


A

Reading Comprehension

CHALLENGES



Are you ready?

The Day I Rescued Albert Einstein's Compass.

Part 1

If you are lucky, something special will happen to you in your life that you will never forget. Something so special, you know it could have happened only to you. For me, it was the day I rescued Albert Einstein's compass.

It was Sunday morning. As I came downstairs I heard someone playing the violin. The living room doors were slightly ajar. My mother and father were waiting for me. My father said to me, "Do you remember, Theo, about five years ago, when you were seven years old and you met our dear friend, Herr Professor Einstein? I told you then that he was the most famous man alive.

"Yes, I do, Papa," I said. "And I asked you why he was the most famous man alive, and you said because he is a great physicist who has made important discoveries." I looked at my father. "Is he here, Papa?"

My father nodded. "Yes, he is here. He is playing the violin."

Suddenly the door to the living room flew open, and a deep voice said with a chuckle, "The last time I was here, your father assured you that I did not bite. And as your father and I have been close friends for many years, he knows that I still do not bite." And he chuckled even louder.

I looked up. There was the thick, black moustache and the large head with grey-black hair bushing out all around. There were the eyes, dark and merry. He hadn't changed, although he seemed much less formidable than he had five years ago. Perhaps because I am older now.

Herr Einstein laid his violin at the side of the piano. "Now, young man, let us get immediately to business. Your parents tell me that you have a sailboat. I, too, have loved sailing all my life. Will you take me out in your boat? It is a most wonderful day."

I looked at my parents. Take the most famous man alive sailing in my sailboat! My neck and cheeks felt hot. My mother looked very pleased. "Our guest is an experienced sailor, and so are you. It would be lovely for the two of you go out on the lake. It will be something you will always remember." she said.

And the most famous man alive put his hand on my shoulder. "Then let us be off."

End of Part 1

ajar

- a door that is slightly open

chuckle

- to laugh quietly

formidable

- causing you to have fear or respect for someone or something

How well did you understand?


1. Why was the day lucky for the writer?

2. Why was Einstein famous at that time?

3. 'He had not changed'. List two physical features of Einstein that remained unchanged.

4. 'Now, young man, let us get immediately to business'. What was the business about?

Find the answers in the next Monday issue



C

Simple things may not always be simple!

Combine each set of simple sentences into one sentence:

1. I saw an old man. This was on my way to school. He was poor. He was also bent down with age. He was standing at the door of a house.. It was near your friend's house. The man asked for alms.


2. A fire broke out in the bazaar. It broke out on Sunday. It broke out at about midnight. It destroyed some seventy sheds. All the belong ings of the sheds were destroyed.

3. A meeting was held in the Town Hall. It discussed matters about school discipline. You were absent from it. I am sorry at this.

4. The sunset. I then went out. My friend accompanied me. We walked on the bank of the river. It flows below the town.

5. He was a short-built lad. He was apparently fifteen or sixteen years of age. He was dark in complexion. He was very handsome in features. He had beautiful white teeth and large dark eyes.

B



Do you remember the rules for writing a summary discussed in the last EIS Page – 22 September 2014?

Now try this!

Here is the story of the famous explorer Captain Scott who was the second man to get to the South Pole (Amunsden was the first). Put the paragraphs in the correct order and then write a summary of it.

a.

The following year, in 1911, he set out on his long journey to the Pole with the other members of the team. Scott had decided to pull the sledges themselves instead of using dogs.

b.

Robert Scott was born in Devonport in 1868.

c.

On the return journey, conditions got very bad and the men suffered terribly from the cold and exhaustion.

d.

To begin with, snowstorms made progress very slow, but eventually conditions improved and they were able to make more rapid progress.

e.

In 1910, he sailed from New Zealand on the "Terra Nova".


f.

Eventually all five members of the team died from the cold and starvation. Scott had written his diary up to the day of his death. The last entry was ' I do not think I can write more. For God's sake look after our people. '

g.

They finally reached the Pole but were dismayed to discover that Amunsden had reached it five weeks before them. Amunsden had used dogs.

D



Check - in

Are you word SMART ?

Complete the following expressions with the idioms from the box:

long-haul flight .departure gate .peak .cabin crew . scheduled flights .food and drink .frustration .irrespective .check-in .charter flight .board .take off .passport control . departure lounge


Every year, it seems, more and more people are going on holiday abroad. This also means, although unpleasant, more and more people are experiencing discomfort and (1) _____ of foreign travel. This often starts at the airport, (2) _____ of which airline you are traveling with.

At least at (3) _____ holiday times, there are bound to be queues at the (4) _____ and then more queues at (5) _____ as you go into (6) _____. Then there is often the misery of delayed flights. These tend to be more common if you are traveling by (7) _____, but they are by no means unknown on (8) _____.

Eventually you get to the (9) _____, (10) _____ the plane, find your seat and fasten your seat belt ready to (11) _____. Members of the (12) _____ will very likely serve you with (13) _____ and, unless you are on a (14) _____, it will seem a relative- ly short time before you land.

E

Change the Voice



Rewrite the following passage in the passive voice:

People generally think that Anjana is extremely good at organization and decision-making. She acquired these skills during her six years as a junior executive at the firm. Her bosses noted her sound decisions and her efficiency. They promoted her to office manager in her seventh year at the firm. She runs the office with clockwork precision. She solves problems quickly and firmly. The rest of the staff respect her because of her fairness, warmth and honesty.

G

ARE YOU READY TO FLY ?

Complete these instructions from a travel agent with words from the box below.

passport control

check in

departure lounge

duty free


boarding card

hand luggage

security check

excess baggage

gate



F

Read the brochure on London and match the information given in column A & B.

LONDON

'When a man is tired of London, he is tired of life.' - Dr Samuel Johnson

LONDON TIMELINE

• 43 AD

When the Romans arrived in Britain, London was already a small town. Under the Romans 'Londinium' became the capital of Roman province of Britannia.

• 886

King Alfred the Great united England. He captured London from the Danes and made it capital of his kingdom.

• 1666

The Fire of London destroyed much of the city. The reconstruction was organized by the architect Christopher Wren who designed St. Paul's Cathedral.

• 1850

By the middle of the nineteenth century, London was the largest city in the world and the most important port. In this period it was famous for its terrible pollution.

• 1939-45

In World War II, London was seriously damaged by German bombing.

• 1980-2000

In the last twenty years, the old port area has been rebuilt. There are now big skyscrapers, and the Millennium Dome, the largest dome in the world, which was finished in 1999. In 2000 it held the millennium exhibition.

Over two hundred years later, Dr Johnson is still right ! London is the place to be, with so many different things to do and places to visit. Here are a FEW !

Royal London

You can visit Buckingham Palace, the Queen's London home and see the changing of the guards at 11a.m. every day. In the Tower of London, you can see the Crown Jewels and visit the place where many famous prisoners lived and died. You can take a boat trip on the Thames to Hampton Court, where Henry VIII lived with five of his six wives. In the gardens of the palace is a famous maze, which is easy to get into but not so easy to get out of!

Rainy Days

London is one of the best places to be on a rainy day (which is quite often!), because of all its museums and galleries. If you like machines, you must go to the Science Museum. Next door you will find the Natural History Museum with its excellent dinosaur exhibition. The British Museum is one of the world's great museums with its excellent collections from ancient Egypt, Greece and Rome. Art-lovers can visit National Gallery, Tate Modern, Tate Britain or the National Portrait Gallery.

Shopping

London attracts shoppers from all over the world for the latest fashions. The main shopping area is in the West End, around Oxford Street. There are also famous street markets at Portobello Road, Camden Lock and Petticoat Lane where you can buy anything from bargain jewellery to expensive antiques.

Going Out

There is always a wide choice of plays to see at London's many theatres in the West End around Covent Garden. There are many clubs with modern music like house or jungle or more traditional music like salsa and samba. Music lovers can also find many places for top quality classical, jazz and pop music.

A

B

1

damaged by bombing

2

Romans arrived in Britain

3

Much of the city was destroyed

4

biggest city in the world (1850)

5

The millennium exhibition was held in

6

Londinium

7

terrible pollution

8

St. Paul's Cathedral

9

King Alfred the Great

10

Skyscrapers dominated London's skyline

a

London was the

b

became the capital of Roman province of Britannia.

c

was designed by Christopher Wren.

d

united England.

e

in 43 AD

f

2000

g

during (1980 – 2000)

h

During (1939 – 45) WW II, London was

i

by 1666 Fire of London

j

England was famous for its

Trisha is going to visit London for the first time. Use the brochure to answer as many of her questions as you can.


1) shopping – interesting street markets ? names of good clubs ? places to visit ?

2) names of important art galleries ? good / cheap places to stay – where ?

3) a boat trip to the Thames ? a museum for ancient civilizations ?

ANSWER KEY TO THE LAST EIS PAGE ACTIVITIES

(DATED SEPTEMBER 22, 2014)



A KEY :

(1) walked (2) knew (3) was (4) played (5) did not (6) went (7) went (8) saw (9) ran (10) shouted (11) did not hear (12) did not look back (13) did not see (14) hit (15) ran (16) pulled (17) came (18) held (19) took (20) gave

B KEY:

(a) comic ... comedy (b) romance ... romantic comedies (c) tragedy (d) musical (e) opera (f) detective (g) thrillers (h) science (i) westerns (j) war (k) horror

C KEY:

(1) at (2) during (3) on (4) After (5) in (6) from (7) to(8) until (9) at (10) for (11) At (12) while (13) Before (14) until (15) since

D KEY:

(1) over (2) across (3) past/around (4) along (5) around (6) under (7) on/ onto(8) on (9) off (10) out of (11) through (12) across (13) into (14) over

E KEY :

(1) wouldn't be surprised (3) shouldn't have let (4) needn't be stocked (5) shouldn't be catering (6) might not succeed


G KEY :

(1) the phrase is "years before" (1) she would not venture traveling alone / she might lose interest in holiday (1) he thought Mrs Anita would prefer other European destinations as usual (1) with the help of a guidebook, you can explore things all by yourself, you don't need a tour operator any more.

H KEY :

(1) check in (2) boarding card (3) security check (4) passport control (5) departure lounge (6) duty free (7) gate (8) excess baggage (9) hand luggage

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