c) stop talking
٣. Barnes wanted to: a) put on his gloves b) take
his tools c) take his gun
٤. Lacey and Barnes went to the house: a) quietly
b) quickly c) silently
٥. Lacey got into the house. He then wanted to: a)
open the door b) break down the door c) open
the window
٦. Before Barnes could get into the house: a) people
shouted b) there was a fire c) a car came
٧. Barnes was afraid that the police were trying to:
a) catch them b) kill them c) hurt them
٨. Lacey and Barnes went away from the house: a)
one after the other b) together c) without lights

C What do the words In italics refer to?

١. *They* sat *there* in the darkness.
٢. "There are no dogs and no people *here*," Lacey told *him*.
٣. The key was not *there*,

- ξ. Its lights lit up the house as *it* got nearer.
- ο. "Wait for me *there*."

D Which of these statements suggest that Lacey and Barnes were thieves?

- Ͽ. They had a car.
- Ͽ. They were wearing dark clothes.
- Ͽ. They put on gloves.
- ξ. Barnes wanted to take a gun.
- ο. They went through a small side gate.
- Ͽ. Barnes was afraid of dogs.
- Ͽ. Lacey climbed through a window.
- ∧. Lacey could whistle.
- Ͽ. They ran away when the car came.

E Put these sentences in the right order.

- Ͽ. Lacey could not open the kitchen door.
- Ͽ. Lacey and Barnes came to a yard.
- Ͽ. A car approached the house.
- ξ. Lacey and Barnes entered the garden through a small gate.
- ο. Lacey crossed the yard to the kitchen.
- Ͽ. Lacey got into the house through a small window.
- Ͽ. Lacey and Barnes crept round the side of the garden.

- 8. Lacey called to Barnes.
- 9. Lacey told Barnes to wait.

F Guided composition. Use the sentences In E to complete this paragraph.

Lacey and Barnes They . . . until Lacey Then he ... and But he . . . , so he Just at that moment, however,

G Vocabulary practice. Complete these sentences, using the words in the box.

(except – gun – midnight – quiet – whistle - gloves - key panic - signal – yard).

- 1 We arrived very late - after . . . , in fact. The door was locked and I hadn't got a . . . ?
- 2 The bag was completely empty ... for a pair of dark
- 3 When I give the . . . , run round the edge of the . . . three times! Right! Off you go!
- 4 Don't . . . ! He hasn't got a ... and he isn't dangerous.
- 5 Please keep . . . ! It disturbs me when you . . . like that.

H Discussion

Do you like detective stories? Who is your favourite author?

What is your favourite book?

Suggest an ending for this story.

6

Sept 30 I moved into the hostel today --- an ugly concrete building and near a busy main road too. My room is small but quite pleasant. I must get some posters for the walls, though. I met a few fellow students at supper (the food was awful!). They all look much younger than me. They are, of course!

Oct 7 Lectures began last Monday. So far they haven't been very interesting (except for the man who lectures on drama. He's first class). Personally, I'd much rather go to the library and read, but I have to attend ten lectures a week. Those are the 'rules'! Well, at least you meet people there.

Oct 12 I really don't like life in the hostel at all. The food is bad and the students are noisy. They stay up half the night and play games in the corridor outside my room. When on earth do they sleep? When do they work? And, on top of that, I don't like my room. It's just like living in a box! It looks even smaller now, with the posters on the wall!

Oct 26 I tried to explain some of my problems to my supervisor today. She listened - but that was about all. "You have to go to lectures, you know, Ann," she told me. "And the hostel's cheap and convenient." 'Cheap and convenient'! Well, it

isn't 'cheap' if you can't eat the food and it isn't 'convenient' if you can't sleep at night!

Oct 30 I can't believe it! Three other students - I met them at a lecture and they're all about my own age — have invited me to share a flat with them. It's in an old house and it has its own kitchen, so we can cook for ourselves. And my room - right at the top of the house - is fantastic!

Nov 10 I moved into my new room last Sunday. I feel really happy. Life is going to be so much more fun from now on!

A Find these words and phrases In the text:

hostel ;awful ;lectures ;so far ;attend ;share.

Now choose the right meaning.

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 go to | 4 a place where students live |
| 2 talks | 5 until now |
| 3 have a part of | 6 very bad |

B Choose the right answer,

١. Ann liked the hostel at first except for: a) her room b) the food c) the student
٢. Ann went to lectures because: a) she was interested in drama b) she wanted to go c) she had to go

٣. Ann complained about the students because: a) they disturbed her b) they did not work c) they did not sleep
٤. Ann discussed her problems with her supervisor. Her supervisor did not: a) help her b) listen to her c) like her
٥. Some students invited Ann to share a flat with them. Ann was: a) interested b) sorry c) excited
٦. In the flat Ann will be able to: a) have her own kitchen b) cook in her room c) cook her own food

C Give the words or phrases for these pronouns.

١. 1 *It* was near a busy main road.
٢. 2 Ann needed *some* for the walls of her room.
٣. 3 You could meet other students *there*.
٤. 4 The students made a lot of noise *there*,
٥. 5 *She* wasn't very interested in Ann's problems.
٦. 6 *It* was in an old house.
٧. 7 *It* was right at the top of the house.

F Guided composition. Complete this paragraph.

For the first few weeks, Ann lived in It was an . . . , **not** far from a . . . , but she quite liked it. Her room was . . . but

.... But then she began to dislike hostel life, mainly because the food was . . . and the students were She began to dislike her room, too: it was just like . . . ! But then something fantastic happened: three other students, all of them about . . . , invited her to ... with them. It was in . . . , with its own . . . , so that they could But, most of all, Ann liked . . . , which was right

G Vocabulary practice. Complete these sentences, using the words in the box.

(attends cheap fantastic library rather awful
convenient first class posters share)

١. When he's busy, he hardly ever . . . lectures. He stays in the ... all day and reads.
٢. Thanks for those . . . you gave me for my room. They're . . . !
٣. What's the hostel like? Well, personally, I think it's . . . , except for the food. That's . . . !
٤. Which would you ... do - live alone or ... a house with other students?
٥. I took the flat because it was But I'm afraid it's not very . . . because it's so far from the main road.

H Discussion

Ann didn't like living in the hostel. Would you like to live in one? What are the advantages and disadvantages of living a) in a hostel; b) in a flat; c) at home?

7

A few years ago, while I was on holiday in the Himalayas, I stopped for the night in a small village, it was a very poor place and there was no proper hotel, but the owner of a restaurant offered me a bed for the night.

"Please wait here," he said, pointing to a table just outside his restaurant, "while I prepare your room."

It was a beautiful evening. The sun was setting behind the dark mountains and the stars were just beginning to come out. The villagers were lighting fires for their evening meals and there was a pleasant smell of wood smoke in the air.

Then I noticed that I was no longer alone. Someone was sitting at the table beside me. It was an old man with a long white beard. His clothes were dirty and almost in rags.

"What do you want?" I asked. "Let me tell your fortune, sir," he said. I laughed. "I don't believe in that sort of thing," I told him. All the same, the old man took hold of my hand. "I can tell you your future," he said. I tried to take my hand away, but the old man held on to it, gently but very firmly.

"Very well." I said. "But first of all tell me about my past. If you can tell me about that, I'll let you tell me about the future

too." The old man looked hard at my hand for a long time without speaking. I smiled to myself. "He can't do it," I thought.

Then, in a low soft voice, the old man began to tell me about my childhood. He talked about my family and the town I used to live in. He went on to tell me about my life in different parts of the world.

Every word he said was true! "Stop!" I said. "How can you know all these things?" "I know about the past and the present," the old man replied. "And I also know about the future. Are you ready to hear about your future too?"

I hesitated. Did I really want to know?

Just at that moment, the owner of the restaurant came out. "Your room is ready now. sir," he said. "Oh! I thought I heard voices. Were you talking to someone?"

I looked round. The old man was not there. "Yes," I said. I described the old man. "Oh, him!" the owner of the restaurant said. "That's the village lunatic! He thinks he can tell people's fortunes! I hope he wasn't a nuisance!"

A Find these words and phrases in the text:

proper ;almost in rags'; all the same ; very well ; hard; hesitated.

Now choose the right meaning.

1 all right

4 real

2 in spite of this

5 old and torn

3 waited

6 very much

B Choose the right answer.

١. The traveller was looking for: a) somewhere to sleep b) something to eat c) something to do
٢. The traveller sat outside because: a) he was waiting for his room b) it was a pleasant evening c) the restaurant was small
٣. The old man wanted to talk about: a) the village b) money c) the traveller's future
٤. The traveller asked to hear about his past life because: a) he did not believe in the old man b) he did not want to know about his future c) it was interesting
٥. What the old man told the traveller was: a) funny b) correct c) different
٦. The old man wanted to talk about the traveller's future. The traveller: a) was afraid b) could not speak c) could not decide
٧. The owner of the restaurant thought that the old man was: a) clever b) mad c) unhappy

C Make true sentences.

The old man

- lived in the village.
- was very poor.
- worked In the restaurant.
- asked for money.
- knew the traveller well.
- did not annoy the traveller.

D Copy this table and complete it with the phrases below.

Places

Time of day

People

Events

a traveller / an old man tells a traveller about his past /
outside a restaurant / an old man / a village in the Himalayas /
late evening / a restaurant owner

E Put these sentences in the right order,

- 1 The old man told the traveller about his past.
- 2 A traveller was sitting at a table outside a restaurant.
- 3 The owner of the restaurant came out.

- 4 The traveller asked to hear about his past.
- 5 The traveller never heard about his future.
- 6 Again the old man offered to tell the traveller about his future.
- 7 An old man came and sat down beside the traveller.
- 8 The old man vanished.
- 9 The old man wanted to tell the traveller about his future.
- 10 The traveller hesitated.

F Guided composition. Use the sentences in E to complete this paragraph.

One evening, while a traveller ...» an old man The old man . . . , but the traveller . . . first. So the old man . . . and then again The traveller Just at that moment The old man . . . , so the traveller . . . !

G Vocabulary practice. Complete these sentences, using the words in the box

(beard fortune hotel nuisance rags world
childhood gentle lunatic proper voice)

- 1 What did he look like? Well, he had a long . . . and his clothes were almost completely in

2 Let's look for a ... restaurant. Perhaps there's one in that ...
over there.

3 Please don't be a ... ! I don't want you to tell my ... ,
thanks!

4 Does he really keep a gorilla in his garden? Well, in that
case he
must be a ... !

5 Is it true you spent your ... in different parts of the ... ?

6 Everyone likes her ... - probably because it's soft and

H Discussion

Do you believe that people can know about the future? Why
(not)? Has anyone ever told your future? What did they tell you?

Roy was always tired when he woke up in the morning.

"I really can't understand it," his brother said. "You go to bed earlier than I do and you get up later. I know you sleep well because you snore a lot! In fact, you sometimes keep me awake half the night! So why are you tired in the morning? It doesn't make sense!"

"Perhaps it's because I dream so much," Roy suggested.

"But dreaming is good for you," his brother told him. "All the doctors and psychiatrists agree about that,"

"Maybe," Roy replied. "But the trouble is, I always dream about hard work! Last night, for example, I dreamt I was a miner. I went down the mine almost as soon as I fell asleep - and I dreamt that I was digging coal all night long. I was worn out in the morning! Then, a few nights ago, I dreamt I was a sailor. I was on one of those old fashioned sailing ships. We were crossing the Atlantic and there was a terrific storm. We had to struggle for hours to stop the ship from going down. It's always like that. In the past few weeks, I've dreamt I was a waiter, a lorry driver and a football player. I never have a nice easy job!"

"I was reading an article about sleep in a magazine the other day," his brother said. "The writer's advice was: try to relax before you go to sleep." "But how?" Roy asked.

"Well, why don't you listen to some music? Something pleasant."

Roy was willing to try anything. But what sort of music? He liked pop music, but that was probably too noisy. So he decided to play some classical music and. Just before he went to bed that night, he put on a record of Mozart. In fifteen minutes he was fast asleep.

"Well?" his brother asked him at breakfast next morning. "Did it work?"

Roy yawned. "Well," he said, "I didn't dream about hard work for once. I dreamt I was conducting an orchestra. The trouble was, the players weren't very good and we had to keep on playing the same piece again and again. In the end, we practised all night! I can tell you, I feel more tired this morning than I usually do!"

A Find these words and phrases in the text:

agree; worn out ; struggle ; willing to; fast (asleep) ; for once.

Now choose the right meaning.

١. completely
٢. very tired
٣. on this occasion
٤. have the same idea
٥. work very hard
٦. ready to

Choose the right answer.

١. Roy had a problem. He: a) went to bed late b) was tired in the morning c) couldn't sleep
٢. Roy's brother: a) kept him awake b) did not believe him c) could not understand this
٣. In his dreams Roy: a) was always in trouble b) had to work hard c) travelled a lot
٤. Roy's brother advised him to: a) listen to music b) sleep less c) read a magazine
٥. Roy chose classical music because it was: a) quick b) easy c) quiet
٦. Roy felt tired the next morning because: a) he didn't like the players b) he didn't like the music c) he had to work all night

C Give the words or phrases for these pronouns.

١. Roy dreamt that he worked down *one*.
٢. Roy dreamt that he crossed the Atlantic on *one*.
٣. Roy's brother read *one* in a magazine.
٤. Roy played *one* before he went to sleep.
٥. Roy dreamt that he conducted *one*.

D Guided composition. Complete this paragraph. It is from the magazine that Roy's brother read.

Many of our readers have problems because they cannot , and therefore they when they ... in the morning. Some people think that this is because they However, this is not true. Doctors and psychiatrists , . . that Of course it is important to ... before you For example, you can This will help you to go to sleep quickly and to sleep well.

F Vocabulary practice. Complete these sentences, using the words in the box.

(advice awake magazine pop psychiatrist
relax article earlier orchestra practise record
worn out)

- ١. Can you give me some . . . ? I have to buy a ... for my sister, and she doesn't like . . . music.
- ٢. I feel . . . this morning. That storm kept me . . . half the night.
- ٣. There's a very interesting ... in this . . . about dreams. It's by a famous
- ٤. "You work too hard!" my doctor told me. "Try to ... in the evenings and go to bed"
- ٥. What a terrible . . . ! The players really need to ... more, don't they?

G Discussion

Do you dream a lot? What sort of dreams do you often have?

What is the nicest (worst) dream you have ever had?

9

Jane's great passion in life was animals. She had dozens of books about them. The walls of her bedroom were covered with pictures of animals, just as other girls of her age had posters of popstars.

She used to keep animals in the garden and, if she could, she brought them into the house too. Usually, however, her mother caught her.

"Get those animals out of here!" she used to shout. "If you must keep them, use the shed at the end of the garden!"

Most of Jane's animals were quite small: rabbits, mice, birds - that sort of thing. But one day something quite big came her way.

Jane's mother noticed that she was spending quite a lot of time in the shed.

She also noticed that food was disappearing from the house — especially bread and fruit. One evening she decided to go down to the shed to see for herself.

As she stood outside the door of the shed, she could hear Jane talking to someone inside. "She's got a friend in there with her," she thought. She opened the door and looked in. At first

she could only see Jane sitting on the ground. Then she made out the shape of an animal sitting beside Jane. Two huge eyes stared up at her. She nearly screamed, it was a gorilla!

"Jane! Where on earth... ?" she started to say. But then she remembered.

A few days before, a young gorilla escaped from the zoo and, in spite of every effort to find it, the animal simply vanished.

"I found it wandering through the park," Jane explained. "It seemed so lonely! I talked to it and we became friends at once. And then it followed me back here..."

"Well, you know you can't keep it," her mother said. "You'd better phone the police and explain."

Not long after, the police came and also a van from the zoo. Nobody was even angry with Jane when she told her story. The police knew all about Jane and her animals. And the zoo keeper said: "I can see that Gor likes you. But we need him back at the zoo! But you can come and see him as often as you like. We'll send you a free pass!"

These days Jane has almost given up collecting small animals — but you can often find her talking to her friend Gor at the zoo!

A Find these words in the text:

shed ; disappearing ; shape; screamed ; simply ; lonely .

Now choose the right meaning

١. just
٢. gave a loud cry
٣. hut
٤. unhappy because it was alone
٥. form
٦. going

Choose the right answer,

١. Jane was very interested in: a) animals b) music c) pictures
٢. Jane sometimes tried to take animals into the house. Her mother: a) did not like this b) put them in the shed c) did not know
٣. Jane's mother went to the shed because she wanted to find: a) the animals b) the food c) Jane's friends
٤. Before Jane's mother went into the shed, she: a) looked through the window b) talked to herself c) listened at the door
٥. When Jane's mother first saw the gorilla, she was: a) afraid b) pleased c) surprised

- ٦. The gorilla belonged to: a) a park b) a zoo c) the police
- ٧. The gorilla followed Jane home because it wanted to: a) be with her b) leave the park c) talk to her
- ٨. Jane told the police her story. She said: a) "The gorilla is a friend of mine." b) "The gorilla belongs to me." c) 'I found the gorilla in the park.'

C Give the words or phrases for these pronouns.

- ١. Jane had pictures of animals *there*.
- ٢. Jane kept animals *there*.
- ٣. Jane found the gorilla *there*,
- ٤. The police went *there*.
- ٥. Jane often goes *there* these days.

D Right or wrong?

- ١. Jane kept animals in her bedroom.
- ٢. Jane took a lot of fruit from the house.
- ٣. Jane *wasn't* afraid of the gorilla.
- ٤. It was in *Jane's* shed.
- ٥. She tried to bring animals into the house.
- ٦. She needed it for the gorilla.
- ٧. She had to *tell* them about the gorilla.
- ٨. She had a *gorilla* there.

E Complete this conversation between Jane and the police sergeant.

J: Hello? This is Jane Hunt.

PS: Hello, Jane. What can I do for you?

J: Well, you remember that . . . that escaped . . . ?

PS: Of course. Why, have you found it?

J:.....

PS: Good! Where is it now?

J:.....

PS: All right. Keep it there and I'll phone the We'll come and get it in a But where on earth did you find it?

J: Well, I was walking through the . . . , and I saw . . . there. It was very I talked to it and we became . . . and it followed me

H Discussion

Jane was very fond of animals. Are you? Do you have any pets? (Would you like to keep a pet?) What sort of problems can pets cause? Would you like to work in a zoo? Why (not)?

10

The balloon took off quite slowly but, within minutes, they were high above the field. The spectators were still waving to them but soon they too were out of sight.

It was Andy's first trip in a balloon and he felt nervous. Pete, his companion, knew all about balloons - he went up in one every weekend if the weather was fine - but he was too busy to answer Andy's questions.

"Just enjoy it," he said as they took off. "It's a wonderful experience." Andy was not sure. But the view was interesting. He passed the time trying to make out landmarks ~ villages, farms and rivers. Everything looked so different from the air!

"Where are we heading for?" he asked Pete. Pete pointed towards the north.

"That's our general direction for the moment," he said. "Unfortunately this wind keeps pushing us towards those hills." He pointed to some mountains in the west, "There's nothing to worry about, though. I'll take the balloon higher"

A quarter of an hour later Pete was beginning to look worried. They were close to some very thick clouds. "I don't like the look of these," he said. A few minutes later they were in the

middle of the clouds and they could see nothing. Suddenly it was very cold.

"I wasn't expecting weather like this," Pete said. "Well, let's have some coffee to warm us up." He poured out two cups and handed one to Andy.

Andy needed a hot drink at that moment.

"We're still going towards those mountains, aren't we?" he asked Pete.

"Yes, but don't worry," Pete replied. "Well go right over the top."

They drifted on and on through the clouds. Every moment Andy expected the balloon to hit the side of the mountain. But it never happened. Suddenly they were out in the sunlight again.

"The trouble is," Pete said, "I'm not sure exactly where we are now!"

Andy looked down. "Isn't that a farm down there?" he asked, pointing to some buildings. "Why don't we land and ask?"

Pete hesitated. They were lost, but he did not want to ask for help.

"All right." he said in the end.

A few minutes later, they made a perfect landing only a couple of hundred yards from the farmhouse. The farmer came out to greet them.

"You're a long way from home!" he said in answer to Pete's question. "Well, we'll think about that later. Come in and join us for tea. It isn't often that people come to visit us by balloon!"

A. Find these words phrases in the text;

took off; spectators ;nervous , heading for; close to ; drifted ; perfect.

Now choose the right meaning:

- ١. very good
- ٢. afraid
- ٣. near
- ٤. moved slowly and without direction
- ٥. left the ground
- ٦. going towards
- ٧. people who were watching

Choose the right answer.

- ١. As they took off, Andy wanted to: a) see the spectators
b) land in the field c) talk to his friend

- ϣ. Andy tried to identify places on the ground but this was not: a) easy b) possible c) interesting
- ϣ. Pete wanted to go to the north. Instead the wind took them to: a) the south b) the west c) the east
- ξ. Pete began to worry when they were near some: a) mountains b) winds c) clouds
- ο. While they were going through the clouds, Andy felt: a) nervous b) excited c) bored
- Ϛ. When Andy saw the farm, he wanted to: a) ask for help b) look at the building c) stop for tea
- ϣ. Pete asked the farmer: a) "Have you ever seen a balloon before?" b) "Who are you?" c) "Where are we?"
- λ. The farmer: a) sent them home b) wanted to look at their balloon c) invited them to his house

D Put these sentences In the right order,

- 1 A wind pushed the balloon towards some mountains in the west.
- 2 A farmer invited Andy and Pete to tea.
- 3 Andy and Pete drank some coffee.
- 4 The balloon went up into the air.
- 5 Andy saw a farm.
- 6 Andy and Pete got into some clouds.

- 7 Andy and Pete landed.
- 8 Andy tried to make out landmarks.
- 9 Andy and Pete came out into the sunlight.
- 10 People waved to Andy and Pete.
- 11 The balloon went over the top of the mountains.
- 12 The balloon went towards the north.

E Guided composition. Use the sentences in D to complete this paragraph.

As the balloon . . . , people Andy passed the time The balloon . . . , but a wind began . . . and soon As they drifted through the clouds, they Luckily, . . . and suddenly Looking down, Andy They . . . and the farmer there

F Vocabulary practice. Complete these sentences, using the words in the box.

(balloon field nervous out of sight wave
clouds head for north perfect weather)

1. On a fine day, when the ... is really good and there are no . . . , you can see the mountains from here.

- ٢. I had a trip in a ... last week. I didn't enjoy the experience, though. I felt ... all the time.
- ٣. Let's . . . that farm over there - to the ... of the village.
- ٤. The plane made a ... landing in a small . . . beside a river.
- ٥. Quick! ... to those people before they are

G Discussion

Andy felt nervous when he went up in the balloon. Do you think that you would be nervous too? What are some of the dangers when you do this sort of thing?

Section two

Comprehension Passages II

I

It was already late when we set out for the next town, which according to the map was about fifteen miles away on the other side of the hills. There we felt sure that we would find a bed for the night. Darkness fell soon after we left the village, but luckily we met no one as we drove swiftly along the narrow winding road that led to the hills. As we climbed higher, it became colder and rain began to fall, making it difficult at times to see the road. I asked John, my companion, to drive more slowly.

After we had travelled for about twenty miles, there was still no sign of the town which was marked on the map. We were beginning to get worried. Then, without warning, the car stopped. A quick examination showed that we had run out of petrol. Although we had little food with us, only a few biscuits and some chocolate, we decided to spend the night in the car.

Our meal was soon over. I tried to go to sleep at once, but John, who was a poor sleeper, got out of the car after a few minutes and went for a walk up the hill. Soon he came running back. From the top of the hill he had seen, in the valley below, the lights of the town we were looking for. We at once unloaded all our luggage and, with a great effort, managed to push the car to the top of the hill. Then we went back for the luggage, loaded the car again and set off down the hill. In less than a quarter of an hour we were in the town, where we found a hotel quite easily.

I Choose the best answer.

a The travellers had a map but

- (i) they did not know how to use it
- (ii) it gave them the wrong information
- (iii) they could not see it very well in the dark
- (iv) the town they were looking for was not clearly marked

b Their car stopped because

- (i) they had travelled more than twenty miles
- (ii) the petrol ran out of it

(iii) there was no petrol left

(iv) they were going uphill

2 Answer the following questions briefly, in your own words as far as possible. Use one complete sentence for each answer.

a What did the travellers expect to find in the next town?

b How long did it take them to reach the town after they set off down the hill?

3 Answer these questions, using only short form answers.

a Was it dark when they left the village?

b Did they push the car up the hill easily?

4 Complete the following sentences. Your answers must be related to the ideas contained in the passage.

a The writer asked John to drive more slowly because .

b John went for a walk because .

c ".....", said John, after he had run back to the car.

d so that it would be easier to push it to the top of the hill.

e They would have spent the night in the car if .

5 Choose the best explanation according to the context.

a winding (5) means

(i) going uphill

(ii) dangerous

(iii) not straight

(iv) cold

b without warning (II) means

(i) suddenly

(ii) nobody told them

(iii) before it got hot

(iv) without any explanation

6 Composition Imagine that you were John. Describe in not more than 90 words what you did from the time you got out of the car until you reached the town. Do not include any ideas

which are not in the passage. Use your own words as far as possible.

7 Notice this sentence:

They managed to push the car to the top of the hill.

Manage(d) to + infinitive is a common way of describing achievement, something successfully done, often in spite of difficulties.

Now rewrite these sentences, replacing the verbs in italics by managed to + infinitive.

a My hat fell into the river, but I succeeded in getting it out.

b In the end, after a long argument, we were able to persuade them.

c He succeeded in passing his driving test, although he was a bad driver.

d Were you 'able to find the book you wanted ?

e How on earth did you succeed in finding out where I live?

f They were able to put the fire out before the house burnt down.

g No prisoner has ever succeeded in escaping from here.

h If I'd been able to get some sleep, I shouldn't have felt so tired the next: morning.

i I can't understand how he was able to keep awake.

j He made a good excuse, but he didn't quite succeed in convincing me.

While I was walking along the road the other day I happened to notice a small brown leather purse lying on the pavement. I picked it up and opened it to see if I could find out the owner's name. There was nothing inside it except some small change and a rather old photograph-a picture of a woman and a young girl about twelve years old, who looked like the woman's daughter. I put the photograph back and took the purse to the police station, where I handed it to the sergeant in charge. Before I left, the sergeant made a note of my name and address in case the owner of the purse wanted to write and thank me.

That evening I went to have dinner with an uncle and aunt of mine. They had also invited another person, a young woman, so that there would be four people at table. The young woman's face was familiar, but I could not remember where I had seen it.

I was quite sure that we had not met before. In the course of conversation, however, the young woman happened to remark that she had lost, her purse that afternoon. I at once remembered where I had seen her face. She was the young girl in the photograph, although she was now much older. Of course she was very surprised when I was able to describe her purse; to her. Then I explained that I had recognised her face from the photograph I had found in the purse. My uncle insisted on going round to the police station immediately to claim the purse. As the police sergeant handed it over, he said that it was a remarkable coincidence that I had found not only the purse but also the person who had lost it.

I Choose the best answer.

a The purse which the writer found

(i) was empty

(ii) had some money in it

(iii) had a few coins and a photograph in it

(iv) had an old photograph in it

b The writer recognised the young woman because

- (i) he had met her somewhere before
- (ii) she was the woman in the photograph
- (iii) she often had dinner with his uncle and aunt
- (iv) she looked rather like the young girl in the photograph

2 Answer the following questions briefly, in your own words as far as possible. Use one complete sentence for each answer.

- a Why did the sergeant make a note of the writer's name and address?
- b Where did they go to get the purse back?

3 Answer these questions, using only short form answers.

- a Did the writer find the owner's name in the purse?
- b Was the young woman surprised when the writer described her purse?

4 Complete the following sentences. Your answers must be related to the ideas contained in the passage.

- a When the writer opened the purse, he hoped .
- b The sergeant had a book, in which .
- c The young woman so that there would be four people at

table.

d The writer said: "There was a photograph in the purse. That is how"

e "Let's ," the writer's uncle insisted.

5 Choose the best explanation according to the context.

a familiar (14) means

(i) common

(ii) known

(iii) famous b claim

(iv) domestic

(23) means

(i) pretend

(ii) identify

(iii) ask for

(iv) take

Composition Imagine that you were the young woman in the story. Describe in not more than 90 words what happened from the time you went to the house for dinner until you got your purse back at the police station. Do not include any ideas which are not in the passage. Use your own words as far as possible.

7 Notice this sentence:

The young woman happened to remark that she had lost her purse. This means: She remarked, quite by chance, that she had lost her purse. Similarly: I happened to notice means I noticed, quite by chance,

Now rewrite these sentences, replacing the verb in italics by happen to + infinitive.

a I was just coming out of the station when I saw an old friend.

b Mary said she liked flowers, so George sent her some.

c I didn't hear the news until I got a letter from John.

d That pen you found is mine. .

e He didn't see the beginning of the film because he arrived late.

f We wanted to go for a walk this afternoon, but it rained.

g If you see Mary, tell her to ring me up.

h Do you know where Peter has gone?

i I'd like to lend you the money, but I haven't got any.

j The tree fell right across the road, but luckily no one was passing at the time.

3

August 31St *

There are five people at our table, including myself. I've already learnt a great deal about them in the short time we have been at sea, although we rarely meet except at meal-times.

First of all, there is Dr Stone-my favourite, I must confess. He is a man of about sixty-five, with grey hair and a humorous face.

He gave up his practice a short while ago and is now travelling round the world before he retires to some quiet country village. As a young man, he served abroad for many years as a doctor in the Army. He speaks several languages and has told us a great deal about the ports we are going to call at. He seems to have been everywhere. During the day, when he is not talking to his fellow passengers (one gets the impression that he already knows everybody on board !), he sits on deck reading or else gazes out to sea through an old-fashioned telescope.

Then there is "grandmother". I call her that because her name escapes me. In spite of being a grandmother, she looks

* Extract from a diary.

remarkably young, not more than forty-five. She is on her way to visit a daughter who emigrated to Australia some years ago. Naturally she is very excited at the thought of seeing her again, and her three grand-children, whom she has never seen. She can talk of little else.

This voyage is a great adventure for her: she has never been abroad before.

Then there is a man I do not care for very much, an engineer by the name of Barlow. He has been on leave in England and is now returning to his work in Singapore. He seems full of energy: he swims or plays tennis the best part of the day. I have never in my life met a man with such a loud laugh. He has the cabin next to mine and I can hear his laugh even through the wall I

The other person who sits at our table is Mrs Hunt. I have found out hardly anything about her. She is extremely quiet and rarely talks, except to consult the doctor about her children's various ailments. She is on her way to join her husband in India.

I Choose the best answer.

a Dr Stone is travelling round the world because

- (i) he likes meeting a lot of people
- (ii) he is having a holiday before he retires
- (iii) he wants to visit the places he knew in the past
- (iv) he enjoys travelling abroad

b The writer calls the second person at the table "grandmother" because

- (i) she looks old
- (ii) she has three grand children
- (iii) he has not been told her name
- (iv) he has forgotten her name

2 Answer the following questions briefly, in your own words as far as possible. Use one complete sentence for each answer.

a How does Dr Stone spend his time when he is not talking to his fellow passengers?

b Why is "grandmother" going to Australia?

3 Answer these questions, using only short form answers.

a Does the writer spend a lot of time with the people who eat at his table?

b Is "grandmother" the oldest person at table?

Complete the following sentences. Your answers must be related to the ideas contained in the passage.

a Dr Stone after he has travelled round the world.

b Dr Stone seems to know everyone on board because.

c Barlow spends most of his time.

d Barlow has such a loud laugh that .

e The writer does not know much about Mrs Hunt because .

5 Choose the best explanation according to the context.

a remarkably (16) means

(i) attractively

(ii) quite

(iii) noticeably

(iv) extraordinarily

b on leave (24) means

(i) about to go

(ii) away from work

(iii) absent

(iv) at home

6 Composition Write an imaginary description, in about 75 words, of the writer of this passage. Make it read like an extract from a diary of your own.

7 Notice these sentences:

We rarely meet except at meal-times.

I can never remember her name.

She has never been abroad before.

Frequency adverbs (i.e, those which answer the question "How often?") are most commonly placed in front of the principal verb in the sentence. Here are examples in interrogative and negative sentences:

Does it often rain in June?

He didn't always finish his breakfast.

Common adverbs of this kind are: always, never, often, seldom, usually, generally, sometimes.

Adverbial phrases such as every day (week, etc.), once (twice, etc.) a day (month, etc.) are normally placed at the end of the sentence:

He buys a newspaper every morning. She has to see the doctor twice a week.

Now complete the following sentences by putting the adverb or adverbial phrase in its correct position in the sentence.

a I arrive home later when I travel by bus (usually).

b Does John stay out late (often)?

c The postman brings the letters at eight o'clock (every morning).

d Our letters are sent by airmail (seldom).

e He writes to his parents (twice a week).

f She doesn't look unhappy (generally).

g Whenever I'm busy, I forget the time (always).

h Who is the man who sits next to you on the bus (sometimes)?

i He worked hard when he was a young man (never).

j Do you drink a lot of water in hot weather (usually) ?

4

Half an hour before daybreak three of the boys assembled, as they agreed near the old bridge. The fourth, a boy by the name of Tolly, had not turned up. His absence did not greatly surprise the others. They knew that his mother did not want him to come on this expedition into the forest.

Charles who was the oldest and their accepted leader, waded downstream to the place where their boat was tied up in the shelter of some overhanging bushes. Then he rowed the boat back to the shallow water near the bridge, where the boys loaded it with the provisions, blankets and other things which they were taking on their journey.

Dawn was just breaking as they climbed into their boat and pushed off from the bank. A swift current carried them downstream, so there was no need to row. They took it in turns to keep the boat in the centre of the river. Three hours later they entered the forest where they intended to spend the next few days.

"Let's go ashore now and make some tea," suggested Charles.

"No one will see us here."

It was forbidden to light fires in the forest, but people rarely came this way.

While Charles tied the boat up, the other two boys set about gathering wood for a fire. When they came back, each with a large handful of sticks, they found Charles looking very worried.

"We haven't got any matches," he announced gloomily. "Tolly was going to bring them."

This was bad news. They were miles away now from the nearest shop.

I Choose the best answer.

a The boys did not have to row because

- (i) they had plenty of time to get to the forest
- (ii) they kept their boat in the centre of the river
- (iii) the river carried their boat along quite quickly
- (iv) they had pushed off from the bank

b The boys could not light a fire because

- (i) the wood was too big
- (ii) Charles had forgotten to bring any matches

(iii) it was forbidden to light fires in the forest

(iv) the boy who was going to bring the matches had not come on the expedition

2 Answer the following questions briefly; in your own words as far as possible. Use one complete sentence for each answer.

a How long did it take them to load the boat?

b When did Charles discover that they had no matches?

3 Answer these questions, using only short form answers.

a Was it light when they set off downstream?

b Did Charles also go to gather wood?

4 Complete the following sentences. Your answers must be related to the ideas contained in the passage.

a The name of the boy who was Tolly.

b It was easier to load the boat near the bridge because

c The boys did not have to row because there was which

d While they were going downstream, all the boys had to do was
.....

e Although , the boys went ashore to make tea.

5 Choose the best explanation according to the context.

a waded (6) means

(i) crossed the river

(ii) swam

(iii) went out of sight

(iv) walked slowly through the water

b in turns (14) means

(i) round and round

(ii) one after the other

(iii) all together

(iv) from time to time

6 Composition Imagine that you were Charles. Describe in not more than 90 words what you did from the time you waded

downstream to fetch the boat until you discovered that you had no matches. Do not include any ideas which are not in the passage. Use your own words as far as possible.

7 Notice this sentence:

The other two boys set about gathering wood for a fire.

In this pattern the verb is followed by a gerund. Here are two more examples:

Would you mind speaking more quietly?

The children enjoyed playing in the park.

Now complete the following sentences by choosing a suitable verb from the list given at the foot of the exercise.

a Let's go for a walk as soon as it stops .

b They kept on a noise even after I asked them to stop.

c Mary never minds the dinner.

d She begged her husband to give up his pipe in bed.

e I don't remember you a Christmas card this year.

I Grandfather enjoys television.

g Fancy an overcoat on a hot summer's day!

h I couldn't help what you said about me.

i Why on earth did you suggest the car red ?

j Have you ever considered abroad to work?

cook paint smoke

go rain watch

hear send wear

make

5

The children stopped chattering as Miss Hughes entered the classroom. Then they stood up as one body and said in a loud chorus:

"Good morning, teacher."

Miss Hughes smiled, said good morning too and told the class to sit down. At a glance there seemed to be about thirty-five pupils in the class. The majority were girls. She noticed several intelligent faces. All the pupils were watching her intently, waiting no doubt to find out what sort of person she was.

"I suppose-you want to know my name," she said. But before she could tell them, someone in the class called out, "It's Miss Hughes."

Everybody laughed. Miss Hughes laughed too.

"News travels quickly," she said. "I'm afraid it will take me longer to learn all your names."

Miss Hughes opened the attendance register and called their names in turn. When she came to the last name on the list, John Young, she noticed that he had been absent for over a month.

"What's the matter with John Young?" she asked, looking up.

"He's in hospital, Miss Hughes," said a fair-haired girl in the front row. "He's broken his leg."

"He slipped on the ice," added one of the boys.

"Has anyone been to see him in hospital?" Miss Hughes asked. No one replied.

It was time to start the lesson. "Now let me see," said Miss Hughes, looking at the timetable. "The first lesson is English."

"Oh! please tell us a story," begged one of the girls.

Several of the pupils repeated this. Miss Hughes smiled.

"Very well," she said. "But first of all I want you to write a letter to John Young. We'll send the best ones to cheer him up in hospital. Afterwards I'll tell you a story, if you're good."

They were all writing busily when Miss Hughes slipped out of the classroom to fetch a book which she had left in the staffroom. She passed the headmistress in the corridor.

"Any trouble from that class?" the headmistress asked.

"Not so far," said Miss Hughes confidently. "They all seem very well behaved."

I Choose the best answer.

II Miss Hughes came into the classroom

(i) but nobody took any notice of her

(ii) and all the children stood up at the same time and said good morning

(iii) and all the children said good morning

(iv) and all the children stood up one after the other

b Miss Hughes

(i) refused to tell the class a story

(ii) had forgotten her story book, so she asked the class to write a letter

(iii) asked the class to write a letter before she told them a story

(iv) asked the class to write a letter so that she could go to the staff room

2 Answer the following questions briefly, in your own words as far as possible. Use one complete sentence for each answer.

a Why did Miss Hughes say: "News travels quickly"?

b What did Miss Hughes do in order to find out which pupils were present?

3 'Answer these questions, using only short form answers.

a Was Miss Hughes a new teacher?

B Did Miss Hughes have any trouble from the class?

4 Complete the following sentences. Your answers must be related to the ideas contained in the passage.

a "Good morning." Miss Hughes said to the class " "

b No one replied when Miss Hughes asked whether .

c Miss Hughes looked at the timetable in order to find, out .

d Miss Hughes said that she wanted the class to write to John Young before .

e Miss Hughes met the headmistress while .

5 Choose the best explanation according to the context.

a intently (7) means

(i) with a great deal of attention

(ii) by chance

(iii) on purpose

(iv) unpleasantly

b not so far (34) means

(i) very near

(ii) very much

(iii) to a small degree

(iv) not until now

6 Composition Imagine that you were Miss Hughes. Describe in not more than 90 words what you did from the time you opened the register to call the names until you went out of the classroom. Do not include any ideas which are not in the passage. Use your own words as far as possible.

7 Notice this sentence:

She noticed that he had been absent for nearly a month.

The Past Perfect tense is commonly used to show that one event or action in the past occurred before another event or action also in the past. Here is another example:

... to fetch a book which she had left in the staffroom,

Notice that the Present Perfect becomes Past Perfect in Indirect Speech after a reporting verb in the Past tense.

Miss Hughes asked whether anyone had been to see John Young.

The Past Perfect is used in the if-clause of this type of Conditional sentence.

I would have helped you if you had asked me.

Now complete the following sentences by putting the verbs in brackets into the Past Perfect tense.

a He went to the police station with a purse that he(find) on the pavement.

b Helen admitted that she (not, read) Hamlet.

c By the end of the year they (save) two hundred pounds.

d Miss Hughes would have gone back to the class at once if she. (hear) any noise.

e They wrote to say that theyalready (buy) a house.

f If there (be) a mistake, I would have told you.

g I went to see my friend, whojust (come back) from abroad.

h By the time Bill reached the shop, he (forgot) what he was going to buy.

i How long did it take you to realise that you (see) the film already?

j She would have missed her train if the bus (be) late.

6

Bill Fuller, the postman, whistled cheerfully as he pushed his bicycle up the hill towards old Mrs Dunley's house. HIS work for the day was almost finished; his bag, usually quite heavy when he set out on his round, was empty now except for the letter that he had to deliver to Mrs Dunley. She lived over a mile from the village so that, when Bill had a letter for her, he always finished his day s work much later. He did not mind this, however, because she never failed to ask him in for a cup of tea.

When Bill entered the gate of Mrs Dunley's house, he was surprised not to find her working in her garden. She usually sent most afternoons there when the weather was fine. Bill went straight round to the back of the house, thinking that she might be in the kitchen. The door was locked and the curtains were drawn. Puzzled, he returned to the front of the house and knocked hard on the door. There was no answer. Bill thought that this was very strange because he knew that Mrs Dunley rarely left the house.

Just then he noticed that her bottle of milk, which was delivered early in the morning, was still on the doorstep. This worried him. If Mrs Dunley had not taken in her milk, perhaps she was

ill. Bill walked round the house until he found an open window. It was small; but he just managed to squeeze through. He went into the hall. There he almost fell over Mrs Dunley, who was lying at the foot of the stairs, unconscious. Realising that there was little he could do for her, Bill rushed out of the house, stopped a passing car and told the driver to telephone for an ambulance as soon as he got to the village.

I Choose the best answer.

a Bill Fuller was going to Mrs Dunley's house because

- (i) she had asked him for a cup of tea
- (ii) he had some letters to deliver to her
- (iii) his day's work was over
- (iv) he had a letter for her

b The thing that especially worried Bill was

- (i) finding the back door locked and the curtains drawn
- (ii) seeing her bottle of milk on the doorstep
- (iii) not getting any answer when he knocked on the door
- (iv) not finding Mrs Dunley in the garden

2 Answer the following questions briefly, in your own words as far as possible. Use one complete sentence for each answer.

a How did Bill get into the house?

b How did Bill get help for Mrs Dunley?

3 Answer these questions, using only short form answer.

a Was Bill riding his bicycle up the hill?

b Was Mrs Dunley alive when Bill found her?

4 Complete the following sentences. Your Answer must be related to the ideas contained in the passage.

a Bill's bag was not heavy because .

b When the weather was fine, Mrs Dunley

c Bill was worried when he saw that

d It was lucky that one of the windows was open, otherwise .

e As soon as Bill got into the house, he, where he found Mrs Dunley

5 Choose the best explanation according to the context.

a did not mind (7) means

(i) looked forward to

(ii) enjoyed

(iii) did not remember

(iv) did not object to

b straight (II) means

(i) without going back

(ii) immediately

(iii) fairly quickly

(iv) in a direct line

6 Composition Imagine that you were Bill Fuller, the postman.

Describe in not more than 100 words what you did from the time you reached the gate of Mrs Dunley's house until you stopped the motorist. Do not include any ideas which are not in the passage. Use your own words as far as possible.

7 Notice this sentence:

His bag, usually quite heavy when he set out

The meaning of quite here is moderately: i.e., his bag was not excessively heavy, but it was not light either. In this sense quite is often close in meaning to fairly or rather, depending on the context. Compare this use of quite with the way it is used in Exercise 6.

Now complete the following sentences by choosing a suitable word or phrase from the list given at the foot of the exercise. Pay particular attention to the different ways in which quite is used.

a The restaurant was quite , but we managed to find a table near the door.

b According to the radio, it is quite to rain tomorrow.

c There were quite people at the meeting. Over a hundred, in fact.

d I'm feeling tired. I'd quite to go to bed early tomorrow.

e The water is shallow here, but near the bridge it is quite.

f They go to the theatre quite At least once a fortnight,

g It was quite an lecture, but I enjoyed the one yesterday more.

h I hall be sorry to leave this house. I've grown quite It.

i Your daughter has grown up. She's quite now.

j I can't remember exactly when we went there, but I know that it was quite .

a long time ago

deep

like

a lot of

fond of

likely

a young lady

interesting

often

crowded

7

Helen packed a small suitcase, said goodbye to her mother and hurried out of the house to catch the bus to the station. There was no one else waiting at the bus stop, so it looked as if a bus had just left. Helen looked at her watch anxiously: it was already two o'clock. Her train left at two-thirty, and since it would take at least twenty minutes to reach the station, she did not have much time to spare, even if a bus came along at once.

Just then a taxi came slowly down the road. Helen knew that the fare to the station was at least two pounds, which was more than she could afford; but she quickly made up her mind that it would be well worth the extra expense in order to be sure of catching her train. So she stopped the taxi and got in. She told the driver that she had to catch a train which left at half past two. The man nodded and said that he would take a short cut to get her to the station in good time.

All went well until, just as they were coming out of a side-street into the main road that led to the station, the taxi ran into a car. There was a loud crash and Helen was thrown forward so violently that she hit her head on the front seat. Both drivers got

out and began shouting at each other. Helen got out as well, to ask them to stop quarrelling, but neither of them took any notice of her at all.

Helen was now quite sure that she was going to miss her train, although she was not very far from the station. She was wondering what to do when a bus came into sight, going in the direction of the station. The bus stop was not far off, so Helen got her suitcase out of the taxi and ran towards the bus, which had stopped to let some passengers get off. The bus conductor saw her running and did not ring the bell for the bus to start until she had got on. Helen reached the station just in time and managed to catch her train after all. But if she had waited for the taxi driver to stop arguing, she would probably have missed it.

I Choose the best answer.

a Helen took a taxi because

- (i) she was afraid of missing her train
- (ii) she did not want to wait for the bus
- (iii) it was already two o'clock
- (iv) she had a suitcase to carry

b In the end Helen

(i) finished the journey by taxi

(ii) did not reach the station

(iii) did the last part of the journey by bus.

(iv) had to walk part of the way to the station

2 Answer the following questions briefly, in your own words as far as possible. Use one complete sentence for each answer.

a Why did Helen think that she had just missed a bus?

b What happened to Helen when the taxi ran into the car?

3 Answer these questions, using only short form answers.

a Did Helen know how much it cost to go to the station by taxi.

b Did Helen stop to pay the taxi driver?

4 Complete the following sentences. Your answers must be related to the ideas contained in the passage.

a The train which Helen left at two-thirty.

b Helen did not usually go to the station by taxi because

c The taxi driver nodded and said: "....."

d The bus had stopped so that .

e If the bus conductor had rung the bell, Helen .

5 Choose the best explanation according to the context.

a short cut (14) means

(i) interruption

(ii) quickly way

(iii) secret path

(iv) back street

b as well (20) means

(i) equally good

(ii) quickly

(iii) feeling better

(iv) also

6 Composition Imagine that you were Helen. Describe in not more than 100 words what you did from the time the taxi came

down the road until you caught the bus. Do not include any Ideas which are not in the passage. Use your own words as far as possible,

7 In the passage there are several examples of the to-infinitive used to express purpose.

Helen got out to ask them to stop.

In order may be placed in front of the to-infinitive to, express the same idea.

It would be well worth the extra expense in order to be sure.

The negative form IS with in order not + to-infinitive. He drove quickly in order not to be late.

Notice that we also use avoid + gerund to express this idea

He drove quickly to avoid being late.

Now combine the following pairs of sentences to form one sentence, modelling your answers on the examples given above.

a I put on my glasses. I wanted to read the notice, which was in small print.

b She's going for a walk. She wants to get some fresh air.

c He deliberately crossed the road. He didn't want to speak to me

d I shall have to go to the library. I want to look the word up in the dictionary.

e He's gone to the bank. He wants to cash a cheque.

f They went to a cheap hotel. They didn't want to spend a lot of money.

g We ought to leave now. We want to be sure of getting a seat.

h I must stop at the tobacconist's. I want to buy some cigarettes.

i John went to the airport. He wanted to see his brother off.

j I'm going to whisper, I don't want to disturb the others.

8

A car drew up outside the Swan Hotel and a young man got out. Pausing only for an instant to see that he had come to the right place, he went into the hotel and rang the bell on the counter of the bar.

Mrs Crump, the landlady, who was busy in the kitchen at the time, hurried out, wiping her hands. The young man raised his hat.

"Excuse me," he said. "I'm looking for my uncle, Mr White.

I believe he is staying here."

"He was staying here," Mrs Crump corrected him. "But I'm afraid that he went back to London yesterday."

"Oh dear," said the young man, looking disappointed. "I understood that he was going to stay here until the end of the month. At least, that is what his servant told me when I rang up his house."

"Quite right," said Mrs Crump. "He intended to stay here the whole of July, as he always does. But yesterday he got a

telegram to say that one of his relatives was ill. So he caught the train back to London immediately."

"I wish he had let me know," the young man said. "I wrote him a letter saying that I was coming. I've had all this trouble for nothing. Well, since he isn't here, there is no point in waiting."

He thanked Mrs Crump and went out. Mrs Crump went to the window and watched him drive off. When his car was out of sight, she called out:

"You can come out now, Mr White. He's gone."

Mr White came out of the kitchen, where he had been waiting.

"Many thanks, Mrs Crump," he said, laughing. "You did that very well. These nephews of mine never give me any peace. That young man is the worst of them all. As you see, when he needs money, he even follows me into the country. Well, perhaps next time he won't warn me by writing me a letter !"

I Choose the best answer.

a This story is about a man who

- (i) did not like his nephew
- (ii) did not want to meet his nephew
- (iii) was not able to meet his nephew

(iv) wanted to spend a quiet holiday in the country

b When his nephew came to the hotel, the man

(i) avoided giving him any money

(ii) caught the train back to London

(iii) went to see a sick relative

(iv) hid in the kitchen

2 Answer the following questions briefly, in your own words as far as possible. Use one complete sentence for each answer.

a How did Mrs Crump know that someone had entered the hotel? b Why did Mrs Crump watch the young man drive off?

3 Answer these question, using only short form answer.

a Had the young man come to the right hotel?

b Had Mr White been to this hotel for his holiday in other Years?

Complete the following sentences. Your answer must be related to the ideas contained in the passage.

- a When Mrs Crump heard the bell ring, .
- b The young man came to the Swan Hotel expecting ...
- c The young man was disappointed when he heard that
- d Mr White did not come out of the kitchen until
- e Mr White thanked Mrs Crump for

5 Choose the best explanation according to the context.

a drew up (I) means

- (i) waited
- (ii) stopped
- (iii) paused
- (iv) appeared

b no point in (20) means

- (i) no time to
- (ii) boring
- (iii) unnecessary
- (iv) serves no purpose

6 Composition Imagine that you were Mr White. Describe in not more than 100 words the scene. which took place between your nephew and Mrs Crump. Do not include any Ideas which are not in the passage. Use your own words as far as possible.

7 Notice this sentence:

Mrs Crump watched him drive off.

In this pattern the verb of perception (see, hear notice, etc.) is followed by an object (noun or pronoun) + the infinitive without to. The infinitive indicates that we are interested in the completed action:

I heard the bell ring (i.e, The bell rang. I heard it).

Compare this with the pattern where the present participle is used (see Exercise 6 on pages 82-3); here the interest is in the continuous nature of the action:

I heard the bell ringing.

The infinitive pattern is also used with a number of other verbs: make, let, help, know.

She made (let, helped) her husband cut down the tree.

Now complete these sentences by choosing a suitable verb from the list given at the foot of the exercise.

a He closed the door quietly so that no one would hear him .

b Who actually saw the accident ?

c Do you know what made her her mind ?

d Just watch me that wall.

e Let me what I am saying before you interrupt.

f Nobody offered to help Joan the dirty cups.

g Did anyone notice the bird its cage?

h I've never heard her a kind word.

i He felt the heavy box his hands and the ground.

j Have you ever known him a joke?

change

go out

say

fall to

happen

slip from

finish

jump over

wash up

fly out of

make

9

49 Mayfair Road,

Plumpton, Kent.

October 10th.

Dear Rosemary,

I was delighted to get your letter this morning. I really ought to have written to you-it was my turn, I know-but I have been terribly busy. The children seem to take up all my time. I am thinking of sending Ann to a nursery school. She'll be four next month. Baby has just started to walk and doesn't give me a moment's peace. But you know what it is like! How are all your children?

I'm sure they love living in the country.

I'm afraid we can't come over to see you next Sunday, as you suggest. Tom's mother is coming to spend the day with us. What about the Sunday after that-the twenty-second? We are free that day and should love to come. We're longing to see your new house.

Let me know, then, if the Sunday after next suits you. May we come for lunch? We'd like to leave fairly early in the evening to avoid the heavy traffic on the roads.

Love from us all,

Edna.

Birch Cottage,

Little Tipping, Kent.

October 15th.

Dear Edna,

Yes, we'd love you to come the Sunday after next. And please do come for lunch. I'll try to think of something really special to cook. Ted says you can help him in the garden. He wasn't so pleased when I said that the children would help, too! I'm looking forward to seeing the baby. Can he really walk already? Time certainly flies!

We've had a lot of work to do in the house, but it has been worth it. It is good to be living in the country once more. I never enjoyed town life, as you know. You ought to look for a house in the country. But I suppose Tom wouldn't like the long journey to work every day.

We shall expect you about midday. Look after yourself and don't work too hard. Love to you both.

Rosemary.

I Choose the best answer.

a Edna could not go to see Rosemary the following Sunday because

- (i) she was afraid of the traffic
- (ii) Tom's mother was coming to see them that day
- (iii) she preferred to come on the twenty-second
- (iv) she was terribly busy with the children

b Rosemary said: "Time certainly flies" because .

- (i) Edna was coming to see them the Sunday after next
- (ii) she had never seen the baby .
- (iii) there was not enough time to do all the work in the house
- (iv) she could hardly believe that the baby could walk already

2 Answer the following questions briefly, in your own words as far as possible. Use one complete sentence for each answer.

a How soon did Edna answer Rosemary's letter?

b How were Edna and Tom going to travel to the country?

3 Answer these questions, using only short form answers.

a Had Edna already seen Rosemary's new house in the country?

b Had Rosemary lived in the country before?

4. Complete the following sentences. Your answers must be related to the ideas contained in the passage.

a Edna had not had time to answer Rosemary's letter because .

b Edna wrote to say that they could not come the following Sunday because.....

c Edna suggested instead that

d Ted did not want the children

e At the end of her letter, Rosemary told Edna .

5 Choose the best explanation according to the context.

a terribly (7) means

(i) extremely

(ii) frighteningly

(iii) unusually

(iv) unpleasantly

b once more (31) means

(i) more than once

(ii) for a long time

(iii) again

(iv) at last

6 Composition Imagine you were Edna. Write a letter of about 100 words to a friend describing your Sunday in the country with Ros-mary and Ted. In your letter refer to (i) the cottage, (n) Tom's garden, (iii) the lunch and (iv) the journey back to Plumpton in the evening.

7 Notice this sentence:

I really ought to have written to you.

Ought to or should with a perfect infinitive is used to express an obligation which was not carried out. Here is another example:

Helen {ought to/ should} have gone to the dentist's yesterday (but she didn't go).

The negative form expresses disapproval of an action which was actually performed.

You oughtn't to (shouldn't) have bought that hat.

Now complete these sentences.

a This meat isn't done. You should ... (cook) it longer.

b We'll miss the tram. We ought to (leave) earlier.

c Why did you let her go alone? Someone should (go) with her.

d I'm surprised he did that. He ought to (know) better.

e The accident was his fault. He shouldn't (drive) so quickly.

f You ought to (ask) their permission before you borrowed it.

g We should (bring) a map. Now we're lost.

h All my shirts are dirty. They should (send*) to the laundry yesterday.

i They oughtn't to (sell) their house. Now they've nowhere to live.

j It's too late now. I should (tell*) earlier.

* Use the Passive form.

10

Shortly after the war, my brother and I were invited to spend a few days' holiday with an uncle who had just returned from abroad. He had rented a cottage in the country, although he rarely spent much time there. We understood the reason for this after our arrival: the cottage had no comfortable furniture in it, many of the windows were broken and the roof leaked, making the whole house damp.

On our first evening, we sat around the fire after supper listening to the stories which our uncle had to tell of his many adventures in distant countries. I was so tired after the long train journey that I would have preferred to go to bed; but I could not bear to miss any of my uncle's exciting tales.

He was just in the middle of describing a rather terrifying experience he had once had when his small sailing boat was carried out to sea in a storm, when there was a loud crash from the bedroom above, the one where my brother and I were going to sleep.

"It sounds as if the roof has fallen in!" exclaimed my uncle, with a loud laugh.

When we got to the top of the stairs and opened the bedroom door, we could see nothing at first because of the thick clouds of dust which filled the room. When the dust began to clear, a strange sight met our eyes. A large part of the ceiling had collapsed, falling right on to the pillow of my bed. I was glad that I had stayed up late to listen to my uncle's stories, otherwise I should certainly have been seriously injured, perhaps killed.

That night we all slept on the floor of the sitting-room downstairs, not wishing to risk our lives by sleeping under a roof which might at any moment collapse on our heads. We left for London the very next morning and my uncle gave up his cottage in the country. This was not the kind of adventure he cared for either!

1 Choose the best answer.

a The writer did not go to bed immediately after supper because

- (i) it was pleasant sitting round the fire
- (ii) his uncle terrified him with his stories
- (iii) he wanted to hear all his uncle's exciting stories
- (iv) his uncle made him listen to his stories

b It was quite clear that the ceiling had fallen in .

- (i) when they opened the bedroom door
- (ii) after the dust had begun to clear
- (iii) as soon as they heard the crash
- (iv) when they reached the top of the stairs

2 Answer the following questions briefly, using your own words as far as possible. Use one 'Complete sentence for each answer.

- a Why didn't the writer's uncle spend much time in his cottage?
- b Why were they afraid to sleep upstairs that night?

3 Answer these questions, using only short form answers.

- a Was the writer's uncle amused when he heard the loud crash?
- b Did the writer's uncle continue living in his cottage?

4 Complete the following sentences. Your answers must be related to the ideas contained in the passage.

- a The writer's uncle did not spend much time in the cottage which.....
- b The cottage was damp because.....

c Although the writer was tired,

d right on to the pillow of the bed where

e If the writer had gone to bed early,

5 Choose the best explanation according to the context.

a leaked (6) means

(i) was beginning to fall down

(ii) let the rain in

(iii) needed to be repaired

(iv) was in bad condition

b Injured (25) means

(i) badly hurt

(ii) damaged

(iii) struck

(iv) wounded

6 Composition Imagine that you were the writer's uncle. Write a short account, of about 120 words, of the experience you had when your sailing boat was carried out to sea in a storm.

7 Notice this sentence:

I was glad that I had stayed up late to listen to my uncle's stories, otherwise I should certainly have been seriously injured.

Here otherwise is equivalent to: If I hadn't stayed up late, I . . .

The use of the conjunction enables us to avoid repetition. Here are some more examples:

Be quiet, otherwise (i.e. if you are not quiet) I won't tell you a story.

You'll have to work harder, otherwise (i.e, if you don't work harder) you won't pass the examination.

Now combine the following pairs of sentences by means of otherwise, following the models given above.

a Be more careful. If you aren't more careful, you'll bum your fingers.

b I caught hold of her hand. If I hadn't caught hold of her hand, she would have slipped and fallen.

c They must have gone out. If they weren't out, they would open the door.

d Tom wants a higher salary. If he doesn't get a higher salary, he is going to resign.

e Take an umbrella with you. If you don't take an umbrella, you may get wet.

f We must save more money. If we don't save more money, we shan't be able to go away on holiday.

g They had a map. If they hadn't had a map, they would have lost their way.

h Look out! If you don't look out, you'll get run over.

i The children must have been tired. If they hadn't been tired, they wouldn't have gone to sleep at once.

j You'll have to take more exercise. If you don't take more exercise, you'll get fat.

11

Mrs Brown was tired after her dais shopping in London, so she went into a restaurant for a cup of tea before catching the train home. When she had ordered her tea, she suddenly remembered that she had to buy some medicine for her husband, who had a cough.

"Is there a chemist's near here?" she asked the waiter.

"Yes, madam," the waiter said, "it's only about three minutes' walk away. Turn right when you go out of the restaurant, then take the second turning to the left. You'll find a big chemist's about a hundred yards up the road on the right-hand side. It closes at five, but if you hurry, you'll just get there in time."

Mrs Brown followed the waiter's directions carefully and found the chemist's shop without any difficulty. She bought the cough mixture and started to make her way back to the restaurant. But after she had walked for about ten minutes and there was still no sign of the restaurant, she realised that she must have made a mistake.

"Oh! I am stupid!" said Mrs Brown. "I've left all my shopping in the restaurant and now I'm lost."

She was still wondering what to do when a policeman came up and asked if he could help. Mrs Brown explained what had happened.

"Well, first of all," said the policeman, "we had better go back as far as the chemist's."

"Now," suggested the policeman, when they got to the chemist's, "let's go in this direction. It leads to the main road, where we shall probably find your restaurant."

When they reached the main road, the policeman said:

"I think you'll find the restaurant you are looking for along there, on the opposite side of the road."

Mrs Brown thanked the policeman for his help. "I can't understand how I went wrong," she said. The policeman smiled.

"It's quite easy," he said, "to get lost in a big city like London."

I Choose the best answer.

a Mrs Brown called herself stupid because .

(i) she had walked for ten minutes before she realised that she had lost her way.

(ii) she had managed to lose her way just coming back from the chemist's shop.

(iii) she had left her shopping in a restaurant which she could find.

(iv) she had taken the wrong road back to the chemist's

2 answer the following questions briefly, in your own words as far as possible. Use one complete sentence for each answer.

a Why had Mrs Brown come to London?

b How far was the chemist's from the restaurant? .

c When did Mrs Brown realise that she had made a mistake?

3 Answer these questions, using only short form answer

a Did the waiter give Mrs Brown good directions?

b Did Mrs Brown reach the chemist s in time?

c Did the policeman come with Mrs Brown as far as the chemist's?

4 Complete the following sentences. Your Answer must be related to the ideas contained in the passage.

a Mrs Brown went to the restaurant for a cup of tea because

- b Mrs Brown's husband had a bad cough, so .
- c Mrs Brown's had to hurry to the chemist's because .
- d The policeman came up to Mrs Brown and asked her: ".....?"
- e Mrs Brown might not have found the restaurant again if.....

5 Choose the best explanation according to the context.

a in time (n) means .

(i) eventually

(ii) before it closes

(iii) punctually

(iv) at the right time

6 Find words or phrases in the passage which mean much the same as the following.

a instructions how to get to a place

b to return

c made a mistake

7 Composition Imagine that you were the policeman mentioned in the passage. Describe in not more than 90 words what happened from the time you first saw Mrs Brown until you took her to the main road. Do not include any ideas which are not in the passage. Use your own words as far as possible passage.

8 Complete the following sentences by putting the speaker's words, given in brackets, into Indirect Speech. Follow this model:

Mrs Brown said ("I've left all my shopping in the restaurant.")

Mrs Brown said that she had left all her Shopping in the restaurant

a Mrs Brown asked the wait ("Is here a chemist's near ?)

b The waiter told her ("It's only about three minutes' walk away.").

c He told her ("Turn right when you go out of the restaurant ")

d He said that the chemist's closed at five, but("If you hurry you'll just get there in time.")

f The policeman said that first of all..... ("We'd better go back as far as the chemist's.")

g The policeman took Mrs Brown in the direction of the main, where he said ("We shall probably find your restaurant ")

h when they reached the main road, the policeman told Mrs Brown..... (I think you 11 find the restaurant you are looking for on the opposite side of the road.")

i Mrs Brown thanked the policeman and said..... (I'd can't understand how I went wrong.")

j The policeman smiled and said ("It's quite easy to get lost in a big city like London.")

12

As the train approached the seaside town where I was going to spend my holidays, I went into the corridor to stretch my legs. I stayed there a short while, breathing in the fresh sea air and exchanging a few words with one of the passengers, whom I had met earlier on the station platform.

When I turned to go back to my seat, I happened to glance into the compartment next to mine. Sitting there was a man who many years before had been my neighbour. He was a great talker, I remembered; it used to take hours to get away from him once he began his conversation. I was not at all sorry when he went to live in another part of London. We had not met since then, nor did I wish to meet him now, when my holiday was about to begin.

Luckily at that moment he was much too busy talking to the man opposite him to catch sight of me. I slipped back into my compartment, took down my two suitcases and carried them to the far end of the corridor so as to be ready to get off the train as soon as it stopped. The moment the train came to a halt, I called a porter, who in no time at all had carried my luggage out of the

station and found me a taxi. As I drove towards my small hotel on the outskirts of the town, I breathed a deep sigh of relief at my narrow escape. There was little chance that I should run into my boring ex-neighbour again.

When I reached the hotel, I went straight to my room and rested there until it was time for dinner. Then I went down to the lounge and ordered a drink. I had barely raised the glass to my lips when an all too familiar voice greeted me. I had not escaped from my tiresome neighbour after all! He grasped me warmly by the hand and insisted that we should share a table in the dining-room. "This is a pleasant surprise," he said. "I never expected to see you again after all these years."

1 Choose the best answer.

a This is a story about a man who

(i) got off the train to avoid meeting an ex-neighbour

(ii) went with an ex-neighbour to spend a holiday at the seaside

(iii) tried to get away from an ex-neighbour but did not succeed

(iv) was surprised to meet his ex-neighbour in a small seaside hotel

2 Answer the following questions briefly, in your own words as far as possible. Use one complete sentence for each answer.

a Why did the writer want to avoid his ex-neighbour?

b Why did the writer feel sure that he had escaped from his ex-neighbour?

c What was the writer doing when his ex-neighbour greeted him?

3 Answer these questions, using only short form answers.

a Did the writer speak to anyone in the corridor?

b Did It take the writer long to get out of the station?

c Old the writer recognise his ex-neighbour's voice at once?

4 Complete the following sentences. Your answers must be related to the ideas contained in the passage.

a The writer had not seen his ex-neighbour since.

b The writer got back to his compartment without being seen because.

c The porter Dot only but also

d The hotel where was on the outskirts of the town

e "We must, said the ex-neighbour, grasping..... .

5 Chose the best explanation according to the context.

a tiresome (27) means

(i) weary

(ii) talkative

(iii) boring

(iv) sleepy

6 Find word or phrases in the passage which mean much the same as the following

a returned without being noticed

b extremely quickly

c known very well

7 Composition Describe in not more than 90 words what the writer of the passage did from the time he went back to his compartment until his ex- neighbour greeted him in the hotel." Do not include any Ideas which are not in the passage. Use your own words as far as possible.

8 Notice this sentence:

He found me a taxi.

This pattern, with the Indirect Object preceding the Direct Object of the verb, is mostly to be found where the Indirect Object is shorter, and consequently less emphatic, than the Direct Object. Compare these two sentences:

I lent him my book.

I lent my book to a student who sits in the front row.

Now complete the, following sentences by arranging the' two objects given in brackets according to length and degree of emphasis required. For example:

I paid (the man) (the money).

I paid the man the money. .

She wrote(the headmaster of her son's school) (a letter).

She wrote a letter to the headmaster-of her son's school.

a I've just been out to buy..... (a friend of mine who is getting married) (a wedding present).

b She made (me) (a nice cup of tea).

c He gave (the beggar) (all the money he had in Iris pocket).

d They are going to give (the best students in the examination)

(certificates).

e Nobody has sent (me) (any Christmas cards) yet.

f I had to show (the porter at the entrance to the building)(my pass) before I was allowed in.

g I sent (the editor 'Of the Literary Monthly) (my article).

h He showed (us ill) (a photograph of his eldest daughter).

i John has never bought (his wife) (a bunch of flowers).

j She always makes (anyone who comes to see her) (tea).

13

"You do buy old books, don't you?" asked Fred, putting his parcel down on the shop Counter.

"I'll have to see what you've got before I can answer that question," the bookseller said. "Business isn't so good as it used to be People seem to prefer to buy new books nowadays."

Fred opened his parcel and laid the books out on the counter. "I don't pretend to know much about books," he said. "I've had these for years, and I haven't even read them. My grandfather left them to me, as a matter of fact. But my wife never stops complaining about them. She-says they make the house look dirty. So I thought I'd bring them in to show you, just in case there is anything of interest."

In the meantime, the bookseller was picking up the books one by one and examining them. He shook his head.

"They're not much good, "he said. "I can give you a few pounds for the lot if you want to get rid of them. I can't offer you more, I'm afraid."

When he saw the last book, however, his eyes lit up with excitement.

"What is it ?" asked Fred.

"Now this is worth something," exclaimed the bookseller, turning over the pages. "It's a very rare edition."

He handed the book to Fred, who looked at the title. It was a novel of the last century by an author whose name he had never heard of. Of all the books which he had gathered together to bring to the bookshop, this one had looked the least interesting.

"How much is it worth?" he asked the bookseller.

"How much ?" the man repeated. "I can't tell you exactly. But not less than a hundred pounds, I should say. I'm . only guessing. It may be worth a lot more."

It was Fred's turn to be excited. He thought of all the wonderful things he could buy with 8 hundred pounds.

I Choose the best answer.

a Fred took the old books to the bookseller because

- (i) he never had time to read them
- (ii) his wife did not like having them in the house
- (iii) he wanted to find out what they were worth

(iv) he expected to get some money for them

2 Answer the following questions briefly in your own words as far as possible. Use one complete sentence for each answer.

a How much did the bookseller first offer Fred for the books?

b Why was the last book worth a lot of money?

c How much did the bookseller think that the last book might be worth?

3 Answer these questions, using only short form answer

a Did the bookseller find it easy to sell old books?

a Did the bookseller examine all the books?

c Did Fred expect the last book to be worth a lot of money?

4 Complete the following sentences. Your answer must be related to the ideas contained in the passage. ..

a As he put his parcel down on the counter, Fred asked the bookseller whether

b Fred laid the books out on the counter so that....

c Fred hadn't read the books, although

d Fred but the bookseller couldn't tell him exactly.

e Fred was excited at the thought of

5 Choose the best explanation according to the context.

a for the lot (16) means

(i) for many of them

(ii) for most of them

(iii) for all of them

(iv) for some of them

6 Find words or phrases in the passage which mean much the same as the following.

a at the present time

b grumbling

c became bright

7 Composition Imagine that you were Fred. Describe in not more than 90 words what happened from the time the bookseller first began to examine the books until he told you how much the last look might be worth. Do not include any ideas which are not in the passage. Use your own words as far as possible.

8 Notice this sentence:

Business isn't so good as it used to be.

Here *used* describes a state of affairs which lasted for some time in the past, but has since changed. *Used* is also employed to indicate habits which have been given up.

Here are some more examples of its use:

I don't smoke so much as I used to.

He used to go to work by train. Now he goes by car

Mary *usedn't* (or *never used*) to have such long hair.

Now complete the following sentences by using *used* with the *to* infinitive of a suitable verb chosen from the list given at the foot of the exercise.

a Our neighbour Jackson had a dog which all night

b The bellat the end of every lesson.

c As soon as he was given any money, he ... it.

d That's the cottage where Wordsworth .

e When we were children, Itus an hour to walk home from school.

f On summer evenings we in the garden after dinner.

g He eats too much. He*so fat.

h I..... reading the letters you wrote me while you were abroad.

i Eggs are expensive now, but I can remember when they

j The book Fred sold His grandfather.

bark enjoy sit

be live spend

belong to ring take

cost

* Use the negative form.

14

The clock struck a quarter past nine as Mary hurried into the big block of offices where she was going to work. Her bus had crawled through the dense city traffic, making her a few minutes late for her very first job. She resolved to leave home earlier the next day.

Inside the building she had to wait once again, this time for the lift to take her up to the sixth floor. When at last she reached the door marked "J. King, Manager", she knocked rather nervously and waited. There was no answer. She tapped on the door again, but still there was no reply: From inside the next office she could hear the sound of voices, so she opened the door and went in.

Although it was without doubt the same office she had been shown into when she had come for an interview with Mr King two weeks before, on that morning it looked quite different. In fact it hardly looked like an office at all. All the employees were standing about, chatting and smoking. At the far end of the room a man must have just told a very funny story, for there was a

loud burst of laughter just as Mary came in. For a moment she thought that they were laughing at her.

Then one of the men looked at his watch, clapped his hands and said something to the others. Immediately they all went to their desks and, in the space of a few seconds, everyone was working busily. No one took any notice of Mary at all. At last she went up to the man who was sitting at the desk nearest the door and explained that this was her first day in the office. Hardly looking up from his work, he told her to take a seat near him and wait for Mr King, who would arrive at any moment. Then Mary realised that the day's work in the office began just before Mr King arrived. Later she found out that he came up every morning from the country on the same train, arriving promptly in the office at 9.35, so that his staff knew precisely when to start work.

I Choose the best answer.

a Mary hardly recognised the office she went into because

- (i) she had been there only once before
- (ii) nobody was doing any work
- (iii) she was still feeling very nervous

(iv) people were making so much noise in the office

2 Answer the following questions briefly, in your own word as far as possible. Use OM complete sentence for each answer.

a How did Mary know that she was late?

b How did Mary get to the sixth floor?

c Whose voices could Mary hear from the next office?

3 Answer these questions, ruing only short form answer.

a Was Mr King in his office when Mary knocked on the door?

b Were the people in the office laughing at Mary?

c Did Mr King bye In the city?

4 Complete the following sentences. Your answer must be related to the ideas contained in the passage.

a Mary resolved to leave home earlier the next day in order to .

b The office Mary was going to work in was on the sixth floor,
so.....

c It hardly looked like an office that morning because .

d One of the men clapped his hands and said: " "

e Mary had to wait for Mr King because .

5 Choose the best explanation according to the context.

a resolved (4) means

(i) found a solution

(ii) thought about

(iii) agreed

(iv) was determined

6 Find words or phrases in the passage which mean much the same as the following.

a went very slowly

b paid any attention to

c exactly

7 Composition Imagine that you were Mary. Describe in not more than 90 words what you did and saw from the time you entered the office until the man told you to sit down. Do not include any Ideas which are not in the passage. Use your own words as far as possible.

8 Notice this sentence:

A man must have just told a very funny story, for there was a loud burst of laughter.

Must + a perfect infinitive is used to indicate a very probable conclusion drawn from a certain situation. In this case, it is probable, almost certain, that the man had told a very funny story because everyone laughed.

Now complete these sentences by using must + the perfect infinitive of the verb given in brackets.

a The streets are wet. It (rain) in the night.

b I didn't hear anything. I (be) asleep.

c Mary got the job. She(make) a good impression.

d John promised to telephone. I wonder why he hasn't. He .

e Someone(leave) the cage door open. The bird has got out.

I That's a lovely dress you're wearing. It ...(cost) a lot of money.

g Mr King is late this-morning. He (miss) the train.

h You look pleased. You (have) some good news.

i I know how this book ends. I (read) It before.

j You (make) a mistake. Mr Brown doesn't live in this house.

15

It was dark in the attic, as Miss Manning had warned him. Weston found the small window in the roof and forced it open, thus letting in more light. He could just make out the boxes which Miss Manning had told him about.

"When my father died," Miss Manning had said, "his large library was sold up. His papers, and some other possessions of no great value, were stored in boxes and put up in the attic. They've been there ever since. I don't suppose the room has been opened for over ten years."

"What about his diaries?" asked Weston. "In one of his letters to a friend, Colonel Manning mentions that he kept a diary!"

"I don't remember seeing any diaries," said Miss Manning, with a puzzled look on her face. "Of course, he may have destroyed them before his last illness. Otherwise they must be in those boxes in the attic."

"I see," murmured Weston, n at case, will you allow me to examine those boxes? If I can find the diaries, I'll be able to write a much more complete account of your father's life."

"Certainly you may," said Miss Manning. "You can't imagine how thrilled I am that anyone- should want to write a book about father. I would have taken more care of his papers if! had known."

After searching through a number of drawers, Miss Manning found the key to the attic.

"You won't find it easy to see up there," she said as she handed him the key. "There's a small window in the roof, but I expect that it will be too dirty to see through."

There were about a dozen boxes in all. Weston did not know where to begin. He opened first one, then the other, but found nothing that looked like diaries. Then he decided to try the largest box. It was full of papers. As he turned these over, a bundle of exercise books, tied together with string, caught his eye. On the cover of the top one were written the words "DIARY, 1935-36".

Choose the best answer.

a Weston wanted to find Colonel Manning's diaries because

- (i) he was interested in the colonel's private life
- (ii) they were mentioned in one of the colonel's letters
- (iii) he thought that the colonel's daughter was not taking enough care of her father's papers
- (iv) he wanted to write as complete as possible an account of the colonel's life

2 Answer the following questions briefly, in your own words as far as possible. Use one complete sentence for each answer.

- a Why was it dark 10 the awe?
- b When were the boxes put up in the attic?
- c Who was Weston?

3 Answer these questions, using only short form answer.

- a Were Colonel Manning's books also put up in the attic.
- b Did Miss Manning give Weston permission to look m the boxes?
- c Did Miss Manning find the key to the attic quickly?

4 Complete the following sentences. Your answers must be related to the ideas contained in the passage.

a There was more light in the attic after

b Miss Manning looked puzzled when Weston .

c Miss Manning thought that before his last illness.

d Weston wanted to find the diaries in order to

e When Weston opened the largest box, he found that .

5 Choose the best explanation according to the context.

a murmured (16) means

(i) grumbled

(ii) said in a low voice

(iii) muttered

(iv) admitted

6 Find words or phrases in the passage which means much the same as the following.

a see the difficulty

b not worth very much

c attracted his attention

7 Composition Imagine that you were Miss Manning. Write letter of about 100 words to your sister, telling her about Weston's visit and how he discovered the diaries. Include appropriate details from the passage. Use your own words as far as possible.

8 Notice this sentence:

He may have destroyed them before his last illness.

May + a perfect infinitive is used to indicate a possibility, usually in the past, about which we are uncertain. In this case, Miss Manning is not sure whether her father destroyed the diaries or not.

Now complete the following sentences by using may + the perfect infinitive of the verb given in brackets.

a I (tell) you this story before. Stop me if I have.

b If the book isn't on the shelf, someone (barrow) it.

c The man who lives in that house is an artist by the name of Long.

You (hear) of him.

d Let's go out in about half an hour's time. The rain (stop) by then.

e I can't remember what happened to the picture. It (give away *).

f She seemed to be speaking the truth but, for all I know, she (tell) me a lie.

g After that we don't know what Brown did. He (stay) at home, as he says, or he (go out).

h Then I heard something moving under the bed. Of course it (be) only a mouse.

i If he isn't on this train, he (decide) not to come after all.

i The man (call*) Robinson. I really don't remember.

* Use the Passive form.

21 Beacon Road,

Selmore,

April 7th, 1963.

Dear Mr Fenton,

On May 1St we are planning to hold a dinner to celebrate the fifth anniversary of the Selmore Literary Society and I have been asked by our committee to invite you to be the guest of honour on this occasion. Since you came to live in our town last year, you have always shown a great deal of interest in our activities and you are without doubt our most popular speaker. We shall all be delighted as well as highly honoured if you can once again find the time to spend an evening in our company. I will send you further details as soon as I hear from you. I hope you will be able to accept this invitation.

Yours sincerely,

J. N. Edwards.

Honorary Secretary,

Selmore Literary Society.

Scott Villa,
Selmore
April 12th, 1963

Dear Mr Edwards,

Thank you for your letter of April 7th, which I am answering on behalf of my husband. Apparently you have not heard that about a month ago my husband was taken seriously ill, as a result of overwork. Although he is now much better, the doctor has ordered him to take a complete rest for at least three months. As a matter of fact we are leaving for the Continent as soon as he is fit to travel and it is unlikely that we shall return to England before the end of July.

In view of this I regret that my husband is unable to accept this kind invitation to the dinner which your society is holding on May 1st, He has asked me, however, to send his very best wishes for the success of the occasion and says that he hopes to be with you again in the autumn.

Yours sincerely
Lydia Fenton.

I Choose the best Answer.

a Mrs Fenton refused the invitation on behalf of her husband because

(i) he was seriously ill

(ii) he was recovering from a serious illness

(iii) he was going to have a holiday abroad

(iv) the doctor had ordered him to stay in bed for three months

2 Answer the following questions briefly, in your own words as far as possible. Use one complete sentence for each answer.

a When was the Selmore Literary Society founded?

b Why was Mr Fenton asked to be the guest of honour?

c How long had Mr Fenton been ill?

3 Answer these questions, using only short form answers.

a Had Mr Fenton lived in Selmore for a long time?

b Had MJ: Fenton attended previous meetings of the Selmore Literary Society?

c Were the Fentons intending to stay in England that summer?

4 Complete the following sentences. Your answer must be related to the ideas contained in the passage.

a The Selmore Literary Society was planning to have a dinner on May 1st because.....

b Mr Edwards promised to send further details of the dinner as soon as.....

c Mrs Fenton answered Mr Edward's letter on behalf of her husband because

d "Your husband, " the doctor told Mrs Fenton.

e If Mr Fenton had not been taken ill, he

5 Choose the best explanation according to the context.

a fit (28) means

(i) suitable

(ii) ready

(iii) good enough

(iv) well enough

6 Find words or phrases in the passage Which mean much the same as the following.

a lilted by everyone

b greatly

c it seems (that)

7 Composition Imagine that you were Mr Edwards. Write a letter of about 75 words conveying to Mrs Fenton your sympathy on learning of her husband's illness.

8 Notice these sentences:

I hope you will be able to accept this invitation.

I regret that my husband is unable to accept....

There are a number of verbs in English, such as see, hear, like, Know, understand, remember, believe, etc., which are rarely found in the continuous forms. These verbs denote a variety of actions or states which for the most part are involuntary.

Here are some more examples:

I like Mary's new dress.

John doesn't understand what you are saying. They want to stay at home.

Other common verbs used in this way are: seem, look (= seem), belong to, contain, matter, mean.

Now complete the following sentences by using the correct form of the verb, Simple Present or Present Continuous.

a I (know) I have seen this film, but I (not, remember) what it is about.

b I (think) she (wash) her hair.

c you (know) what this word (mean)?

d I (see) you are busy. What you (do)?

e That policeman (look) as if he (want) us to stop.

f I (think) someone (know) on the door.

g That coat she (wear) today (belong to) her sister.

h I(hope) those children(know) how to swim.

i anyone (know) what this envelope (contain)?

j It (not, matter) if they (not, like) it.

A small crowd had gathered round the entrance to the park. His curiosity aroused, Robert crossed the road to see what was happening. He found that the centre of attraction was an old man with a performing monkey. The monkey's tricks, he soon discovered, were in no way remarkable so, after throwing a few pennies in the dirty hat which the man had placed on the pavement, Robert' began to move off, along with other members 'of the crowd.

At this point the .man suddenly let out a loud cry. Everyone turned to see what had happened. The man was bending over his monkey, which now lay quite still on the pavement. He picked up the apparently lifeless body and, holding it close to him, began to weep. A young man stepped forward from the crowd and, taking some money from his pocket, dropped it into the hat. Robert and several other people did likewise, until the pennies in the hat were covered with silver coins. Meanwhile, the man continued to hold the dead monkey in his arms and seemed to take no notice of what was going on about him.

A few months later, Robert came across the old man again in another part of the city. The man had a monkey, bought no doubt with the money which the crowd had given him. It did not, however, seem any better at its tricks than the previous one. Robert was pleased to see that the old man was still able to earn a living, though on this occasion, having partly paid for the monkey out of his own pocket, he did not feel inclined to throw any money into the hat.

But the performance was not yet over! Once again the old man let out a loud cry. Once again the monkey lay still on the pavement. The man picked up the "dead" monkey and clutching it in his arms began to weep. The same young man stepped forward and threw some money into the hat. Again the crowd followed suit-except for Robert. Smiling to himself, he went on his way, amazed at the man's audacity.

I Choose the best answer.

a Robert did not throw any money into the hat the second time because

- (i) there was enough money in it already
- (ii) he had seen the monkey's tricks before
- (iii) the monkey's tricks were not very good

(iv) he knew that the monkey was not really dead

2 Answer the following questions briefly, in your own words as far as possible. Use one complete sentence for each answer.

a What was the crowd round the entrance to the park doing?

b Why did the crowd soon begin to move off?

c What was the old man doing while the crowd threw money into his hat?

3 Answer these questions, using only short form answer.

a Did the people throw a lot of money into the hat when they thought that the monkey was dead?

b Was there much money in the hat already?

c Did the old man thank the crowd for throwing money into his hat?

4 Complete the following sentences. Your answer must be related to the ideas contained in the passage.

a for people to throw money into.

b The old man let out a loud cry in order to .

c It was a young man who first and Then Robert and the others did likewise.

d Robert thought that with the money which the crowd had given him.

e. Robert didn't think that the tricks of the new monkey.

5 Choose the best explanation according to the context.

a likewise (14) means

(i) the sensible thing

(ii) the same thing

(iii) willingly

(iv) more or less the same

6 Find words or phrases in the passage which mean much the same as the following.

a excited

b without moving

c holding very tight

7 Composition Imagine that you were Robert. Write a letter of about 100 words to a friend, explaining the trick which the old man played on the crowd. Use your own words as far as possible.

8 Notice this sentence:

The man continued to hold the dead monkey in his arms.

In this pattern the verb is followed by the to-infinitive. Here are two more examples:

Does she want to go to bed early?

They were trying hard not to laugh.

Compare this with the pattern where the verb is followed by a gerund (see Exercise 7 on page 10):

The children enjoy playing in the park.

Now complete the following sentences by choosing a suitable verb from the list given at the foot of the exercise.

a Don't forget the light before you go to bed.

b The door was locked, so he tried the house through the window.

c The man refused the policeman his name and address.

d You promised to buy a newspaper when you went out shopping.

e Mary wants either a nurse or a secretary when she leaves school.

f When I spoke to him in English, he pretended what I was saying.

g Tom hopes writing his letters by four o'clock.

h Even when I have a lot of work to do, you never offer me.

I In the end they decided by sea.

j I meant you to the party, but I forgot.

become

help

tell

buy

invite

travels

finish

switch off

understand*

get into

* Use the negative form.

18

"Now, sir," said Inspector Robinson, drawing a chair up close to the injured man's bed and sitting down, "I hope you feel well enough to answer a few questions."

"Yes, of course," said Topham. He sat up in bed. The nurse placed another pillow behind his head and left the room.

"First of all," said the inspector, opening his notebook, "we have to establish your identity."

Topham looked astonished. "My identity? Don't you even know who I am? How long have I been lying in hospital?"

"Three days," the inspector told him. "But we found no papers on you at all. Whoever attacked you also stole your wallet."

"But what about my car?" asked Topham. "Surely you could have found out my identity from that?"

"Your car was stolen, too," the inspector explained patiently.

"So, you see, we've been completely in the dark. You were discovered on Tuesday night lying unconscious in the car park of the Sun Inn, where you had stopped for dinner that evening.

That is all we know about you. Anyway, perhaps now you can give us the information we require."

Topham told the inspector his name and address.

"You're not married, are you, sir?" the inspector asked.

"I'm a widower," Topham said. "I've lived alone ever since my wife died three years ago. This year, as always, I went to spend my holidays by the sea. I decided to come back early because of the bad weather. On my way back to London I stopped at the Sun Inn for dinner "

The inspector nodded and waited for Topham to go on.

"It was raining pretty hard when I came out of the hotel, I dashed towards the car park, where I had left my car. I had just unlocked the door and was getting in when a man stepped out of the shadows and asked me for a lift to London. Before I had time to reply, he attacked me. After that I can remember nothing until I woke up in hospital."

1 Choose the best answer.

a The inspector did not know who Topham was because

(i) they had not caught the man who attacked him

(ii) his car had been stolen

(iii) both his wallet and his car had been stolen

(iv) he had been unconscious

2 Answer the following questions briefly, in your own words as far as possible. Use one complete sentence for each answer.

a Why did Topham look astonished?

b Where was Topham attacked?

c What was Topham doing when he was attacked?

3 Answer these questions, using only short form answers.

a Was Topham willing to answer the inspector's questions?

b Was the nurse present while the inspector questioned Topham?

c Was Topham's wife still alive?

4 Complete the following sentences. Your answer must be related to the ideas contained in the passage.

a Inspector Robinson sat down on the chair which he

- b Topham was sitting up in bed, so the nurse .
- c If Topham's car had not been stolen, the police
- d Topham dashed towards the car park because .
- e ?" asked the man, as he stepped out of the shadows.

5 Choose the best explanation according to the context.

a in the dark (IS) means

(i) at night

(ii) obscure

(iii) hidden

(iv) not knowing anything

6 Find words or phrases in the passage which mean much the same as the following.

a bringing near to

b make certain who a person is

c hurried

7 Composition Imagine that you were Inspector Robinson. Write a short report of about 90 words of what Topham told you. Give Topham's full name and address in your report but otherwise do not include anything which is not in the passage. Use your own words as far as possible.

8 Notice these sentences:

I've lived alone ever since my wife died. For the last ten days I've been on holiday.

Since is used to indicate the point of time at which the action or event began. .

{ last week

I have known him since {April

{I came to live in this town.

For is used to indicate the period of time over which an action or event has lasted.

{ten minutes.

She has been waiting for {about half an hour.

{more than a week.

Now write each of the following sentences twice, using either for or since with the expressions of time given in brackets.

a The inspector has been in Topham's room (about an hour) (the nurse came out).

b That man has been standing at the comer (two o'clock) (ages).

c They've been married (last Easter) (Just eight years).

d It hasn't stopped raining (over twelve hours) (last night).

e We've been at sea now (three weeks) (August 15th).

j I've been reading War and Peace (Christmas) (the last two months).

g Mr Brown hasn't spoken to his next door neighbour .

(twenty years) (1945).

h John has been working in this office..... (he left school) (nearly eighteen months).

i No one has lived in this house (1865) (about a century).

i The postman hasn't brought a letter (last week) (the last week).

19

We first became aware that something unusual was happening when one of the ship's officers came up to the Chief Engineer, who sat at our table, and spoke to him in a low voice. The Chief Engineer at once stood up and with a brief excuse, which told us nothing, left the dining-room. At first we thought that there had been an accident or that a fire had broken out on board ship, but soon the word went round that a man had been seen floating in the sea. Then we noticed that the ship had slowed down and was beginning to turn round, with rather a violent motion. Some of the passengers did not wait to finish their meal, but at once rushed up on deck. Others crowded round the portholes, making it impossible for us to eat in comfort. There was such confusion in the dining-room that we decided to join those who had gone up on deck.

There we learnt that one of the crew had seen a man in the sea some distance from the ship. He had informed the captain, who at once ordered the ship to be turned round. We were now only two hundred yards or so from the man, and a lifeboat had already been lowered into the sea. In it there were four sailors,

who were sitting ready at the oars, an officer and the ship's doctor. The officer shouted an order and the sailors began to row away from the ship. By looking in the same direction as the boat was going, we were able to make out the position of the man in the water. He was clinging to a large piece of wood.

At last, after what seemed to us an age, the lifeboat reached the man and two of the sailors pulled him on board. This was not at all easy, for the sea was rather rough. Then the sailors began to row back to the ship again. The lifeboat was raised out of the water and the rescued man, wrapped in a blanket, was helped out on to the deck. Leaning on the arm of the ship's doctor, but still able to walk in spite of his terrible experience, he was led off to the ship's hospital. As he passed along the deck, everyone cheered loudly.

I Choose the best answer.

a The people at the writer's table decided to leave the dining-room because

- (i) the ship was turning round rather violently
- (ii) the Chief Engineer had already left
- (iii) a man had been seen floating in the sea.

(iv) they could not continue their meal in peace

2 Answer the following questions briefly, in your own words as far as possible. Use one complete sentence for each answer.

a Why did some of the passengers crowd round the portholes? .

b How were the people on deck able to make out where the man in the water was?

c How did the man in the water manage to keep afloat?

3 Answer these questions, using only short form answers.

a Could the writer and his friends hear what the officer said to the Chief Engineer?

b Had the lifeboat already been lowered into the sea by the time the writer and his friends came up on deck?

c Was the rescued man carried to ship's hospital?

4 Complete the following sentences. Your answers must be related to the ideas contained in the passage.

a Some of the passengers rushed up on deck before .

- b The writer and his friends left their table because .
- c The captain ordered the ship to be turned round so that .
- d The sailors in the lifeboat began to row as soon as .
- e The sea was rather rough, so .

5 Choose the best explanation according to the context. a became aware (I) means

- (i) were frightened
- (ii) knew
- (iii) imagined
- (iv) decided

6 Find words or phrases in the passage which mean much the same as the following.

- a people began to tell one another
- b disorder
- c a long time

7 Composition Imagine that you were a man in the sea. Describe in not more than 100 words what happened from the time you saw the ship begin to slow down until you were taken on board. Do not include any ideas which are not in the passage. Use your own words as far as possible.

8 In the passage there are several examples of the use of the Passive.

Study these and then complete the following sentences by putting the verb in brackets into an appropriate tense in the Passive.

a The man who (rescue) had been in the sea for ten hours.

b It always rains when the windows just (clean).

c The last time he (see) he was wearing a grey suit.

d I'm sure the letter won't arrive in time unless it (send) by air.

e It won't be safe to use these stairs until they (repair).

f Make sure the door (lock) before you go to bed.

g You (stop) by a policeman if you try to cross the road now.

h They wouldn't have got ill if the water..... (boil).

i The grass looks as if it (not, cut) for years.

j His book fell into the river and (lose) for ever.

20

I left my friend's house shortly after seven. It was still too early for me to have my evening meal, so I walked along the seafront for about an hour until I began to feel hungry. By that time I was not far from a favourite restaurant of mine, where I often went to eat two or three times a week. I knew the owner well and frequently complimented him on his excellent cooking.

I went into the restaurant, which was already crowded, and ordered my meal. While I was waiting for the soup to arrive, I looked around to see if I knew anyone in the restaurant. It was then that I noticed that a man sitting at a corner table near the door kept glancing in my direction, as if he knew me. I certainly did not know him, for I never forget a face. The man had a newspaper open in front of him, which he was pretending to read, though all the while I could see that he was keeping an eye on me. When the waiter brought my soup, the man was clearly puzzled by the familiar, way in which the waiter and I addressed each other. He became even more puzzled as time went on and it grew more and more obvious that I was well known in the restaurant. Eventually he got up and went into the kitchen. After

a few minutes he came out again, paid his bill and left without another glance in my direction.

When I had finished and was about to Pay my bill, I called the owner of the restaurant over and asked him what the man had wanted. The owner was a little embarrassed by my question and at first did not want to tell me. I insisted. "Well," he said, "that man was a detective," "Really?" I said, considerably surprised. "He was certainly very interested in me. But why?" "He followed you here because he thought you were a man he was looking for," the owner of the restaurant said. "When he came into the kitchen, he showed me a photograph of the wanted man. He certainly looked like you! Of course, since we know you here, I was able to convince him that he had made a mistake," "It's lucky I came to a restaurant where I am known," I said, "otherwise I might have been arrested!"

I Choose the best answer.

a The man at the corner table kept looking at the writer because

(i) he was bored with reading his newspaper

(ii) he thought that the writer was someone wanted by the police

(iii) he was afraid that the writer might run away

(iv) he thought he recognised the writer

2 Answer the following question briefly, in your own words as far as possible. Use one complete sentence for each answer.

a At what time did the writer go to the restaurant?

b What was the food at the restaurant like?

c Why was the writer sure that he did not know the man at the corner table?

3 Answer these questions, using only short form answer.

a Did the detective look at the Writer after he came out of the kitchen?

b Had the writer already paid his bill when he called the owner of the restaurant over?

c Was the detective following the wrong man?

4 Complete the following sentences. Your answer must be related to the ideas contained in the passage.

a The writer walked along the seafront for about an hour because ...

b The detective was puzzled by the fact that .

c The writer insisted that the restaurant owner should tell him .

d The detective , which he showed to the owner of the restaurant.

e The detective didn't arrest the writer because .

5 Choose the best explanation according to the context.

a keeping an eye on (14) means

(i) watching

(ii) looking at

(iii) glancing at

(iv) looking in the direction of

6 Find words or phrases in the passage which mean much the same as the following.

a expressed approval of

b in the end

c make someone believe

7 Composition Imagine that you were the detective. Describe in not more than 90 words what happened from the-time you followed the man into the restaurant until you paid your bill and left. Do not include any ideas which are not in the passage. Use your own words as far as possible.

8 Notice this sentence:

He had a newspaper open in front of him.

In this pattern-verb + direct object + adjective-the adjective is used predicatively and follows the object of the verb. Used in this way, the adjective frequently denotes a state which has been caused by the verbal action.

She opened the cage door and set the bird free.

Now complete the following sentences with an appropriate verb + adjective from the list given at the foot of the exercise.

a He spoke slowly and emphatically in order to himself .

b When I opened my suitcase, I it I'd been robbed!

c Don't your eyes by reading too late.

d Three spoonfuls of sugar? you your tea !

e Why did they the door ? I liked the old colour.

I You'll yourself if you eat all those sweets.

g She has six blankets on her bed in winter, but she still can't
..... herself .

h We've used plenty of soap and hot water, but we still haven't
managed to the carpet

i You may have to the drawerI think I've lost the key.

j When the dentist tells me to my mouth, I always my eyes
..... as well!

break ...open make..... clear paint ...red

findempty make ...sick shuttight

keepwarm make ...tired washclean

likesweet openwide

21

One summer evening I was sitting by the open window, reading a good but rather frightening mystery story. After a time it became too dark for me to read easily, so I put my book down and got up to switch on the light, I was Just about to draw the curtains as well when I heard a loud cry of "Help! Help!" It seemed to come from the trees at the end of the garden. I looked out but it was now too dark to see anything clearly. Almost immediately I heard the cry again. It sounded like a child, although I could not imagine how anybody could need help in our garden, unless one of the boys of the neighbourhood had climbed a tree and could not get down.

I decided, however, that I ought to go out and have a look in the garden, just in case someone was in trouble. I took the torch which we keep for going down into the cellar, where there is no electric light, and picked up a strong walking stick, thinking that this might come m useful, too. Armed with these, I went out into the garden. Once again I heard the cry. There was no doubt that it came from the trees at the end of the garden. "Who's there?" I called out as I walked, rather nervously, down the path that led to the trees. But there was no answer. With the help of my torch

I examined the whole of that part of the garden and the lower branches of the trees. There was no sign of anybody or anything. I came to the conclusion that someone was playing a rather silly joke on me.

Still feeling rather puzzled, I went back to the house and put away the torch and the stick. I had just sat down and begun to read my book again when I was startled by the cry of "Help! Help!", this time from right behind my shoulder. I dropped my book and jumped up. There, sitting on top of the mantelpiece, was a large green and red bird. It was a parrot! While I was out in the garden, the bird must have seen the light in my room and flown in through the open window.

I Give the phases or sentences in the passage which indicate the following.

- a The writer did not draw the curtains.
- b The writer had some idea of where the cry of "Help!" came from.
- c The writer used the torch which he took with him into the garden.
- d The writer did not find anyone in the garden.

e The parrot cried "Help!" soon after the writer came back to his room.

2 Answer the following questions briefly, in your own words as far as possible. Use one complete sentence for each, answer.

a Why did the writer go out into the garden ?

b What did the writer arm himself with before he went out?

c Why did the writer think that someone was playing a rather silly joke on him? ,

d How many times did the writer hear the cry of "Help! Help!"?

3 Complete the following sentences. Your answer must be related to the ideas contained in the passage.

a The writer switched on the light because .

b The writer thought: "Perhaps one of the boys of the neighbour-hood"

c The writer kept a torch in the house in case , where .

d No sooner than he was startled by the cry of "Help ! Help!"

e If the curtains had been drawn, the parrot....

4 Explain the meaning of the following words and phrases as they are used in the passage: neighbourhood (10); in trouble (12); called out (18); examined (20); puzzled (24); startled (26).

5 Composition Imagine that you were a friend of the writer of this passage. Write one paragraph, of 120 words, to form part of a longer letter written to a friend, in which you relate the episode of the parrot. Begin your paragraph: "By the way, I must tell you about a very funny thing that happened to a friend of mine the other day." Do not include any ideas which are not in the passage. Use your own words as far as possible.

6 Notice this sentence:

It became too dark for me to read.

This pattern is made up of too + adjective or adverb + for + (pro)noun + to-infinitive. The infinitive expresses consequence.

Here is another example:

He ran too fast for us to catch him.

Now combine the following pairs of sentences to form one sentence. Follow this model:

The window was very small. He could not get through it.

The window was too small for him to get through. (Notice that it is omitted.)

a The suitcase was very heavy. She couldn't carry it.

b These shoes are very small. I can't wear them.

c The sea was very rough. We couldn't go swimming.

d That ice looks very thin. You can't walk on it.

e He was speaking very quickly. We couldn't catch what he said.

f The postman came very late. We didn't get our letters.

g It's very early. The children can't go to bed yet.

h The soup is very hot. I can't drink it.

i The man was very far away. We couldn't see his face clearly.

j The window was very dirty. No one could see through it.

54 Manville Road,
Muswell Hill,
London, N. IO.
May 25th, 1983.

Dear Mr Ratcliffe,

John Smith is such a common name that I had better remind you where we met. It was at your daughter's wedding last year. Her husband David is a very old mead of mine-in fact, we were at school together-and I came up from London for the occasion. You and I had quite a long chat at the reception and I told you a great deal about my work as a journalist here in London. You said that I should get in touch with you if I ever decided to come back to Durham.

At that time I had every intention of remaining in London, but since then I have changed my mind and I am now very much

inclined to come back to work in my native town. My problem is this: I have been away now for so long (since 1976, in fact) that I have very few contacts in Durham. That is why I am writing to you now. I should really be most grateful if you could put me in touch -with anyone who could help or advise me. But please don't put yourself to a lot of trouble on my behalf. My best wishes to you and your wife.

Yours sincerely,

John Smith.

Haven Villa,

Finch Road,

Durham.

May 29th, 1983.

Dear John,

Of course I haven't forgotten you. I remembered who you were as soon as I saw the signature at the foot of the letter. By a strange coincidence, my wife and I were talking about you only the other day. You see, last week I had lunch with a friend of mine who is the editor of the Durham Weekly Press. He was

rather worried because he is just about to lose one of his top journalists and so far he has not been able to find anyone to replace him. He wants someone with wide experience and preferably someone who was born and brought up here. Believe me-and I am not flattering you-I immediately thought of you. I didn't in fact mention your name at the time because last year you seemed so determined to stay in London. My wife thought that I should write to you, just in case you might be interest, but I still hadn't made up my mind to do so when your letter arrived, I rang my friend up at once and he said he would write to you the next day. You may have already heard from him.

This is really good news. May I say how glad I am that you have decided to come back to Durham? I look forward very much to meeting you again. My wife and I both send our best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

Bill Ratcliffe.

I Give the phrases or sentences in the passage which indicate the following.

a John Smith was not sure that Mr Ratcliffe would remember him.

b John Smith was born in Durham.

c John Smith did not know many people in Durham who could help him.

d There was the possibility of a job for John Smith on the Durham Weekly Press.

e Mr Ratcliffe spoke to his friend about John Smith as soon as he got the letter.

2 Answer the following questions briefly, in your own words as far as possible. Use one complete sentence for each answer.

a Why had John Smith been invited to the wedding of Mr Ratcliffe's daughter ?

b How long had John Smith been working in London?

c What did John Smith ask Mr Ratcliffe to do for him ?

d What kind of journalist was the editor of the Durham Weekly Press looking for?

3 Complete the following sentences. Your answers must be related to the ideas contained in the passage.

a "Get in touch with me," Mr Ratcliffe told John Smith, "if "

b John Smith asked Mr Ratcliffe on his behalf.

c Mr Ratcliffe thought that John wanted to stay in London, so....

d As soon as John's letter arrived,

e "..... ," the editor said, when Mr Ratcliffe rang him up.

4 Explain the meaning of the following words and phrases as they are used in the passage: problem (16); on my behalf (21); top (35); wide (37); brought up (37-38); flattering (38).

5 Composition Imagine that you were the editor of the Durham Weekly Press. Write a brief letter of not more than 100 words to John Smith, mentioning' how you had heard his name and inviting him to come to Durham for an interview.

6 Notice this sentence:

John Smith is such a common name that I had better remind you The clause of result is introduced by that, though this is

often omitted in spoken English. With an adverb, or when the adjective stands alone, so is used instead of such:

The name of John Smith is so common that

Now combine the following pairs of sentences to form a clause of result, following these models: .

It was a wet day. He could not go out.

It was such a wet day (that) he could not go out:

I was tired. I could not walk any further.

I was so tired (that) I could not walk any further.

a The book was dull. Tom couldn't finish it.

b It's a difficult examination. Hardly anyone passes it.

c This is good soup. I think I'll have some more.

d He looked ill. It was hard to recognise him.

e It was a foggy evening. We decided to stay indoors.

f These flowers are cheap. I think I'll buy some more.

g The road is bad. Hardly anyone uses it nowadays.

h He's torn a big hole in his trousers. His mother won't be able to mend them.

i Everybody was quiet. I thought they had all gone to sleep.

j Mary got up late. She nearly missed the train.

After a hasty breakfast in the station restaurant, Peter set about the task of finding a room where he could live for the next few months. He knew exactly what he wanted: a room which was not too small, nor so large that it would be difficult to heat in winter. It had to be clean and comfortable too but, above all, it had to be quiet with a view that did not look directly on to the street. In the newspaper he had brought from the bookstall there were very few advertisements for rooms to let. But, as he glanced down the page, a notice in bold capital letters caught his eye.

BOLTON'S ACCOMMODATION AGENCY

Flats and Rooms to Let

This seemed promising, so he made a note of the address and set off in search of the agency. He found it in a narrow street just off the main road. The woman at the desk gave him a bright smile as he entered and, after he had explained what sort of room he was looking for, gave him for the small fee of two

pounds a list of about half dozen landladies who had rooms to let.

At the first house Peter tried, the landlady, who looked about seventy years old, was so deaf that he had to shout to make her hear.

When at last she understood, she shook her head and told him that she no longer let rooms. At the second house on the list all the rooms were taken. At the third the landlady was not at home. Peter was beginning to feel less hopeful, when he noticed that there was a telephone number after one of the addresses on the list. To save time, therefore, Peter rang up the landlady and enquired if she had a room to let. He was pleasantly relieved to hear that she had one vacant. He hurried round to the house, which stood well back from the road in a pleasant avenue. The room he was shown lay at the back of the house, overlooking a garden full of flowers and bushes. He noted, too, with satisfaction that there was a large table in the room, where he could spread out his books and work in comfort. Furthermore, the rent was moderate. It was just what he was looking for. Without hesitation he told the landlady that he would take the room, paid a week's rent in advance and went back to the station to get his luggage.

I Give the phrases or sentences in the passage which indicate the following a Peter did not want a room at the front of the house.

b He thought that it was worthwhile going to the accommodation agency.

c The agency was quite near the main road.

d Peter had to pay for the list of landlords which he got at the agency.

e There were no rooms vacant at the second house on Peter's list.

2 Answer the following questions briefly, in your own words as far as possible. Use one complete sentence for each answer.

a At what time of day did Peter begin looking for his room?

b Why did the notice in the newspaper catch his eye?

c What made Peter begin to lose hope ?

d Why did Peter take the room at the last house without hesitation?

3 Complete the following sentences. Your answer must be related to the ideas contained in the passage.

a Peter had to pay five shillings for .

b It was only by shouting that Peter .

c Peter saved time by .

d When Peter was shown the room, he was pleased to see that .

e Peter left his luggage at the station while .

4 Explain the meaning of the following words and phrases as they are" used in the passage: above all (5); glanced (8); caught his eye (9); well back (28); overlooking (29); moderate (32).

5 Composition Imagine that you were Peter. Describe in not more than 100 words what you did from the time you saw the notice in the newspaper until you reached the fourth house. Do not include any ideas which are not in the passage. Use your own words as far as possible.

6 Notice in these sentences that the defining relative pronoun, the object of the verb, has been omitted:

In the newspaper [that] Peter had bought

At the first house [that] Peter tried

Compare this with Exercise 6.

Now complete the following sentences to form one sentence, omitting the relative pronoun as in the models above. The key word around which the sentence can be built is given for you.

a I bought some red wine. It tasted like ink.

The red wine .

b He made a promise. He didn't keep it.

..... the promise .

c You heard a noise. It must have been the wind.

The noise .

d I waved to a man just now. He's my bank manager.

The man

e We saw an actor on TV last night. What's his name?

....of the actor

f You lent me I pen. I'm afraid I've lost it.

..... the pen

g He tells jokes. We don't like them.

..... the jokes

h You wrote a letter. It never arrived.

The letter

i John sent Mary some flowers. She liked them.

..... the flowers

j She met a man at a dance. She fell in love with him.

..... a man

Suggested readings:

1 – Donn Byrne (2003) : " Intermediate comprehension passages " , Longman .

٢ –Alexander L . G . (١٩٧٠) : " A new approach to summary writing for overseas students " , Longman