

أستاذ عمار غالب



07808924606

موسوعة القطع الخارجية
150 قطعة لم ترد بالوزاري
مع حلولها



Passage 1

John was ten years old, and he was a very lazy boy. He had to go to school of course, but he was bored there and tried to do as little work as possible. His father and mother were both doctors and they hoped that he would become one, too, when he grew up, but one day John said to his mother, "When I finish, I want to become a garbage collector." "A garbage collector?" his mother asked. She was very surprised. "That's not a very pleasant job. Why do you want to become a garbage collector?" "Because then I'd only have to work one day a week," John answered. "Only one day a week?" his mother said. "What do you mean?" "Well," John answered, "I know that the ones who come to our house only work on Wednesday, because I only see them on that day."

Answer these questions:

1. What kind of boy was John?
2. What did his parents want him to be when he grew up?
3. What did John say he wanted to be?
4. Why did John want this job?
5. How did his mother feel about this?
6. Why did John think that garbage collectors only worked one day a week?
7. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 2

Mr. Smith lived in the country, but he worked in an office in the big city, so five days a week he went to work by train every morning and came home the same way. One morning he was reading his newspaper on the train when a man sitting behind him, who Mr. Smith had never met before, leaned forward, tapped him on the shoulder and spoke to him. The man said, "You're not leading a very interesting life, are you? You get on the same train at the same station at the same time every morning, and you always sit in the same seat and read the same newspaper." Mr. Smith put his paper down, turned around, and said to the man angrily, "How do you know all that about me?" "Because I'm always sitting in this seat behind you," the man answered.

Answer these questions:

1. How did Mr. Smith go to and from his office every day?
2. What happened to him on the train one morning?
3. What was he doing when this happened?
4. The man sitting behind him had never seen Mr. Smith before. (True / False)
5. Why did the man know so much about him?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 3

Lisa was an attractive young woman, and she always combed her hair neatly and wore pretty clothes. She worked in a small town and earned enough money to take a vacation in the mountains during the summer. The first time that Lisa went there, she discovered that she hadn't brought enough money. At first she was worried, but then she remembered that she had brought her checkbook with her and went to the bank to cash a check. The bank teller had never seen Lisa before, but he knew that a lot of people were stealing checkbooks and using them, so he said to her, "Can you identify yourself, please?" Lisa had never been asked to do this in her home town, so she looked puzzled for a moment; but then she took her mirror out of her handbag, looked at it, and then said happily, "Yes, it is me."

Answer these questions:

1. Where did Lisa go for her vacation?
2. Why did she have to go to the bank during her vacation?
3. What did the bank teller ask her?
4. What did Lisa feel about the bank teller's question?
5. How did Lisa identify herself?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 4

A large store was having its spring sale on shoes and boots. It was the first day of the sale, and the shoe department was full of women who were eagerly trying to buy them. There were all kinds of shoes and boots in a variety of colors, and the prices had been reduced a lot, because the store wanted to get rid of as many as possible in order to make room for their new stock. The cashiers were kept busy, and at one moment a woman came to one of them with her money in her hand and said, "I don't need a bag, thank you. I'm wearing the shoes I bought." She pointed to them on her feet. "Would you like a bag to put your aid shoes in then?" the cashier asked politely as she took the woman's money. "No, thank you," the woman answered quickly, "I've just sold those to someone else."

Answer these questions:

1. What were on sale in the large store that week?
2. Why were they being sold cheaply?
3. Was the sale successful?
4. Why didn't the woman need a bag?
5. Why were women eagerly trying to buy at the large store?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 5

Fred had a very rusty old car, but his father said that he had to sell it before he would buy him a new one. "You have to learn the value of money, Fred," his father said. "It doesn't grow on trees, you know. You should learn to be a good businessman." But nobody seemed to want to buy the car from Fred. He put a "For Sale" sign in the back window of the car, and he put another sign on the bulletin board in his college dormitory, but nothing happened. Then one day he was driving to another town, and stopped at the entrance to a toll booth where he had to pay before being allowed to use the road. The attendant said, "Two dollars and fifty cents." "I accept," said Fred. "It's yours." Then he put the car keys into the surprised attendant's hand, and held out his other hand for the two dollars and fifty cents.

Answer these questions:

1. When would Fred's father buy him a new car?
2. How did Fred try to sell his car?
3. Why did Fred stop at a toll booth?
4. Who did Fred try to sell his car to?
5. Did the attendant want to buy Fred's car?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 6

A traveling salesman had to walk so much that his feet often hurt. His doctor told him that salt water was the best thing for them, so the salesman decided to go to the sea for his vacation that year. Since all of the hotels near the sea were expensive, he went to a small hotel far away from the beach. In the morning he went down to the calm sea with a bucket, went over to the lifeguard and asked whether he would be allowed to take a bucket of salt water. The lifeguard seemed very surprised but said, "Yes, although you'll have to pay twenty-five cents for it." The salesman gave the lifeguard twenty-five cents, filled his bucket, took it to his hotel and put his feet in the water. After lunch, he came down to the beach again. The tide had gone out now, so the sea was much lower. The salesman thought, "That man has a very good business. He must have sold thousands of buckets since this morning."

Answer these questions:

1. Why did the salesman's feet hurt?
2. Why did the salesman go to the sea for his vacation?
3. Why did he go to a small hotel far away from the beach?
4. He took a bucket of salt water to.....
5. Why was the sea much lower in the afternoon?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 7

An important businessman was asked to give a twenty-minute speech in another city. He was too busy to write it himself, so he asked his secretary to put one together for him out of a large book of speeches which she had on her desk. She typed one out for him, and he picked it up just in time to rush off to his plane. But when he gave his speech, it ran on for an hour, and the audience was getting very restless and bored by the end of it. When the businessman got back to his office, he complained to his secretary about this. "I told you it was supposed to be a twenty-minute speech!" he said to her bitterly. "That's what I gave you," she answered, "the original and two copies. The original for you to read at the meeting, and two copies for the files, after you had checked them."

Answer these questions:

1. What was the important businessman asked to do?
2. Who prepared the speech for him?
3. How did the audience receive it?
4. Why did the speech last an hour instead of twenty minutes?
5. Why had the secretary given him so many copies?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 8

A young officer on a small vessel was being tested on his knowledge of what to do if someone fell overboard while he was in charge of the ship. A big can was thrown into the sea, and the officer had to pretend it was a man who had fallen in and try to save it. The officer was inexperienced, and the first thing that happened was that the can was pulled under by the ship's propeller. The officer quickly stopped the ship and went backwards. There was a loud crash as he struck the can again. Then he went forwards, went around in a circle, and struck the can once more straight in front of the ship. A sailor who was observing all this now said, "Excuse me, sir, but if I'm ever unfortunate enough to fall into the sea while you're steering the ship, please let me swim to shore by myself!"

Answer these questions:

1. What was the young officer being tested on?
2. How was he being tested?
3. Was the young officer experienced?
4. What happened when he went forwards?
5. Who made fun of the officer?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 9

Mr. Johnson had never been up in an airplane before and he had read a lot about air accidents, so one day when a friend offered to take him for a ride in his own small plane, Mr. Johnson was very worried about accepting. Finally, however, his friend persuaded him that it was very safe, and Mr. Johnson boarded the plane. His friend started the engine and began to taxi onto the runway of the airport. Mr. Johnson had heard that the most dangerous parts of a flight were the take-off and the landing, so he was extremely frightened and closed his eyes. After a minute or two he opened them again, looked out of the window of the plane, and said to his friend, "Look at those people down there. They look as small as ants, don't they?" "Those are ants," answered his friend. "We're still on the ground."

Answer these questions:

1. Why was Mr. Johnson worried about accepting his friend's offer to ride in his small plane?
2. What did Mr. Johnson think were the most dangerous parts of a flight?
3. How did he feel when they began to taxi onto the runway, and what did he do?
4. Did the take off after a minute or two?
5. Did Mr. Johnson see people from high above?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 10

A man got into a train and found himself sitting opposite a woman who seemed to be about thirty-five years old. Soon they began talking to each other, and he said to her, "Do you have a family?" "Yes, I have one son," the woman answered. "Oh, really?" said the man. "Does he smoke?" "No, he's never touched a cigarette," the woman replied. "That's good," the man continued. "I don't smoke either. Tobacco is very bad for one's health. And does your son drink wine?" "Oh, no," the woman answered at once, "he's never drunk a drop of it." "Then I congratulate you, ma'am," the man said. "And does he ever come home late at night?" "No, never," his neighbor answered. "He goes to bed immediately after dinner every night." "Well," the man said, "he's a wise young man. How old is he?" "He's six months old today," the woman replied proudly.

Answer these questions:

1. Did the woman on the train have a family?
2. Did the woman's son smoke?
3. How old was the woman's son?
4. What did the man think of tobacco?
5. What did the man think of the woman's son?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 11

It was a Saturday evening in late July, and Joe and his girlfriend had been to the movies. After that they ate supper in a small restaurant, and now they were sitting together on a bench in the park, enjoying the cool air and the moonlight. After a long time, the girl said dreamily, "Joe, do you think my eyes are like bright stars shining in the clear night sky?" Joe looked at her quickly, and then answered, "Yes." "And do you think my teeth are like pearls reflecting the light of the moon?" she continued in the same dreamy voice. "Yes," he answered again after another quick look. "And do you think my hair is like a golden waterfall in the moonlight?" she went on. "Yes," he repeated. "Oh, Joe!" she said happily, throwing her arms around him, "You say the most wonderful things!"

Answer these questions:

1. Where were Joe and his girlfriend when she began asking him these questions?
2. What was the weather like?
3. What were the girl's eyes like?
4. What were her teeth like?
5. Did Joe agree with her comparisons?
6. Who had really been saying all those wonderful things?
7. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 12

Mr. Grey was a biology professor, and he had a big collection of extremely rare bones which he was very proud of. Then one year he managed to get a new and better job at another university. Because Mr. Grey was very busy, his wife made the arrangements for all their possessions to be taken in a moving van to their new home while he was away at work. The following week three men started taking the things out of Mrs. Grey's house and loading them into the van, when one of them brought out a large wooden box. He was just about to throw it into the van with all the other things when Mrs. Grey ran out of her house and said, "Please treat that box very gently! That one has all of my husband's bones in it." The man was so surprised that he nearly dropped the box on his feet.

Answer these questions:

1. What kind of collection did Mr. Grey have?
2. What happened to Mr. Grey one year?
3. Why did some men come to take all of the Grey's possessions away?
4. What did one of the men take out of the house?
5. What was he going to do with the box?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 13

A rich young man decided that he would like to do some diving in the sea, so he bought a rubber suit and all the other things that he needed, and took some lessons at a diving school. Then one day he walked into the water by himself and began to explore the bottom of the sea. He saw a lot of beautiful fish and other things, and then, after half an hour, he suddenly saw a man waving his arms and legs around wildly near the bottom of the sea. He was wearing only a bathing suit. The rich young man was very surprised to see him, so he took out a plastic notebook and a special pencil, which could write under water, and wrote, "What are you doing here?" He showed the notebook to the other man, who then took the pencil and wrote, "Drowning!"

Answer these questions:

1. What did the rich young man want to do?
2. How did he prepare himself for this?
3. What did he first see at the bottom of the ocean?
4. What did the other man write in the notebook?
5. The man at the bottom of the sea was wearing
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 14

When Mrs. Green retired from her job in a big city, she went to live in an attractive village out in the country, and began to go into the nearest town every Saturday to buy food. She tried several stores and finally chose the most convenient one and began to shop there regularly every week. After she had visited the store several times, the cashier began to recognize her and to smile and say, "Good morning, Mrs. Brown," whenever she came to pay for the things she had bought. At first Mrs. Green didn't mind this, but after a few weeks, she said to the cashier one Saturday, "Excuse me, but my last name's Green, not Brown." The cashier smiled cheerfully and said, "I'm sorry." But the following week, she said to her, "Do you know, Mrs. Brown, there's another lady who comes to our store every Saturday who looks just like you."

Answer these questions:

1. Where did Mrs. Green go to live after her retirement?
2. Where did she buy her food?
3. How did the cashier greet her after a few weeks?
4. Why did the cashier call Mrs. Green by Mrs. Brown?
5. How often did she go to the shop?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 15

Helen was going to have her first baby very soon. One evening it was time to take her to the hospital, so her husband, Sam, helped her get into the car and drove her there. A nurse took Helen to her room and told Sam that he could go home and she would call him when the baby arrived, but Sam said he would rather wait at the hospital. The nurse smiled and said, "There's a waiting room at the end of the hall." Sam was walking anxiously up and down in the corridor at about midnight when the nurse came out of his wife's room and said, with a happy smile, "Which would you have preferred, a boy or a girl?" "A girl," answered the husband. "I have an older sister, and she was always very kind to me when I was a child." "Well," said the nurse, "It's a boy this time." "That's all right," answered Sam cheerfully. "That was my second choice."

Answer these questions:

1. Why did Sam take Helen to the hospital?
2. What was Sam doing at about midnight?
3. Why would he have preferred a girl?
4. Was the baby a boy or a girl?
5. What time did Helen give birth?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 16

It is often very difficult these days to find someone to come and fix your television set, or your washing machine, or any other household appliance if it breaks. Everybody wants to sell you new products, but nobody wants to fix them when they stop working. One day Mrs. Harris discovered that her bathroom faucet was leaking, so she phoned her plumber. Three days later, he arrived. Mrs. Harris was unhappy about the delay, which had caused her a lot of trouble. "Well, you've finally arrived!" she said to the plumber. "I called you three days ago." The plumber was not at all disturbed by this. He simply took a piece of paper out of his pocket and looked at it. "Three days ago?" he said. "That was the 21st, wasn't it? Well, I'm sorry, but I've come to the wrong place. I was looking for Mrs. Smith's house, not yours. She phoned me on the 20th."

Answer these questions:

1. What often happens these days when someone wants something fixed?
2. Why does this happen?
3. Why did Mrs. Harris phone her plumber?
4. How long did he take to come?
5. Did the plumber come to the right address?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 17

One day, when Mr. Smith came home from work, he found his wife very annoyed about something. Mr. Smith always thought that he was more sensible than his wife, so he started to give her a lecture on the importance of always remaining calm. Finally, he said, "It's a waste of your strength to get excited about small things. Train yourself to be patient, like me. Now, look at the fly that has just landed on my nose. Am I getting excited or annoyed? Am I swearing or waving my arms around? No, I'm not. I'm perfectly calm." Just as he had said this, Mr. Smith started shouting. He jumped up and began to wave his arms around wildly and swear terribly. He couldn't speak for some time, but at last he was able to tell his wife: the thing on his nose hadn't been a fly, it had been a bee.

Answer these questions:

1. What did Mr. Smith find when he came back from work one day?
2. What did he think about himself?
3. Why did Mr. Smith start jumping and waving his arms around?
4. (a. a bee b. a fly) landed on Mr. Smith's nose.
5. What was Mr. Smith's lecture about?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 18

Mac had a very old car. It was rusty and dirty, but its engine worked most of the time. One day he took his old car out of the garage and said to his wife, 'I'm going to drive to Bournemouth and do some shopping.' He came to a quiet road after a few kilometers, but then his car stopped. Mac got out, opened the bonnet of the car and looked at the engine, but he did not find anything wrong with it. His head was under the bonnet for quite a long time. Then a young man ran to the car and began pulling one of the red lights off the back of it. Mac put his head up, looked at the young man and shouted, 'What are you doing there?' The young man answered, 'You can steal the pieces at the front. I'm going to take the ones at the back.'

Answer these questions:

1. What was Mac's car like?
2. The only thing that worked well in Mac's car was
3. What was the young man doing to Mac's car?
4. Did Mac know why his car had stopped?
5. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 19

Senior citizens are permitted to travel cheaply on a bus if they have a special card. Women may get the card when they are sixty. Mrs. Matthews lived in the country but she went into town once a week to buy food and other things for the house, and she usually went by bus. She always had to pay the full price for her ride. Then she reached the age of sixty and got her senior citizen's card, but when she used it for the first time on the bus, it made her feel very old. The bus driver had often seen her traveling on the bus before, and he noticed that she was feeling unhappy, so after she had paid her money, he winked at her and whispered, "Don't forget to give your mother's card back to her when you see her again." Mrs. Matthews was very happy when she heard this.

Answer these questions:

1. What are senior citizens allowed to do?
2. Where did Mrs. Matthews go once a week?
3. How did she travel?
4. How much did she have to pay for the bus ride before she was sixty?
5. What happened when Mrs. Matthews got her special card?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 20

One evening Mrs. Alda asked her husband to take her to a very expensive restaurant in the city, because a lot of movie stars and other famous people ate there, and she was curious to see some of them. Soon after Mr. and Mrs. Alda had ordered their meal, a very attractive man and woman came into the restaurant and sat down at a table nearby. They were beautifully dressed, and Mrs. Alda said to her husband, "Look at those people, George! I'm sure I've seen their pictures somewhere." The man and woman gave their order to the waiter, and when he brought Mr. and Mrs. Alda their soup, Mrs. Alda said to him, "Who are those people? Do you know them?" "Oh, they're nobody famous," he answered at once. "Really?" Mrs. Alda asked with surprise. "How do you know that?" "Because they asked me who you were," he answered.

Answer these questions:

1. Why did Mrs. Alda want to go to the expensive restaurant?
2. Who came into the restaurant after Mr. and Mrs. Alda?
3. What did they look like?
4. Were the attractive man and woman famous?
5. Where did the attractive man and woman sit?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 21

An artist who did not have much money, but was a very kind man, was coming home by train one day. He gave his last few coins to a beggar, but then he saw another one, and forgot that he did not have any money. He asked the man if he would like to have lunch with him, and the beggar accepted, so they went into a small restaurant and had a good meal. At the end, the artist could not pay the bill, of course, so the beggar had to do so. The artist was very unhappy about this, so he said to the beggar, "Come home with me in a taxi, my friend, and I'll give you back the money for lunch." "Oh, no!" the beggar answered quickly. "I had to pay for your lunch, but I'm not going to pay for your taxi home too!"

Answer these questions:

1. What kind of man was the artist?
2. What had he forgotten about?
3. What did he ask the beggar to do?
4. Who paid for lunch?
5. Where else did the artist invite the beggar?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 22

The students at a certain American university used to play tricks on each other when one of them was going to receive his first visit from a new girlfriend. Usually the trick was to take all the furniture out of the student's room, so that when his girlfriend arrived, there was nothing to sit on. Ted Jones was a country boy who had never left his birthplace until his admission to the university. When he arrived there for the first time and heard about this behavior, he disliked it and announced to the other students, 'I'm determined that that's not going to happen to me. I'm going to lock my door.' His confident words were greeted with laughter by the other students. When Ted brought his girlfriend to his room for the first time, he was astonished to find that all the furniture was there-but the door of his room was gone.

Answer these questions:

1. When did the students play tricks on each other?
2. What was the usual trick?
3. What kind of person was Ted Jones?
4. What did he think of the students' tricks?
5. What happened when Ted brought his girlfriend to his room?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 23

George and Carol were medical students at the same college and, like many other college students, they enjoyed playing jokes on people. Both of them smoked, but they knew that their professors were strongly against it, because smoking was dangerous to one's health. One day they decided to play a joke on their professor. At one of their medical lectures there was always a skeleton in the room so that the professor could show the students the different bones in the human body. That afternoon, Carol and George put a cigarette in the mouth of the skeleton that was to be used for their next lecture. When the professor came in, he began talking and then noticed the cigarette. He went up to the skeleton, took the cigarette out of its mouth and said, "You really should give them up, old boy. Look what they're doing to you!"

Answer these questions:

1. What were George and Carol studying?
2. What did they both enjoy?
3. What did their professors think about smoking?
4. What was in one of the lecture rooms?
5. What did George and Carol do to the skeleton?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 24

Mrs. Green was the manager of a large company, and she frequently had to have meetings with other business people in a room in her building. She did not smoke at all, but many of the other people at the meetings did, so she often found the air during the meetings terrible. One day, after an hour, her throat and eyes were sore and she was coughing a lot, so she called a big air-conditioning company and asked them to work out how much it would cost to keep the air of the meeting room in her building really clean. After a few days the air-conditioning company sent in two estimates for Mrs. Green to choose from. One estimate was for \$5,000 to put in new air-conditioning, and the other was for \$5.00 for a sign which said, NO SMOKING.

Answer these questions:

1. Why did Mrs. Green have to have meetings with business people?
2. Why did she often find the air in the meetings terrible?
3. What did the air-conditioning company do?
4. What did Mrs. Green have to choose between?
5. Why did she call the air-conditioning company?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 25

A lot of boys and girls in Western countries are wearing the same kinds of clothes, and many of them have long hair, so it is often difficult to tell whether they are boys or girls. One day, an old gentleman went for a walk in a park in Washington, and when he was tired, he sat down on a bench. A young person was standing on the other side of the pond. "My goodness!" the old man said to the person who was sitting next to him on the bench. "Do you see that person with the loose pants and long hair? Is it a boy or a girl?" "A girl," said his neighbor. "She's my daughter." "Oh!" the old gentleman said quickly. "Please forgive me, didn't know that you were her mother." "I'm not," said the other person, "I'm her father."

Answer these questions:

1. What did the old gentleman see on the other side of the pond?
2. Why didn't the old gentleman know if it was a boy or a girl?
3. What was the person on the other side wearing?
4. The person sitting next to the old gentleman was the girl's mother. (True / False)
5. Why was the old gentleman surprised?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 26

A young boy was playing with a ball in the street. He kicked it too hard, and it broke the window of a house and fell inside. A lady came to the window with the ball and shouted at the young boy, so he ran away, but he still wanted his ball back. A few minutes later he returned and knocked at the door of the house, and when the lady answered it, he said, "My father's going to come and fix your window very soon." After a few more minutes a man came to the door with tools in his hand, so the lady let the boy take his ball away. When the man finished fixing the window, he said to the lady, "That will cost you exactly ten dollars." "But aren't you the father of that young boy?" the woman asked, looking surprised. "No," he answered, equally surprised. "Aren't you his mother?"

Answer these questions:

1. How did the young boy lose his ball?
2. Why did he run away?
3. And why did he come back?
4. Why did the lady let him take his ball away?
5. Who did the lady think the man was who came to fix the window?
6. The young boy broke the window of his own house. (True / False)
7. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 27

Mr. and Mrs. Scott moved to a small town, and they made arrangements at the local bank to open an account in both their names. But Mr. Scott was a businessman and always worked during the times that the bank was open, so his wife was the one who usually went there when they needed money. Then one day Mr. Scott had a vacation, so he went to the bank, but the bank teller didn't know him, and wasn't willing to give him any money until she was sure that he was really Mr. Scott. She said politely, "I know Mrs. Scott, but I don't know you yet. Could you please show me something to prove that you are Mr. Scott?" Mr. Scott looked in his wallet and found some photographs of his wife. He showed them to the teller, and she was satisfied and gave him his money.

Answer these questions:

1. What kind of account did Mr. and Mrs. Scott open at the bank?
2. Who usually went to the bank to get money?
3. What did Mr. Scott show the teller to prove who he was?
4. Why wasn't the bank teller willing to give Mr. Scott money?
5. How could Mr. Scott go to the bank one day?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 28

A young boy did not live too far from school, so he used to walk there and back every day. On his way to school he passed a playground which used to get very wet when it rained. One day the boy came home very wet. His mother became angry and said, "Don't play in the water on your way home from school." The next day he came home very wet again, and his mother became even angrier. "I'll tell your father if you come home wet again," she said, "and then he'll punish you." The next day the young boy was dry when he came home from school. "You were a good boy today," his mother said. "You didn't play in the water." "No," he answered sadly, "there were so many older boys in the water when I got there this afternoon that there wasn't any room for me at all."

Answer these questions:

1. How did the young boy go to and from school?
2. How did he get wet?
3. What did she threaten to do if he got wet again?
4. Why was she happy one day?
5. Why was the young boy dry on the third day?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 29

Mr. Jones moved to another town, and soon he needed a new doctor, so he went to see one. He sat down in the waiting room and looked around. The doctor's degrees were on the wall. Suddenly Mr. Jones remembered: there had been a student with the same name in his class at school, and he had become a doctor! He went in to see the doctor, remembering a young, handsome student, and was sad to see how old and heavy and grey this man looked. However, he said to him, "Good morning, Doctor. Did you go to Middletown High School?" The doctor answered, "Yes, I did." "Were you there from 1942 to 1946?" Mr. Jones asked. "Yes, I was," the doctor answered. "How did you know?" Mr. Jones laughed and said, "You were in my class!" "Oh?" the doctor said, looking at him carefully for a few moments. "What were you teaching?"

Answer these questions:

1. Why did Mr. Jones go to a new doctor?
2. What did he see on the walls of the waiting room?
3. Was the student in Mr. Jones's class at school his new teacher?
4. The doctor was also in the school.
5. How did Mr. Jones know that the doctor had been at that school during those years?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 30

The college had a very good football team, and its best player was a student who always had trouble in school. Then one year the dean of the college said that the player would have to leave because he had cheated on an exam. The football coach immediately went to the dean to try to persuade him to let the student stay in school. The dean showed him two answer papers. "This one is Susan's paper. She's the best student in the class," he said. "And this one's your football player's. They're exactly the same. The football player sat at the next desk, and just copied from her." "But maybe she copied from him," the coach said. "You can't prove it was the other way." "Look at this," the dean said. "Susan didn't know the answer to this question, so she wrote, 'I don't know.' And your football player wrote, 'Neither do I.'"

Answer these questions:

1. Why did the dean want the student to leave the college?
2. Why did the coach want him to stay?
3. What did the dean show the coach?
4. Did the best player cheat from Susan?
5. Who copied the answers from the other?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 31

Mr. Young owned his own business and worked very hard. His wife was afraid that he would get sick if he continued like that, so she often tried to get him to take a vacation. At last she managed to persuade him to do this, but she was afraid that he might not be able to enjoy his vacation quietly, so before they left, Mrs. Young went to see her husband's secretary. She said to her, "My husband needs a vacation very much, so whatever happens, please don't bother him with telegrams and letters about business problems while we're away. Just wait till we get back." After Mr. and Mrs. Young had been away about a week, Mr. Young received a letter from his secretary which said, "Something terrible has happened to your business, but I'm not going to bother you with it now while you're enjoying your vacation."

Answer these questions:

1. Who did Mr. Young work for?
2. What was his wife afraid of?
3. What did she want her husband to do?
4. What did she ask his secretary to do?
5. The secretary wrote to Mr. Young soon after he left. (True / False)
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 32

A small town had a city dump where people could leave their own garbage. A lot of people used to load their garbage cans into the backs of their cars and take them to the dump to get rid of them, instead of waiting for them to be collected from their homes or offices. One evening the owner of a store in this town put his garbage cans in his van and drove to the dump. He had just left his garbage there, when a young man arrived in a very old, beat-up car, turned around, drove backwards down the hill where the garbage was piled and unloaded his. While he was doing this, the engine of his car died. He tried to start it again several times, but he wasn't successful, so he finally said to the driver of the van, "Could you please give my car a push?" "Which way?" the man answered.

Answer these questions:

1. What did a lot of people do with their garbage cans?
2. What was the young man's car like?
3. What did he do when he came to the garbage dump?
4. Why couldn't he drive his car away again?
5. What did the young man ask the driver of the van to do?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 33

Mr. Harris had never married, and he lived in a small house by himself. He was always very careful about what he ate and drank, and he never went out when the weather was cold. He was always afraid that he was getting some terrible disease, so he often went to see his doctor, and the doctor was getting very tired of his patient's imagined illnesses, because he had more important work to do. Then one day Mr. Harris hurried into the doctor's office and told him he was sure he had a certain terrible disease which he had read about in the newspaper. He showed the doctor the article. The doctor read it carefully and then said, "But, Mr. Harris, people don't know when they have this disease! There are no symptoms, and they feel very good." "Oh, my goodness!" said Mr. Harris. "I thought so. That's just how I feel!"

Answer these questions:

1. Why did Mr. Harris often go to see his doctor?
2. How did the doctor feel about this?
3. Why did Mr. Harris hurry into the doctor's office one day?
4. Who did Mr. Harris live with?
5. Who was the patient?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 34

Fred had just become the captain of a small ship which carried things from one port to another along the coast. One day he had to take the ship up a river into a small port. He knew that the river had plenty of channels, and that some of them were very shallow and dangerous, so he decided to wait until he saw a local boat going up the river and then follow it. After half an hour he saw a boat start to go up the river, so he began to follow it. He followed it through various channels until both of the boats hit sand under the water and stopped. Then the captain of the local boat came to the side and shouted to the captain of the boat that had followed him, "We came here to get a load of sand. What did you come to get?"

Answer these questions:

1. What kind of boat was Fred the captain of?
2. Why didn't he want to go up the river alone?
3. Why did the captain of the local boat shouted captain of the boat that had followed him?
4. Did the local boat lead him to the port?
5. What had the local boat come to collect?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 35

A small store sold a lot of nice jewelry, and the owner was always very careful to prevent people from stealing it. One day a thief came and tried to steal a beautiful necklace, but the owner of the store caught him immediately and went to the telephone to call the police to come and arrest him. "Please don't do that!" the thief said. "I have a wife and three children at home. And I'll pay for the necklace." The owner of the store felt sorry for the man and he didn't want to have a lot of trouble with the police, so he accepted the man's offer to pay for the necklace and went to prepare a bill for it. But when he gave it to the thief, the man looked disturbed and said, "I wasn't intending to get anything as expensive as that. Do you have something cheaper?"

Answer these questions:

1. What did the store owner catch a man doing?
2. What did the store owner do to the man?
3. What was the store owner always careful about?
4. Why did the store owner accept the man's offer?
5. Could the man pay for the necklace?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 36

Mr. Smith left his car outside his apartment one night, as usual, but when he came down the next morning to go to his office, he discovered that the car wasn't there. He called the police and told them what had happened, and they said that they would try to find the car. When Mr. Smith came home from his office that evening, the car was back again in its usual place in front of his house. He examined it carefully to see whether it had been damaged, and found two theater tickets on one of the seats and a letter which said, "We're very sorry. We took your car because of an emergency." Mr. and Mrs. Smith went to the theater with the two tickets the next night and enjoyed themselves very much. When they got home, they found that thieves had taken almost everything they had had in their apartment.

Answer these questions:

1. What did Mr. Smith discover when he left his apartment one morning?
2. What happened when they got home?
3. What did he see when he got back home that evening?
4. What did he find on one of the seats?
5. What did Mr. and Mrs. Smith do with the tickets?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 37

Jimmy was seven years old. He got an allowance from his parents every week, but he wasted a lot of it on things which he saw in the stores and suddenly wanted to buy, although he didn't need them. One day his mother gave him a notebook and said, "Now, Jimmy, whenever you buy anything, I want you to write it down in this book, and write down the price, too. Then you can look at it again when your money's all gone, and you won't waste so much money next time." After a week, Jimmy said to his mother, "Do you know, Mommy, before I spend any money now, I really stop and think?" His mother was very pleased and thought, "Well, he's learned the value of money now." But she wasn't so happy when he added, "Yes, before I buy anything, I always ask myself, 'Am I going to be able to spell that in my notebook?'"

Answer these questions:

1. What happened to Jimmy's allowance every week?
2. How did his mother try to teach Jimmy the value of money?
3. What did Jimmy get from his parents every week?
4. Jimmy's mother bought him the notebook to prevent him from wasting money. (True / False)
5. Why wasn't the mother so happy in the end?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 38

Tom had retired and lived by himself a long way from town. He hardly ever left his home, but one day he went into town to buy some things in the market, and after he had bought them, he went into a restaurant and sat down at a table by himself. When he looked around, he saw several old people put eyeglasses on before reading their newspapers, so after lunch he decided to go to a store to buy himself some glasses too. He walked along the road, and soon found a store. The man in the store made him try on a lot of glasses, but Tom always said, "No, I can't read with these." The man became more and more puzzled, until finally he said, "Excuse me, but can you read at all?" "No, of course I can't!" Tom said angrily. "If I was already able to read, do you think I would have come here to buy glasses?"

Answer these questions:

1. What did Tom see in a restaurant?
2. Did he share the table at the restaurant with someone?
3. What did he decide to do after lunch?
4. Could Tom read?
5. Why was the man in the store became puzzled?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 39

John had a new car, but it was in the garage for repairs, so he borrowed his wife's old car one evening. He found that it didn't have much gas in the tank, so he drove to a service station and filled it up. But then the car wouldn't start. He thought there was probably something loose in the battery, so he took a small wrench out of his pocket and hit the battery with it. The car started at once. Then John saw that one of the lights was not working either. "There's something loose there too," he thought. He hit it on the side with his wrench, and it lit up right away. The garage man was watching, and then he ran over to John and said, "If you ever want to sell your car, I don't want it, but I'd be very happy to make you an offer for that wrench."

Answer these questions:

1. Why did John take his wife's car to a service station?
2. What did John think was wrong with the battery?
3. Who was watching John?
4. What did John hit one of the lights with?
5. Why didn't John use his new car?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 40

A math teacher had been teaching his class all about fractions for the past week, and now he wanted to find out how much they had been able to remember, so he asked one of the boys in the class, "If I cut a piece of meat into two pieces, what would I get?" "Halves," answered the student at once. "Good," said the teacher. "And if I cut each piece in half again?" "Fourths," answered the next student. "And if I cut it again, Robert?" the teacher went on. "Eighths," answered Robert. "Yes," said the teacher, nodding to the next boy. "And again?" "Sixteenths, sir," was the answer. "Good," said the teacher. "And once more, Lisa?" "Thirty-seconds," answered Lisa after thinking for a few seconds. "Yes, that's right. And again?" the teacher continued. "Hamburger meat," answered the last student, who thought that all of these questions were becoming a little silly.

Answer these questions:

1. What had the math teacher been teaching?
2. What did the math teacher want to find out?
3. What would the teacher get if he a piece of meat into two pieces?
4. How many times did the teacher repeat the same question?
5. What did the last student think of the teacher's question?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 41

George worked in San Francisco. He wasn't married, and he usually had his lunch, and occasionally his dinner, in small restaurants. One evening he decided to go to an expensive restaurant, and when he got in, he saw a large, heavy man who he had not seen for several years sitting by himself at a table. He thought for a few moments and then remembered the man's name, so he went up to him and said politely, "Hello, Mr. Grey. How's business?" "Oh, it's not good at all," the large man answered. George looked at the expensive food and wine on Mr. Grey's table and was surprised. "It certainly doesn't look as if your business is bad," he said. "Well," Mr. Grey answered sadly, "I'm afraid you're wrong. A few years ago, I was doing very well, and I could afford to bring my wife to this place for dinner too."

Answer these questions:

1. Where did George usually eat?
2. Who did he see at the restaurant?
3. Did George know the person he saw?
4. George was single. (True / False)
5. What meal did George go for?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 42

Mr. and Mrs. Wilson and their children were going to begin their vacation one day, and they had to be at the airport at eleven forty A.M. "It'll take us half an hour to get there in the taxi," Mr. Wilson said, "so we all have to be ready by eleven o'clock. Nobody should be late." At ten minutes to eleven they were still all running around doing things, except Mrs. Wilson, who was sitting quietly on a chair in the garden enjoying the sun. Her husband and children were very surprised that she wasn't in a hurry too, until the taxi arrived and Mrs. Wilson said to them, "Well, I knew that this was going to happen, so before I went to bed last night, I moved all our clocks and watches ahead twenty minutes. So now we can go to the airport quietly without worrying about being late."

Answer these questions:

1. Why did Mr. and Mrs. Wilson and their children have to be ready by eleven o'clock?
2. What were Mr. Wilson and the children doing at ten-fifty?
3. What was Mrs. Wilson doing?
4. What had Mrs. Wilson done the night before?
5. Who was in a hurry?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 43

Miss Rogers taught physics in a New York school. Last month she was explaining to one of her classes about sound, and she decided to test them to see how successful she had been in her explanation. She said to them, "Now, I have a brother in Los Angeles. If I was calling him on the phone, and at the same time you were 75 feet away, listening to me from the across the street, which of you would hear what I said earlier, my brother or you- and for what reason?" The smartest student at once answered, "Your brother, Miss Rogers, because electricity travels faster than sound waves." "That's very good," Miss Rogers answered; but then one of the girls raised her hand, and Miss Rogers said, "Yes, Debbie?" "I disagree," Debbie said. "Your brother would hear you earlier because when it's eleven o'clock here, it's only eight o'clock in Los Angeles."

Answer these questions:

1. What was the class in this story studying?
2. Debbie thought that the smartest student's answer was correct. (True / False)
3. Which travels faster, electricity or sound waves?
4. Why did Debbie think that Miss Rogers's brother would hear her earlier?
5. What did Miss Rogers teach?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 44

Mr. Martin went into his usual coffee shop one morning, and sat on one of the seats at the counter. Many other people came in also, but most of them did not stay long. After fifteen minutes, a young man and a young woman came in. There were only two empty seats at the counter, one on Mr. Martin's left, and the other on his right. The woman sat on one, and the young man on the other, but Mr. Martin immediately offered to change places with the man so that he and the young woman could be together. "Oh, that isn't necessary," the young man said, but Mr. Martin insisted. When the young man and the woman were side by side, the young man said to her, "Well, this kind gentleman wanted us to sit together, so may I introduce myself? My name's Tom. What's yours?"

Answer these questions:

1. Where did Mr. Martin sit in the coffee shop?
2. Who came into the coffee shop after fifteen minutes?
3. What did Mr. Martin do when he saw them?
4. Why did the young man say it wasn't necessary for him to sit beside the woman?
5. Where were the two empty seats at the counter?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 45

Peter was a ventriloquist. He worked in theaters and night clubs, but he wasn't very good, and one month he was out of work and hungry. Then he found a dog on the street and took it into a restaurant with him. They sat down at a table, and the dog seemed to order food and talk about it, so the owner of the restaurant, the waiters, and the other guests were very surprised. The owner thought that a lot of people would come to his restaurant to listen to the dog speak if it was his, so he offered to buy it, and finally the ventriloquist agreed to sell the dog for a high price. When the owner of the restaurant had paid, the dog appeared to say to the ventriloquist, "Well, you sold me, didn't you?" "Yes, I did," answered the ventriloquist. "Then I refuse to speak ever again."

Answer these questions:

1. What did the dog seem to do in the restaurant?
2. Why did the owner of the restaurant want to buy the dog?
3. What did the ventriloquist finally do?
4. Could the dog really speak?
5. Who bought the dog?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 46

Eddie liked music very much when he was at school, but when he went to the university, he decided to study medicine, instead of music. When he passed his examinations and became a doctor, he had to work in a hospital for some time. There he discovered that a lot of the patients were happier and caused less trouble if pleasant music was played to them. When Eddie got an office and began to work for himself, he decided to keep his patients happy by having a tape recorder in his waiting room play beautiful music for them. But soon after the tape recorder had been put in, Eddie's nurse heard a woman, who was sitting in the crowded waiting room one morning, complain, "Here we're all waiting to see the doctor, and he's just playing the violin in his office instead of doing his work!"

Answer these questions:

1. What did Eddie like when he was at school?
2. What did he study at the university?
3. Where did Eddie work after he passed his examinations?
4. What did pleasant music do to a lot of the patients in the hospital?
5. Why did Eddie put a tape recorder in his waiting room?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 47

Mr. Marsh was a Senator in the government. One day he was driving to a town to make an important speech when he stopped at a small restaurant to have some coffee. When he saw that the restaurant had some nice fresh rolls, he asked the waitress for one, and she brought it. Then he asked for some butter and jam, and she brought a very small serving of butter and a very small jar of jam. "I'd like some more jam, please." Mr. Marsh said. "I'm sorry," she answered, "but we only give one serving of butter and one jar of jam with each roll." Mr. Marsh began to get annoyed. "Do you know who I am, young lady?" he said. "I'm the state Senator." "And do you know who I am?" the waitress asked. Mr. Marsh was surprised and said, "No." "Well," she answered, "I'm the person who gives out the jars of jam."

Answer these questions:

1. Who was Mr. Marsh?
2. Why did he stop at a small restaurant?
3. What did Mr. Marsh ask the waitress to bring more of?
4. Why was the Senator driving to a town one day?
5. What did Mr. Marsh have at the restaurant?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 48

Mr. Lewis was a dance teacher. He was a nice man and always had a lot of students who used to come to his classes every week. One year he moved to a new town, and was soon teaching a lot of students in the dance school there, but then he decided to move again to a big city where he would have more work. When one of the ladies who regularly came to his classes heard that he was going to leave, she said to him, "The teacher who takes your place won't be as good as you are." Mr. Lewis was happy when he heard this, but he said, "Oh, no! I'm sure he'll be as good as I am – or even better." The lady said, "No. Five teachers have come and gone while I've been here, and each new one was worse than the last one."

Answer these questions:

1. What did Mr. Lewis teach?
2. Why did he want to move to a big city?
3. Mr. Lewis liked dancing very much, but he didn't teach it. (True / False)
4. Was Mr. Lewis better than the teacher before him?
5. Mr. Lewis had students who came to his classes regularly. (False / True)
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 49

Joe had a vacation, so he decided to go to the seashore for a few days. He got on a train one morning, and an hour later he was in a small town by the sea. A few minutes after he left the station, he saw a small hotel and went in. He asked the owner how much it would cost for one night there. "Fifteen dollars," the owner answered. "That's more than I can really afford to pay," Joe said sadly. "All right," the owner answered. "If you make your bed yourself, you can have the room for ten dollars." Joe was very happy because he always made his own bed at home. "Okay," he said, "I'll do that." The owner went into a room at the back, opened a closet, took some things out and came back to Joe. "Here you are," he said, and gave him a hammer and some nails.

Answer these questions:

1. How much did the owner of the small hotel want Joe to pay for one night there?
2. Could Joe afford the room?
3. Where did Joe have his vacation?
4. How did Joe travel?
5. What did the owner take out of a closet?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 50

A teacher was asking a student a lot of questions, but the student couldn't answer any of them. The teacher then decided to ask him some very easy questions so that he could get a few right. "What was Bunker Hill?" she said. The student thought for some time and then answered, "An airport?" "No, it was a battle," the teacher said. She was getting a little angry now, but she was trying not to show it. Then she asked, "Who was the first President of the United States?" The student thought for a long time, but didn't say anything. Then the teacher got very angry and shouted, "George Washington!" The student got up and began to walk towards his seat. "Come back!" the teacher said. "I didn't tell you to go." "Oh, I'm sorry," the student said. "I thought you called the next student."

Answer these questions:

1. Could the student answer the questions?
2. What was the teacher's second question?
3. What was the student's answer to the first question?
4. Why did the teacher get angry?
5. Why did the student walk back towards his seat?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 51

Jimmy lived in the country, and he loved playing in a very shallow river near his house; but then his father got a job in a big city, and he moved there with his family. Their new house had a garden, but the garden was very small. Jimmy wasn't very happy. "Is there a river near here?" he asked his mother on the first morning. His mother answered, "No, there isn't, but there's a beautiful park near here, Jimmy, and there's a pool in it. We'll go there this afternoon." Then Jimmy was happy. After lunch, Jimmy and his mother went to the park. Jimmy wanted to walk near the pool, but there was a sign in front of it. His mother read it to him: "WARNING: This pool is dangerous. 367 people have fallen into it." Jimmy looked into the pool carefully. Then he said, "I can't see them."

Answer these questions:

1. Where did Jimmy play in the country?
2. Why wasn't he happy in the city?
3. Why did Jimmy move to the city?
4. What did the sign in front of the pool say?
5. Jimmy saw 367 people have fallen into the pool. (True / False)
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 52

Mrs. Green was an old lady. She traveled often and she wasn't afraid of flying. One day she was going from Chicago to San Francisco in a big plane. There were a lot of empty seats on it. Mrs. Green's seat was near a window. There was a young man on the other side of the aisle. He was near a window, too. Mrs. Green looked at the young man several times. "He's always looking at the engine outside his window," she thought. She got up and walked around in the plane for a few minutes. Then she sat down and looked at the young man again. "Yes," she thought, "he's looking at that engine all the time." After half an hour Mrs. Green went over to him and said, "Take a walk around the plane, young man. I'm going to watch that engine for you for a few minutes."

Answer these questions:

1. How did Mrs. Green go from Chicago to San Francisco?
2. Where did she sit?
3. Where was the young man sitting?
4. What was the man doing?
5. What did she offer to do for him when he wasn't in his seat?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 53

It was a Saturday morning in May. When Mrs. Edwards opened her curtains and looked out, she smiled and said, "It's going to be a beautiful day." She woke her small son up at eight-thirty and said to him, "Get up, Teddy. We're going to go to the zoo today. Wash your hands and face, brush your teeth and eat your breakfast quickly. We're going to go to New York by train." Teddy was six years old. He was very happy now, because he liked going to the zoo very much, and he also liked going by train. He said, "I dreamed about the zoo last night, Mommy." His mother was in a hurry, but she stopped and smiled at her small son. "You did, Teddy?" she said. "And what did you do in the zoo in your dream?" Teddy laughed and answered, "You know, Mommy! You were there in my dream too."

Answer these questions:

1. Why did Mrs. Edwards wake her son up?
2. Why was Teddy happy?
3. What did Teddy dream about?
4. Who was in Teddy's dream?
5. How did they go to the zoo?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 54

Polly went to school when she was six years old. She liked her first day very much. Her teacher, Miss Yates, was very nice, and the other children in her class were nice, too. But at the end of the second day, when the other children left the classroom, Polly stayed behind and waited. Miss Yates had some work to do and did not see Polly at first, but then she looked up and saw her. "Why didn't you go with the others, Polly?" she asked kindly. "Did you want to ask me a question?" "Yes, Miss Yates," Polly said. "What is it?" Miss Yates asked. "What did I do in school today?" Polly said. Miss Yates laughed. "What did you do in school today?" she said. "Why did you ask me that, Polly?" "Because I'm going to go home now," Polly answered, "and my mother's going to ask me."

Answer these questions:

1. Why did Polly like her school?
2. What did she do when the other children went home?
3. How old was Polly when she went to school?
4. Why didn't Polly go with the other children when they left the classroom?
5. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 55

Jean was traveling around New England by car. One day she stopped in a small village to look at a beautiful old church. There was a cemetery in front of it, and an old man was raking the grass around the graves. Jean got out of her car, went into the cemetery and looked at some of the graves. Then she went over to the old man and said to him, "Good morning. Do people often die in this village?" The old man stopped working for a few seconds, looked at Jean carefully and said, "No, they die once." Jean laughed when she heard this, and then said to the old man, "I'm sorry. I didn't say that correctly. I'll ask it differently: 'Do a lot of people die in this village?'" The old man stopped his work again. "Yes," he said. "All of them do." Then he began raking the grass again.

Answer these questions:

1. Why did Jean stop in the village?
2. What did she see in front of the church?
3. Did the man understand Jean's questions?
4. What was the man doing when Jean came to him?
5. Why did Jean laugh?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 56

When George was thirty-five, he bought a small plane and learned to fly it. He soon became very good and made his plane do all kinds of tricks. George had a friend. His name was Mark. One day George offered to take Mark up in his plane. Mark thought, "I've traveled in a big plane several times, but I've never been in a small one, so I'll go." They went up, and George flew around for half an hour and did all kinds of tricks in the air. When they came down again, Mark was very glad to be back safely, and he said to his friend in a shaking voice, "Well, George, thank you very much for those two trips in your plane." George was very surprised and said, "Two trips?" "Yes, my first and my last," answered Mark.

Answer these questions:

1. What did George learn to do when he was thirty-five?
2. Who went up with him in his small plane?
3. What did George do while they were in the air?
4. How did George feel after going back to ground?
5. Whose voice was shaking?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 57

Bill and Fred were students at a university and they were friends. They didn't have much money, so when it was time for their summer vacation, Bill said, "Let's take our vacation in a trailer, Fred. It's cheaper than a hotel. I can borrow my father's trailer." Fred was very happy, so they got into the trailer and began their vacation. They wanted to get up early the next day to go fishing, but they didn't have an alarm clock. "That's all right, Bill," Fred said. "I'll put these small pieces of bread on the roof of the trailer tonight and they'll wake us up in the morning." Bill was very surprised, but he didn't say anything. Fred was right. As soon as it began to get light, small birds came down to eat the bread, and their noise on the roof of the trailer woke Bill and Fred up very quickly.

Answer these questions:

1. What did Bill suggest to Fred when it was time for their summer vacation?
2. Why did they want to get up early one day?
3. Why didn't they set their alarm clock?
4. What did Fred do that evening?
5. What woke Bill and Fred up?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 58

Kate and Jenny went to school together for several years and were friends. Kate had a younger sister, but Jenny didn't have any brothers or sisters. Then Kate and Jenny left school, and after a few years both of them got married and had children. They didn't live near each other now. Both of them were busy with their families, so they didn't see each other, until Kate's sister got married. One day Kate and Jenny met in the city while they were shopping. They talked for some time, and then Jenny said to Kate, "How's your sister getting along with her new husband?" "Oh, fine, Jenny," Kate answered quickly. "There's only one little thing." "Oh, what's that?" asked Jenny. "Well, she hates him," said Kate. "But there's always something wrong with everything, isn't there? Nothing's ever perfect."

Answer these questions:

1. Why didn't Kate and Jenny see each other for some time?
2. What were they doing when they met in the city?
3. Who had a sister?
4. Who did Kate's sister hate?
5. Only Jenny got married. (True / False)
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 59

Al Brown was very good at fixing things around the house when they broke. One day he went to another city to do some work there, and his wife was alone in the house. While Mr. Brown was away, one of the faucets on the bathtub broke. Mrs. Brown didn't know much about fixing broken faucets, so she telephoned a plumber. The plumber came to the house that afternoon and fixed the faucet in a few minutes. When he finished, he gave Mrs. Brown his bill for the work. She looked at it for several seconds and then said, "Your prices are very high, aren't they? Do you know, the doctor costs less than this when he comes to the house?" "Yes, I know," answered the plumber. "I know that very well, because I was a doctor until I was lucky enough to find this job a few months ago."

Answer these questions:

1. Why didn't Mr. Brown fix the broken faucet in his bathroom?
2. Why didn't his wife fix it?
3. Who fixed it?
4. Fixing the broken faucet cost a lot of money. (True / False)
5. Why did the doctor leave his job?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 60

When Mary Smith was a student, she always wanted to become a teacher, because she liked children. When she was twenty-one years old, she began teaching in a small school. She was a good teacher, and she laughed a lot with the children in her class. They enjoyed her teaching. One day one of the girls in her class said to her, "Miss Smith, why does a man's hair become gray before his mustache and beard do?" Mary laughed and answered, "I don't know, Helen. Why does it become gray before his mustache and beard do?" "I don't know either, Miss Smith," answered Helen, "but it happened to my father." The other children in the class laughed when they heard this. Then one of the boys said, "I know, Miss Smith! Men's hair becomes gray first because it's sixteen years older than their mustaches and beards."

Answer these questions:

1. Why did Mary want to be a teacher?
2. Why did her students enjoy her teaching?
3. How old was Mary Smith when she started teaching?
4. A girl thought that men's hair becomes gray first because it's sixteen years older than their mustaches and beards. (True / False)
5. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 61

Molly was the only little girl on her street, but when she was eight years old, another girl came to live in the house opposite hers. The new girl was eight years old too, and her name was Joan. Joan had two brothers. She didn't go to the same school as Molly, but they soon began to play together after school. One day Joan came home, had her milk and cookies, and then went to Molly's house. She said to her friend, "Hi, Molly. Will you come to my house to play? I've got a nice new game." Molly answered, "I'm sorry, Joan, but my mother won't let me play with you today, because your brother George has a bad cold, and she doesn't want me to get it, too." "Oh, that's all right, Molly," Joan answered quickly. "George isn't really my brother. He's my step-brother."

Answer these questions:

1. When did Joan come to live on the same street as Molly?
2. Did Molly and Joan play together at school?
3. When did they play together?
4. Who was George?
5. Why didn't Molly's mother want her to play with Joan one day?
6. What did Joan say when Molly told her this?
7. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 62

Mike was a small boy, and he hated soap and water. Three or four times every day his mother said to him, "Mike, your hands are very dirty again. Go and wash them." But Mike never really washed them well. He only put his hands in the water for a few seconds and then took them out again. Mike's uncle and aunt lived in another city. One day they came to stay with Mike's parents, and they brought their small son, Ted, with them. Ted was a year younger than Mike, and he didn't like soap and water, either. The boys sat with their parents for a few minutes, but then they went outside. When they were alone, Mike looked at Ted's hands and then said proudly, "My hands are dirtier than yours!" "Of course, they are," Ted answered angrily. "You're a year older than I am."

Answer these questions:

1. What did Mike do when his mother said, "Go and wash your hands"?
2. Who visited Mike's parents one day?
3. Who did they bring with them?
4. Mike's hands were dirtier than Ted's. (True / False)
5. Mike hated
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 63

Peter was ten years old. One day his friend Paul said to him, "I'm going to have a birthday party on Saturday, Peter. Can you come?" Peter asked his mother, and she said, "Yes, you can go." She phoned Paul's mother to tell her. Before Peter went to the party on Saturday afternoon, his mother said to him, "Now, Peter, don't forget to be polite. Don't ask for food. Wait until someone gives it to you." "All right, Mom," Peter answered, and he went to Paul's house on his bicycle. There were a lot of children at the party. They played together for an hour, and then Paul's mother gave them some food; but she forgot to give Peter any. He waited politely for a few minutes, and then he held his plate up in the air and said loudly, "Does anyone want a nice clean plate?"

Answer these questions:

1. What did Paul invite Peter to?
2. What did Peter's mother say to him before he went?
3. How did Peter go to the party?
4. What did Paul's mother forget to do?
5. Why did Peter hold his plate up in the air?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 64

Nora was sixteen years old. She had a little brother. Her brother's name was Jim. Jim was sometimes naughty, but he made Nora laugh a lot, and she loved him and was always very nice to him. One afternoon she was walking from her house to the store when she saw a small boy running along the street towards her. He was going very fast. When he came near her, she was surprised to see it was Jim. "Hi, Jim," Nora shouted to him. "Why are you running like that?" Jim didn't stop, but he waved to his sister and shouted, "I'm trying to stop two boys from fighting." Nora was surprised again. She laughed and said, "That's an important job for a little boy, isn't it? You don't do things like that very often. Who are the two boys?" "They're Tom and me," answered Jim as he continued running down the street very quickly.

Answer these questions:

1. What was Jim like?
2. How did Nora feel about him?
3. What was Jim doing when Nora saw him in the street?
4. Which boys was he trying to stop from fighting?
5. Who was older, Nora or Jim?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 65

Hank lived in a small town, but then he got a job in a big city and moved there with his wife and his two children. On the first Saturday in their new home, Hank took his new red car out of the garage and was washing it when a neighbor came by. When he saw Hank's new car, the neighbor stopped and looked at it for a minute. Then Hank turned and saw him. The neighbor said, "That's a nice car. Is it yours?" "Sometimes," Hank answered. The neighbor was surprised. "Sometimes?" he said. "What do you mean?" "Well," answered Hank slowly, "when there's a party in town, it belongs to my daughter, Jane. When there's a football game somewhere, it belongs to my son, Joe. When I've washed it, and it looks really nice and clean, it belongs to my wife. And when it needs gas, it's mine."

Answer these questions:

1. What was Hank doing when the neighbor stopped outside his house?
2. When did the car belong to Hank's daughter?
3. When did it belong to his son?
4. When did it belong to his wife?
5. And when did it belong to Hank?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 66

Alice was twenty-three years old, and she was a nurse at a big hospital. She was very kind, and all of her patients liked her very much. One day she was out shopping when she saw an old woman waiting to cross a busy street. Alice wanted to cross the street too, so she went over to offer to help the woman across. When Alice was near her, she suddenly laughed and said, "Mrs. Herman! You were my patient in the hospital last year!" Mrs. Herman was very pleased to see her. "I'll help you cross the street, Mrs. Herman," Alice said. "Oh, thank you very much, Alice," Mrs. Herman said, and she stepped forward. "No, no, Mrs. Herman," Alice said quickly. "Wait! The light's still red." "Oh," Mrs. Herman answered as she stepped back, "I can easily cross the street alone when the light's green."

Answer these questions:

1. Why did Alice's patients like her?
2. Who was Mrs. Herman?
3. What did Alice offer Mrs. Herman to do?
4. What was Alice's job?
5. When could Mrs. Herman cross the street alone?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 67

John left the United States in 1969 to work in Africa. Africa was hot, and when John came back to the United States in 1979, he said to himself, "It's much colder here than it was before I left. I'm going to buy an electric heater. Also, everything is much more expensive." John went to a store the next day to buy an electric heater. The salesman showed him three or four different kinds and then said, "And this is our best electric heater. It costs a lot of money, but it saves half of your electricity, and electricity is very expensive now, isn't it?" "Yes, it's very expensive," John answered, "and it's becoming worse every year." He looked at the electric heater carefully, thought for a few seconds and then said, "Well, I'll take two of these, please, and then I'll save all of my electricity."

Answer these questions:

1. How long was John in Africa?
2. What did he want to buy when he came back?
3. What did the salesman show him?
4. Can the two heaters save all his electricity?
5. Why did John go to Africa?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 68

Steve was eleven years old, and his brother Tim was seven. Both of them went to the same school, and both of them liked sports and games very much. They also liked fighting, but their mother wasn't happy when they had fights with other boys. A few days ago, Tim ran into the house and went up to his bedroom. His brother was there too, listening to their record player. He looked up when Tim came in and said, "Why are you crying, Tim?" "Because Harry hit me," his younger brother said. Harry was one of the boys at school, and they often had fights with each other. Steve laughed and said, "Did you hit him back, or did you cry like a baby and run home to Mommy?" "I hit him back!" Tim answered angrily. "I hit him back first, and then he hit me."

Answer these questions:

1. What three things did Steve and Tim like?
2. When wasn't their mother happy?
3. Why was Tim crying when he came into the bedroom?
4. Who was Harry?
5. Tim cried, but he didn't run home to his mother. (True / False)
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 69

Billy lived on a quiet street in a big city. His mother sometimes took him to the park to play, but when she was busy, he played in the street. One evening Billy's father gave him a beautiful new ball, and the next morning Billy went out into the street to play with it. He played happily for a few minutes, but then a big dog came along. When the dog saw the ball, he wanted to play with it too. Billy picked the ball up and held it above his head. He did not want the big dog to take it and run away with it, but the dog jumped up and knocked him over. Billy's mother came out of the house and ran to him at once. "Did he bite you?" she asked. "No, he didn't bite me," Billy answered, "but he tasted me."

Answer these questions:

1. What was Billy doing when the dog came along?
2. What did the dog want to do?
3. What did Billy do when his mother couldn't take him to the park to play?
4. Billy played with the ball in the park. (True / False)
5. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 70

Mr. and Mrs. Williams got married when he was twenty-three, and she was twenty. Twenty-five years later, they had a big party, and a photographer came and took some photographs of them. Then the photographer gave Mrs. Williams a card and said, "They'll be ready next Wednesday. You can get them from our studio." "No," Mrs. Williams said, "please send them to us." The photographs arrived a week later, but Mrs. Williams was not happy when she saw them. She got into her car and drove to the photographer's studio. She went inside and said angrily, "You took some photographs of me and my husband last week, but I'm not going to pay for them." "Oh, why not?" the photographer asked. "Because my husband looks like a monkey," Mrs. Williams said. "Well," the photographer answered, "that isn't our fault. Why didn't you think of that before you married him?"

Answer these questions:

1. Who took photographs of Mr. and Mrs. Williams?
2. Where did Mrs. Williams go when she saw the photographs?
3. How old was Mrs. Williams when she got married?
4. Why was Mrs. Williams angry at the photographer?
5. When did the photographs arrive?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 71

An old man went to the hospital. When the doctor came to see him, he said, "Well, Mr. Jones, you're going to have some injections, and then you'll feel much better. A nurse will come and give you the first one this evening, and then you'll get another one tomorrow morning." In the evening a young nurse came to Mr. Jones's bed and said to him, "I'm going to give you your first injection now, Mr. Jones. Where do you want it?" The old man was surprised. He looked at the nurse for several seconds, and then he said, "Nobody's ever let me choose that before. Are you really going to let me choose now?" "Yes, Mr. Jones," the nurse answered. She was in a hurry. "Where do you want it?" "Well, then," the old man answered with a smile, "I want it in your left arm, please."

Answer these questions:

1. Where did the old man go?
2. How many injections did the old man take?
3. When did the old man take the injections?
4. Why was the old man surprised?
5. Where did the old man want the injection?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 72

Pat Hogan was traveling around the country in his car. One evening he was driving along a road and looking for a small hotel when he saw an old man at the side of the road. He stopped his car and said to the old man, "I want to go to the Sun Hotel. Do you know it?" "Yes," the old man answered. "I'll show you the way." He got into Pat's car, and they drove for about twelve miles. When they came to a small house, the old man said, "Stop here." Pat stopped and looked at the house. "But this isn't a hotel," he said to the old man. "No," the old man answered, "this is my house. And now I'll show you the way to the Sun Hotel. Turn around and go back nine miles. Then you'll see the Sun Hotel on the left."

Answer these questions:

1. How did Pat travel around the country?
2. Where did Pat want to go?
3. How far did they drive?
4. Where did they drive to?
5. At first the old man lied to Pat. (True / False)
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 73

Jimmy started painting when he was three years old, and when he was five, he was already very good at it. He painted many beautiful and interesting pictures, and people paid a lot of money for them. They said, "This boy's going to be famous when he's a little older, and then we're going to sell these pictures for a lot more money." Jimmy's pictures were different from other people's, because he never painted on all of the paper. He painted on half of it, and the other half was always empty. "That's very clever," everybody said. "Nobody else does that!" One day somebody bought one of Jimmy's pictures and then said to him, "Please tell me this, Jimmy. Why do you paint on the bottom half of your pictures, but not on the top half?" "Because I'm small," Jimmy said, "and my brushes don't reach very high."

Answer these questions:

1. How old was Jimmy when he began painting pictures?
2. What was his painting like when he was five years old?
3. What did people say when they bought his pictures?
4. In what way were Jimmy's pictures different from other people's?
5. Why didn't Jimmy paint on the top half of his pictures?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 74

Mr. and Mrs. Gray live in a big city, and they have a son. His name is Pete, and he does not like to wash. One day Mrs. Gray said to her husband, "Living in the city all the time isn't good for Pete." So last summer they found a small house in the country and took Pete there for a vacation. When they arrived at the house, Mrs. Gray said to Pete, "We're going to stay here for two weeks." The boy ran into the house and looked in all the rooms, and then he ran back to his mother and said to her, "I haven't found the bathtub, Mom. Where is it?" "This is a very small house, Pete," his mother said, "and there is no bathtub." "That's very good," Pete said. "This is going to be a very nice vacation."

Answer these questions:

1. Why did Pete's parents take him to the country?
2. Where did they stay in the country?
3. How long did they stay in the country?
4. What doesn't Pete like?
5. Was Pete happy? Why?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 75

One day Mr. Parker said to himself: "I haven't seen my brother David for a long time, and he is living in a new house now. I'm going to drive there and see him this afternoon." He took his brother's address, got into his car and started out. He was driving for a long time, but still couldn't find the house so he stopped and asked somebody to help him. "You have come the wrong way. Go straight along this road for two miles," the man said, "then turn left, and then take the second road on the right." While Mr. Parker was going straight along the road and he was trying to turn left after two miles, but he got lost again. He drove for another mile, and at last he saw a road on his right and stopped. A woman was coming toward him, so he said to her, "Excuse me, is this the second road on the right?"

Answer these questions:

1. What did Mr. Parker one day?
2. Did he find his brother's house easily?
3. What means of transport did he use?
4. How many people did he ask for help?
5. Mr. Parker used GPS to help him find his way. (True / False)
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 76

Mr. and Mrs. Wilson lived in a big crowded city, and one summer they took a vacation in the country. They enjoyed it very much, because it was a quiet, clean place and very different from the city. One day they went for a walk early in the morning and met an old man. He lived on a farm, and he was sitting alone in the warm sun outside his front door. Mr. Wilson asked him, "Do you like living in such a quiet place?" The old man said, "Yes, I do." Mr. Wilson said, "That's interesting. And what are the bad things?" The old man thought for a minute and then said, "Well, the same things, really."

Answer these questions:

1. Where did Mr. and Mrs. Wilson live?
2. Where did they take their vacation?
3. Why did they enjoy it?
4. How was the city different from the country?
5. What was the old man doing?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 77

Don was travelling around the country, and one day he was in a hotel in a small town. Lunch was served from twelve-thirty to one-thirty. Don went out for a walk in the morning but he forgot to put on his watch. He walked for a long time, and then he saw a young man in the street, so he said to him, "Excuse me, can you please tell me the time?" The young man looked at his watch and then answered, "It's twelve o'clock." Don wasn't happy when he heard this, and said, "Isn't it later than that?" He was hungry, and he wanted his lunch. "No," the young man answered. "It never gets later than twelve o'clock in our town." Don was surprised and said, "That's interesting. What do you mean?" "Well," the young man answered, "whenever it becomes twelve o'clock, we always start from the beginning again – one o'clock, two o'clock..."

Answer these questions:

1. Why did Don ask the young man the time?
2. Why didn't it get later?
3. Don was wearing a watch when he went out for a walk. (True / False)
4. When did lunch begin at the hotel?
5. Why wasn't Don happy when he knew that it's twelve o'clock?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 78

Mr. Clark worked in an office, and he did a lot of important and difficult work, but then he began to forget things, and this made his work very difficult. One day he said to himself, "I'm going to go and see Dr. Martin about this." He waited in the doctor's waiting-room with the other patients, and then the nurse said to him, "You can go in and see Dr. Martin now." Mr. Clark hurried into Dr. Martin's office, and the doctor said, "Please sit down, Mr. Clark. What can I do for you?" "Oh, doctor," said Mr. Clark, "it's terrible, I can't remember anything for longer than half a minute, and it's making my work very difficult. What can I do? Can you help me?" The doctor said, "When did this start, Mr. Clark?" "When did what start?" Mr. Clark asked.

Answer these questions:

1. Where did Mr. Clark work?
2. What happened to him?
3. Where did he decide to go?
4. When does Mr. Martin forget?
5. Mr. Martin forgot why he had come to see Dr. Martin. (True / False)
6. What was the name of the patient?
7. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 79

Mr. and Mrs. Davis have one son. His name is Bobby, and it was his birthday a few days ago. Last Sunday Mrs. Davis's old father came to visit her and her husband, and he brought Bobby a nice toy train. When he gave it to Bobby he said, "I'm sorry, Bobby, but I forgot your birthday last Tuesday, so I didn't give you this present then." "Oh, that doesn't matter, Grandpa," Bobby answered. "Thank you very much." "And how old are you now, Bobby?" his grandfather asked. Bobby knew the answer to that question. "I'm five, Grandpa," he said. "That's good," the old man said. "You're a big boy now, Bobby." "Yes, I am, Grandpa," Bobby answered. "And what are you going to be when you're older?" his grandfather said. Bobby knew the answer to that one too. "I'm going to be six, Grandpa," he answered.

Answer these questions:

1. Why didn't Bobby's grandfather give him his present on his birthday?
2. What was the Bobby's grandfather present?
3. How old was Bobby?
4. Whose birthday was it?
5. Did Bobby answer the second question correctly?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 80

Dick was a sailor on a big ship. It went to Japan and Australia, so Dick was often on the ship for several months at a time. When he woke up in the morning and looked out, he only saw the sea, or sometimes a port. When he was twenty-three, Dick got married and bought a small house with a garden in his wife's town. It was far away from the sea. Then he had to go back to his ship, and he did not come home for two months. He went from the port to the town by bus, and was very happy to see his wife again. The next morning he slept until 9 o'clock. Then he woke up suddenly and looked out of the window. There were trees a few feet away. He was very frightened and jumped out of bed, shouting, "We've hit land!"

Answer these questions:

1. What kind of work did Dick do?
2. What did he usually see when he woke up and looked out?
3. Where did he buy a house?
4. Why was he frightened one day?
5. Why did Dick spend months at the sea?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 81

George was a newspaper reporter who worked for a small local newspaper in a country town. Nothing much ever happened there. One day George's boss sent for him. "George," he said, "James Bright is making a speech at the Town Hall tonight. I want you to go and report it for us." "James Bright?" said George. "He's a terrible old fool. He never says anything worth reporting." "Bright is our best-known local politician," said the boss. "We'll have to print a report on that speech." So George went to the meeting and Bright spoke for two hours without stopping. When George got back to the office at last, the boss was waiting for him. "Well, George," he said. "What did the old man say?" "Absolutely nothing," said George. "You'd better not write more than two and a half columns on it."

Answer these questions:

1. George worked for a small foreign newspaper. (True / False)
2. James Bright was a reporter. (True / False)
3. George did not have a high opinion of James Bright. (True / False)
4. How long did Bright speak?
5. What did George's boss ask him to do one day?
6. What did George's boss ask him to do when he came back?
7. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 82

Many years ago, an English lady in Africa was invited by an important local chief to be the first person to use his new bath—the first one in that part of Africa. The lady went into the bath-house, turned on the taps and got into the nice, warm water. But when she looked up, she was frightened to see an eye watching her through a hole. She got out, dressed and ran outside. She saw an old man and a donkey there. He was carrying a petrol tin of hot water on one hand, and one of cold water in the other, and in front of him were two funnels. “Why were you watching me in my bath?” the lady asked him angrily. The man answered politely, “I have to see which tap you turn on, madam, or I don’t know whether to pour in hot or cold water.”

Answer these questions:

1. The English lady had never been in a real bath in that part of Africa before. (True / False)
2. The water came out of the taps as usual. (True / False)
3. The lady was afraid when she saw an animal in a hole in the bathroom. (True / False)
4. She ran out and saw a man carrying petrol to heat the water. (True / False)
5. The bath did not have running hot and cold water unless the old man was there. (True / False)
6. What was the English lady invited to do?
7. What gave her a fright?
8. What did she see when she went out?
9. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 83

Some people were queuing outside the Scala Theater for tickets for a very popular show. They had to wait for several hours, and during that time they were entertained by a young man who was playing very nicely on a trumpet. The queue enjoyed his music and put quite a lot of money in the box that he had on the ground in front of him. At last one of the people in the queue said to him, “You play too well to be a beggar.” “I’m not a beggar,” the young man said, “I’m studying to be a trumpet player in a big band, and I have to practice several hours every day, so I thought it would be nice to do in the fresh air instead of in my small room on days when the weather was nice—and also to get a bit of money at the same time.”

Answer these questions:

1. Was the young man’s show part of the show at the Scala Theater?
2. Why were some people queuing outside the Scala Theater?
3. The young man played the trumpet in the band at the Scala Theater. (True / False)
4. Where did the young man play his trumpet when the weather was nice?
5. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 84

Mr. Richards worked in a shop which sold, cleaned and repaired hearing-aids. One day an old gentleman entered and put one down in front of him without saying a word. “What’s the matter with it?” Mr. Richards said. The man did not answer. Of course, Mr. Richards thought that the man must be deaf and that his hearing-aid must be faulty, so he said again, more loudly, “What’s wrong with your hearing-aid, sir?” Again the man said nothing, so Mr. Richards shouted his question again as loudly as he could. The man then took a pen and a piece of paper and wrote: “It isn’t necessary to shout when you’re speaking to me. My ears are as good as yours. This hearing-aid is my wife’s, not mine. I’ve just had a throat operation, and my problem is not that I can’t hear, but that I can’t speak.”

Answer these questions:

1. What did an old gentleman bring Mr. Richards one day?
2. The man did not answer Mr. Richards’s question because he was deaf. (True / False)
3. How did the old man make Mr. Richards understand what he wanted?
4. Was the old man deaf?
5. Why had he not spoken to Mr. Richards?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 85

Mrs. Grey was old and deaf, and she was in court, accusing a neighbor of allowing his dogs to come into her garden, damage her vegetables and run after her cat and her chickens. After hearing both sides, the judge thought that it would be best and cheapest for everybody if Mrs. Grey and her neighbor could come to some sort of arrangement to settle the matter between themselves, so he asked the lawyer who was representing Mrs. Grey to find out how much money she wanted from her neighbor in order to stop the action against him. Her lawyer explained to her what was happening, but Mrs. Grey could not hear what he said, so he repeated loudly, "The judge wants to know what you will take." "Oh, thank you very much," Mrs. Grey answered politely. "Please tell him that I'll have a glass of water."

1. What did Mrs. Grey's dogs do?
2. Why had Mrs. Grey come to court?
3. Did Mrs. Grey's lawyer manage to tell her the judge's suggestion?
4. Mrs. Grey did not understand him, because he was deaf. (True / False)
5. What did Mrs. Grey think the judge had offered her?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 86

A man who was bored with living in London and desired to move to the country was looking for a house from which he could get to his office in the city easily every day. One day he saw an advertisement for a suitable house in Hampshire which was claimed to be within a stone's throw of a railway station from which there were frequent trains to London. He telephoned the house agency and arranged to go down by train the next day and have a look at the house. The house agent met him at the station and they drove to the house, which was at least a kilometer from the station. The man who had come to see the house turned to the house agent when they reached it and objected, "I should be very interested to meet the man who threw that stone you mentioned in your advertisement!"

Answer these questions:

1. Why did the man want to leave London?
2. Where did he want his new house to be?
3. What did the advertisement for the house in Hampshire claim?
3. The house was not really only a stone's throw from the station. (True / False)
4. How far was the house from the station?
5. What had the writer of the advertisement really meant?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 87

Mr. Williams was a gardener and a very good one too. Last year he came to work for Mrs. Elphinstone, who was old, fat and rich. She knew nothing about gardens, but thought that she knew a lot, and was always interfering. One day Mr. Williams got angry with Mrs. Elphinstone and called her an elephant. She did not like that at all, so she went to a lawyer, and a few months later Mr. Williams was in court, accused of calling Mrs. Elphinstone an elephant. The magistrate found Mr. Williams guilty, so Mr. Williams said to him, "Does that mean that I am not allowed to call this lady an elephant anymore?" "That is quite correct" the magistrate answered. "And am I allowed to call an elephant a lady?" the gardener asked. "Yes, certainly," the magistrate answered. Mr. Williams looked at Mrs. Elphinstone and said, "Goodbye, lady."

Answer these questions:

1. Mrs. Elphinstone was better at gardening than Mr. Williams. (True / False)
2. Mr. Williams called her an elephant because she was fat and because name was Elphinstone. (True / False)
3. What did Mr. Williams do when he got angry with Mrs. Elphinstone?
4. What did the magistrate decide?
5. What was Mr. Williams?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 88

The cautious captain of a small ship had to go along a coast with which he was unfamiliar, so he tried to find a qualified pilot to guide him. He went ashore in one of the small ports where his ship stopped, and a local fisherman pretended that he was one because he needed some money. The captain took him on board and let him tell him where to steer the ship. After half an hour the captain began to suspect that the fisherman did not really know what he was doing or where he was going so he said to him, "Are you sure you are a qualified pilot?" "Oh, yes" answered the fisherman. "I know every rock on this part of the coast." Suddenly there was a terrible tearing sound from under the ship. At once the fisherman added, "And that's one of them."

Answer these questions:

1. What did the captain of the small ship want? Why?
2. A fisherman wanted to earn some money by acting as a pilot. (True / False)
3. Why did a local fisherman want the job?
4. What did the captain ask him after half an hour?
5. Could the captain find a pilot?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 89

A very strict officer was talking to some new soldiers who he had to train. He had never seen them before, so he began: "My name is Stone, and I'm even harder than stone, so do what I tell you or there'll be trouble. Don't try any tricks with me, and then we'll get on well together." Then he went to each soldier one after the other and asked him his name. "Speak loudly so that everyone can hear you clearly," he said, "and don't forget to call me 'sir'." Each soldier told him his name, until he came to the last one. This man remained silent, and so Captain Stone shouted at him, "When I ask you a question, answer it! I'll ask you again: what's your name, soldier?" The soldier was very unhappy, but at last he replied, "My name's Stonebreaker, sir," he said nervously.

Answer these questions:

1. What was Captain Stone like?
2. What did he tell the young soldiers to call him?
3. Why did Captain Stone shout at the last soldier?
4. Why was the last soldier unhappy / nervous?
5. This was the first time the officer saw the soldiers. (True / False)
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 90

An old admiral was famous in the navy for his bad temper, so everyone tried hard not to annoy him. One week his ships were going to take part in a big international exercise, so he came on board in the evening, had his dinner and then went to bed. In the morning he had his breakfast early, came up to the bridge and examined the ships in his group carefully. Then he said angrily, "There should be two cruisers in this group, but I can only see one. Where's the other?" No one dared to answer, and this made the admiral even angrier. His face became redder and redder. "Well?" he shouted. "What are you fools hiding from me? Where's the second cruiser? What's happened to it? Answer me! At last a young sailor found enough courage to speak. "Please, sir," he said, "You're on it."

Answer these questions:

1. What had made the old admiral famous?
2. His cruiser was going to take part in an exercise with ships of other countries. (True / False)
3. What did he do on his ship in the morning?
4. What mistake had the admiral made?
5. Who found enough courage to speak to the admiral?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 91

Miss Jones teaches mathematics at a school. In one of her classes, the boys and girls are about eight years old, and they are not very good at arithmetic. Miss Jones always tries to make the work interesting and amusing as well as useful. One day she gave them a question: "If you go to the market to buy vegetables," she said, "and a carrot and a half cost twelve pence, how much will you have to pay for a dozen carrots?" The pupils began to write in the exercise books, and for a long time nobody spoke. Then one boy put his hand up and said, "Could you repeat the question, please, Miss?" The teacher began, "if a carrot and a half-", but the boy interrupted her. "Oh, a carrot and a half?" he said, "All this time I've been trying to work it out in cabbages, Miss."

Answer these questions:

1. Miss Jones helps her pupils enjoy their work. (True / False)
2. How much did a carrot and a half cost?
3. Did the pupils find the answer?
4. One boy thought he had not heard Miss Jones's question correctly. (True / False)
5. The pupils were not good at (a. physics / b. arithmetic)
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 92

When Mr. Andrews left university, he got a good job in a big oil company, but after he had been there for a few years, he decided that he would like a change. He also wanted to get a more important position, so that he could get more money, and perhaps also do more interesting work, so he put an advertisement in several newspapers, saying what experience he had had, describing the kind of job he had at that time and the kind he would like to have. One of the answers he received was from another man who was looking for a job too. This man wrote to him, "Dear Sir, When you get a new job, please be kind enough to give my name and address to your present employer, as I have been trying to find a position like yours for a long time."

Answer these questions:

1. When did Mr. Andrews get a job?
2. Mr. Andrews was an ambitious man. (True / False)
3. What kind of job did Mr. Andrews prefer?
4. Was he willing to take responsibility?
5. What did the other man want?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 93

Mary was a university student. She did not have very much money, and her parents were not rich, but she had an uncle who had been fortunate enough to collect great wealth. He had no children, and Mary was his favorite niece, so he always gave her valuable Christmas and birthday presents. When her Uncle George's birthday came round, Mary wanted to buy him something really special, but because he was so wealthy, she did not know what to get him. She went into the best shop in her town and explained what her problem was to one of the helpful young shop assistants. Finally Mary said to her, "I suppose this isn't the first time anybody has come to you with this problem. What do you have for someone who's already got everything he wants or needs?" The girl sighed deeply and answered, "Envy. Only envy."

Answer these questions:

1. Why didn't Mary have much money?
2. What did Mary always get from her uncle?
3. Why didn't Mary know what to get her uncle for his birthday?
4. A young shop assistant helped her. (True / False)
5. Why was it difficult to find something suitable for him?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 94

Miss Richards was a teacher at a school for boys and girls. She taught chemistry and physics from the lowest to the highest classes in the school. Sometimes the new classes learnt rapidly, but sometimes they were very slow, and then Miss Richards had to repeat things many times. One year, the first class had been studying chemistry for several weeks when Miss Richards suddenly asked, "What is water?" Who knows? Hands up!" There was silence for a few seconds, and Miss Richards felt saddened, but then one boy raised his hand. "Yes, Dick?" said Miss Richards encouragingly. He was not one of the brightest children in the class, so she was glad that he could answer. "Water is a liquid which has no color until you wash your hands in it, Miss. Then it turns black," the boy replied with great confidence.

Answer these questions:

1. What did Miss Richards teach?
2. Why did Miss Richards have to repeat things many times?
3. Miss Richards was unhappy when the children could not answer the questions. (True / False)
4. What did one of the students say about water?
5. Why was there silence in the chemistry class after Miss Richards's asked a question?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 95

While Mrs. Edwards was in town one Saturday, she saw a crash in an avenue: two cars ran into each other. The drivers got out, and an argument arose between them, but then a policeman arrived. He asked the drivers what had happened, and then he turned to the crowd which had collected round and said, "Did anyone see the accident?" Several people said they had, and Mrs. Edwards was one of them. A week later she was asked whether she was willing to be a witness in a court case concerning the accident, and she said she was; and a month later, a lawyer was questioning her in court. She began everything with, "I think that.....," until the lawyer got angry and said, "You're not here to say what you think: you're here to say what you know." "I'm sorry," objected Mrs. Edwards, "but I'm not a lawyer, so I can't say things without thinking."

Answer these questions:

1. The two cars crash into a tree. (True / False)
2. Did Mrs. Edwards see the accident?
3. What did Mrs. Edwards agree to do a week later?
4. What happened a month later?
5. Why did the lawyer get angry with Mrs. Edwards?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 96

During World War Two, a lot of young women in Britain were in the army. Joan Philips was one of them. She worked in a big camp, and of course met a lot of men, officers and soldiers. One evening she met Captain Humphreys at a dance. He said to her, "I'm going abroad tomorrow, but I'd be very happy if we could write to each other." Joan agreed, and they wrote for several months. Then his letters stopped, but she received one from another officer, telling her that he had been wounded and was in a certain army hospital in England. Joan went there and said to the matron, "I've come to visit Captain Humphreys." "Only relatives are allowed to visit patients here," the matron said. "Oh, that's all right," answered Joan. "I'm his sister." "I'm very pleased to meet you," the matron said. "I'm his mother!"

Answer these questions:

1. Joan was in the armed forces during World War Two. (True / False)
2. Where did Joan and Captain Humphreys meet?
3. Why did Captain Humphreys' letters stop?
4. Joan was the matron's daughter. (True / False)
5. Who was the matron?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 97

Mrs. Black was old and rich. She lived in a splendid house and owned a lot of valuable things. Then she died, and there was a big funeral. Notices were sent out to relatives and friends, and they came from far and near to attend the funeral. The service took place in Mrs. Black's old church, and then her body was taken back to be buried in a special place in her garden. The hearse carrying her body moved along slowly, followed by the relatives and friends, the women and children in cars, and the men on foot. One of Mrs. Black's cousins saw a poorly dressed man following the hearse and crying bitterly. The cousin said to him kindly, "Were you a relative of the dead woman too?" "No," the man answered. "Then why are you crying?" the dead woman's relative asked. "That's exactly why I'm crying," the poorly dressed man answered.

Answer these questions:

1. Mrs. Black was old and rich and she had.....
2. A lot of people came to the funeral. (True / False)
3. Was the poorly dressed man Mrs. Black's relative?
4. Who came to Mrs. Black's funeral?
5. Why was the poorly dressed man crying?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 98

It was very difficult to find jobs in the north-east of England, and when John lost his, he found it impossible to get a new one. He had soon spent all his money, so he decided to go down to the south of the country, where he had heard that things were better, and that it was easier to find work. The best way to go was by train, so he went to the railway station and got on a train which was going to London. He was the only passenger in his compartment when another man burst in carrying a gun and said to him, "Your money, or your life!" "I haven't got a penny," John answered in fright. "Then why are you trembling so much?" the man with the gun asked angrily. "Because I thought you were the ticket-collector, and I haven't even got a ticket," answered John.

Answer these questions:

1. Why did John leave the north-east of England?
2. Why did he go south?
3. What happened when he was alone in a compartment in a train?
4. John was trembling because he was afraid of the man's gun. (True / False)
5. What did John lose in the north-east of London?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 99

Mr. Grey liked shooting very much, but he did not get much practice at shooting wild animals, and he was not very good at it. One of his troubles was that his eyes were not very good and he had to wear glasses. When it rained and his glasses got wet, he could not see very well. One day he was invited to go out shooting bears in the mountains. It was rather a rainy day, and by mistake Mr. Grey shot at one of the other hunters and hit him in the leg. There was a court case about this, and at it the lawyer for the other man said, "Why did you shoot at Mr. Robinson?" Mr. Grey answered, "I thought he was a bear." "When did you realize that you were wrong?" the lawyer asked. "When the bear began to shoot back at me," Mr. Grey answered.

Answer these questions:

1. Why was Mr. Grey rather bad at shooting?
2. What invitation did he receive one day?
3. What happened during the hunt?
4. Mr. Grey hit another hunter instead of a bear. (True / False)
5. Why couldn't Mr. Grey see well during the hunt?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 100

Army camps always have to be guarded, of course, to make sure that nobody goes in or out without permission, otherwise soldiers could go out when they were not supposed to, and anybody could come in at any time and cause all sorts of trouble. There is usually a guard composed of several soldiers at each gate, and the men in the guard take turns to stand at the gate with a gun and stop everyone who wants to go in or out to see their passes. The man on guard is told to say, "Halt! Who goes there?" if anyone comes towards the gate. A soldier was guarding the gate of a camp at night when he heard a sound in the dark. "Halt! Who goes there?" he shouted nervously. "Nobody," a voice answered. The soldier thought for a few seconds and then said, "Well—is there anyone with you?"

Answer these questions:

1. How are the gates of army camps guarded?
2. What do guards do when someone comes near?
3. Why do army camps always have to be guarded?
4. The guards of the gates of army camps do not let soldiers go out without permission. (True / False)
5. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 101

Joe and Helen Mills had two small children. One of them was six, and the other was four. They always resisted going to bed, and Helen was always complaining to Joe about this, but as he did not come home from work until after they had gone to bed during the week, he was unable to help except at weekends. Joe considered himself a good singer, but really his voice was not at all musical. However, he decided that, if he sang to the children when they went to bed, it would help them to relax, and gradually they would go to sleep. He did this every Saturday and Sunday night until he heard his small son whisper to his younger sister, "If you pretend that you're asleep, he stops!"

Answer these questions:

1. What did Helen complain to her husband about?
2. Why couldn't Joe help his wife for most of the time?
3. When did Joe stop singing?
4. His son pretended he was asleep so that his father would not sing any more. (True / False)
5. When could Joe help Helen with the children?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 102

Mr. Hodges was the owner and editor of a small newspaper. He always tried to bring his readers the latest news. One day, he received an excited telephone call from someone who claimed that he had just come through a big flood in a village up in the mountains. He described the flood in great detail, and Mr. Hodges wrote it all down and printed it in his paper that evening. He was delighted to see that no other paper had got hold of the story. Unfortunately, however, angry telephone calls soon showed that he had been tricked, so in the next day's paper he wrote: "We were the first and only newspaper to report yesterday that the village of Greenbridge had been destroyed by a flood. Today, we are proud to say that we are again the first newspaper to bring our readers the news that yesterday's story was quite false."

Answer these questions:

1. What work did Mr. Hodges do?
2. What was his aim in his job?
3. What news did someone give him one day?
4. What gave Mr. Hodges a lot of pleasure?
5. How did he discover that he had been tricked?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 103

While Mr. Green was waiting for a bus one morning, a car passed him, going very rapidly. Mr. Green just had time to think, 'That fellow's certain to have an accident if....', before that was exactly what happened: the car hit the side of a bus violently as it was passing, and there was a terrible noise and quite a lot of damage. Mr. Green hurried to see whether anyone had been hurt, but everyone was all right. However, the bus driver asked him to be a witness at the trial, and Mr. Green agreed. At the trial, the judge asked Mr. Green, "How far were you from the place where the accident took place?" "Eleven meters and forty-eight centimeters," Mr. Green answered. The judge was astonished and said, "How do you know the distance so exactly?" "Because I was expecting some fool to ask me," Mr. Green answered.

Answer these questions:

1. What did Mr. Green think of the car that passed him very rapidly?
2. A bus ran into a car. (True / False)
3. Was anybody hurt in the accident?
4. What did Mr. Green agree to do?
5. Who was the fool?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 104

Mr. Jones had to drive up from London to Edinburgh in Scotland. "I'm going to drive at night," he said to his wife. "The roads will be quieter. And if I get hungry, I'll stop at one of the small restaurants at the side of the road and have something to eat." "The food's terrible in those places, I believe," his wife said. "Oh, well, I don't suppose it will kill me," Mr. Jones said, laughing. He left at 9 o'clock in the evening, and at about midnight he felt hungry, so he stopped at a small restaurant which was open all night and sat down at a table. A waiter came to him and Mr. Jones asked for ham and eggs. "And," he said to the waiter, "I like my eggs almost raw, and my ham quite cold." The waiter laughed and said, "You must have eaten here before!"

Answer these questions:

1. Why did Mr. Jones prefer to make his journey at night?
2. Where was he going to eat, if necessary?
3. Mr. Jones did not think the food in them was good but Mrs. Jones did. (True / False)
4. When did Mr. Jones feel hungry?
5. Did the waiter think that Mr. Jones had eaten at the restaurant before?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 105

Mr. Robinson won a lot of money on the football pools, but he did not know what the best thing to do with it would be, so he went to a friend who knew a lot about money matters. This friend said to him, "Go and buy some modern paintings. Their value goes up every year." Mr. Robinson went to a good art shop and looked at some modern paintings. He did not understand them at all, and thought that they were terrible—and also very expensive. At last he saw a small picture which did not have a price on it. It was square and white, and had a black spot in the middle, and a narrow brass frame. Mr. Robinson liked it better than any of the others in the shop. "How much is this one?" he said to the shopkeeper. "That, sir," answered the shopkeeper, "is the electric light switch."

Answer these questions:

1. How did Mr. Robinson become rich?
2. What advice did he want from his friend?
3. What was his friend's advice?
4. What did Mr. Robinson think about the paintings in the shop?
5. What was the picture that he finally chose like?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 106

Mr. and Mrs. Taylor had one child. He was a boy, he was seven years old, and his name was Pat. Now Mrs. Taylor was expecting another child. Pat had seen babies in other people's houses and had not liked them very much, so he was not delighted about the news that there was soon going to be one in his house too. One evening Mr. and Mrs. Taylor were making plans for the baby's arrival. "This house won't be big enough for us all when the baby comes. I suppose we'll have to find a larger house and move to that," said Mr. Taylor finally. Pat had been playing outside, but he came into the room just then and said, "What are you talking about?" "We were saying that we'll have to move to another house now, because the new baby's coming," his mother answered. "It's no use," said Pat hopelessly. "He'll follow us there."

Answer these questions:

1. Was Mrs. Taylor going to have another baby?
2. Why wasn't Pat delighted about the news?
3. What was Mr. and Mrs. Robinson's plan?
4. What did Pat think the baby will do when they move to another house?
5. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 107

Mary's mother was nearly seventy, and Mary and her husband wanted give the old lady a nice birthday present. She liked drinking tea, so Mary ordered an electric machine which made the drinking tea and then woke you up in the morning. She wrapped it up in pretty paper and brought it to her mother on her birthday. Then her mother opened the package. Mary showed her how to use it. "Before you go to bed, put the tea in the pot and the water in the kettle," she explained to the old lady, "and don't forget to switch the electricity on. Then, when you wake up in the morning, your tea will be ready." After a few days, Mary's mother rang up and said, "Perhaps I'm being rather silly, but there's one thing I'm confused about: why do I have to go to bed to make the tea?"

Answer these questions:

1. What did Mary and her husband buy her mother?
2. Mary sent her mother a nice present by post. (True / False)
3. Did the kettle need electricity to work?
4. Who liked drinking tea?
5. How did the electric machine work?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 108

During the Second World War it was difficult to travel by plane, because the seats were needed for important government and army people. Mr. Brown worked for the government during the war. He was a civilian, and he was doing very secret work, so nobody was allowed to know how important he was except a very few people. One day he had to fly to Edinburgh to give a lecture to a few top people there, but an important army officer came to the airport at the last minute, and Mr. Brown's seat was given to him, so he was not able to fly to the city to give his lecture. It was not until he reached the city that the important officer discovered that the man whose seat he had taken was the one whose lecture he had flown to the city to hear.

Answer these questions:

1. Why did ordinary people find it difficult to go by plane during the Second World War?
2. Whom did Mr. Brown work for?
3. Why were only very few people allowed to know how important Mr. Brown was?
4. Why didn't he manage to get to Edinburgh?
5. The important officer went to Edinburgh to give a lecture. (True / False)
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 109

Peter Judd joined the army when he was eighteen, and for several months he was taught how to be a good soldier. He did quite well in everything except shooting. One day he and his friends were practicing their shooting, and all of them were doing quite well except Peter. After he had shot at the target nine times and had not hit it once, the officer who was trying to teach the young soldiers to shoot said, "You're quite hopeless, Peter! Don't waste your last bullet too! Go behind that wall and shoot yourself with it!" Peter felt ashamed. He went behind the wall, and a few seconds later the officer and the other young soldiers heard the sound of a shot. "Heavens!" the officer said. "Has that silly man really shot himself?" He ran behind the wall anxiously, but Peter was all right. "I'm sorry, sir," he said, "but I missed again."

Answer these questions:

1. What was Peter not good at?
2. Could Peter hit the target?
3. The officer thought that Peter had shot himself. (True / False)
4. Why did the officer think that Peter was hopeless?
5. Did Peter hit the target at last?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 110

Mr. Richards worked in a small seaside town, and he and his wife had a comfortable house near the sea. During the winter they were quite happy there, but every summer a lot of their relatives used to want to come and stay with them, because it was a nice place for a holiday, and it was much cheaper than staying in a hotel. Finally one June Mr. Richards complained to an intelligent friend of his who lived in the same place. "One of my wife's cousins intends to bring her husband and children and spend ten days with us next month again. How do you prevent all your relatives coming to live with you in the summer?" "Oh," the friend answered, "that isn't difficult. I just borrow money from all the rich ones, and lend it to all the poor ones. After that, none of them come again."

Answer these questions:

1. What was Mr. and Mrs. Richard's house like?
2. Mr. and Mrs. Richards did not have many relatives. (True / False)
3. Why were they happier in winter than in summer?
4. Why did their relatives want to visit them?
5. How did Mr. Richards's friend prevent all his relatives from coming to live with him in the summer?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 111

Mrs. Scott bought a new house last year. The walls of the rooms had been painted a short time before, and Mrs. Scott like the colors, but the person who had sold her the house had taken the curtains with him, so Mrs. Scott had to buy new ones, and of course she wanted to buy ones whose colors would go with the walls of her rooms. She discovered that her comb was exactly the same color as these walls, so she always took it with her whenever she went to look for cloth for curtains. In one shop she showed the shopkeeper the comb and then looked at various cloths for curtains for half an hour with him, until he got tired and said to her, "Madam, wouldn't it be easier just to buy some cloth you like, and then find a new comb to go with that?"

Answer these questions:

1. Why did Mrs. Scott not want to have the walls of her new house painted?
2. Why did she have to buy new curtains?
3. What kind of curtains did she want?
4. Why did she take her comb with her when she went looking for cloth?
5. How did the shopkeeper feel after some time?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 112

Helen lived with her sister Mary. Both of them were about seventy-five years old, and neither of them had ever married. They had a small, old car, and when they wanted to go somewhere, which they did very rarely, Mary always drove, because her eyes were better. One weekend they drove to a large town to look at some things which they had read about in the newspaper. Neither of them had been to that town before. They were driving along in a lot of traffic when they turned right into a street which cars were not allowed to go into. There was a policeman there, and he blew his whistle, but Mary did not stop, so he got on to his motorcycle and followed them. After he had ordered them to stop, he said, "Didn't you hear me blow my whistle?" "Yes, we did," admitted Mary politely, "but Mummy told us never to stop when men whistle at us."

Answer these questions:

1. Who was better at driving? Why?
2. Mary did not stop, because she did not hear the policeman blow his whistle. (True / False)
3. What mistake did they make in the town?
4. Why did they go to a large town?
5. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 113

Mr. and Mrs. Davis had four children. One Saturday Mrs. Davis said to her husband, "The children haven't got any lessons today, and you're free too. There's a fun-fair in the park. Let's all go." Her husband was doubtful about this. "I want to finish some work," he said. "Oh, forget about it and come to the fair!" his wife said. So Mr. and Mrs. Davis took the children to the fun-fair. Mr. Davis was forty-five years old, but he enjoyed the fun-fair more than the children. He hurried from one thing to another, and ate lots of sweets and nuts. One of the children said to her mother, "Daddy's behaving just like a small child, isn't he, Mummy?" Mrs. Davis was quite tired of following her husband around by now, and she answered, "He's worse than a small child, Mary, because he's got his own money!"

Answer these questions:

1. Where did Mrs. Davis suggest that they should take the children?
2. Was Mr. Davis eager to go?
3. The children enjoyed the fun-fair, but Mr. Davis did not. (True / False)
4. Who behaved like a small child?
5. Why was Mr. Davis worse than a small child?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 114

Mr. Jones bought some things from a big shop last month, and when he got the bill a few days ago, he thought that there was a mistake in it, so he telephoned the shop and asked to speak to the Accounts Department. "Who do you want to speak to in the Accounts Department?" the telephone operator asked. "It doesn't matter to me," Mr. Jones answered. He did not know the names of any of the people who worked there. He heard nothing for a few seconds and then the operator said, "Hullo, you wanted to speak to someone in the Accounts Department, didn't you?" "Yes, that's right," Mr. Jones answered. "Would you like to speak to Mr. Hankinson?" the operator said. "Yeas, that'll be all right," Mr. Jones said patiently. "It doesn't matter who I speak to." "I'm sorry," the operator answered, "but Mr. Hankinson isn't in today."

Answer these questions:

1. Why did Mr. Jones telephone the big shop?
2. Who did he want to speak to?
3. Was Mr. Hankinson available?
4. Did the telephone operator help Mr. Jones a lot?
5. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 115

Mr. Hodge was a chicken farmer. He had hundreds of chickens, and sold the eggs and the meat and got quite a lot of money for them, but he lived in a very hot part of the country, and he found that his hens laid hardly any eggs in the summer. So he decide to put air-conditioning into his chicken-house so that the hens would lay well all through the year and could get more eggs and in that way earn more money. The owner of the company which sold the air-conditioning came to see him, and when he saw Mr. Hodge's house, he thought that he might be able to persuade him to buy some air-conditioning for that too. "Your wife would be much happier and more comfortable then," he said to Mr. Hodge. But Mr. Hodge was not interested. "My wife doesn't lay eggs," he said.

Answer these questions:

1. What work did Mr. Hodge do?
2. How did he earn his money?
3. Mr. Hodge's chickens laid a lot of eggs when the weather was hot. (True / False)
4. Where did he decide to put air-conditioning? Why?
5. Did Mr. Hodge put air conditioning in his house?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 116

George Banks was a clever journalist. He worked for a good newspaper, and he liked arguing very much. He argued with anybody, and about anything. Sometimes the people whom he argues with were as clever as he was, but often they were not. He did not mind arguing with stupid people at all: he knew that he could never persuade them to agree, because they could never really understand what he was saying; and the stupider they were, the surer they were that they were right; but he often found that stupid people said very amusing things. At the end of one argument which George had with one of these less clever people, the man said something which George has always remembered and which has always amused him. It was, "Well, sir, You should never forget this: there are always three answers to every question: your answer, my answer, and the correct answer."

Answer these questions:

1. What did he work for?
2. What was his hobby?
3. Why did he not mind arguing with stupid people?
4. George only argued with people who were less clever than he was. (True / False)
5. The stupid man thought that both he and George were wrong. (True / False)
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 117

Pat came over from Ireland to England with his wife one year to find work. He got quite a good job with a building company, and as he did not drink or smoke, he saved up quite a lot of money. His wife's parents were still in Ireland, and one day she got a telegram to say that her mother was ill, so Pat gave her some money and she went to Ireland to see her. After a week, Pat wanted to write a letter to her, but he could not read or write very well, so he went to his priest and asked him to do it for him. Pat told the priest what he wanted to say, and the priest wrote it down. After a few minutes, Pat stopped, and the priest said, "Do you want to say any more?" "Only, "Please excuse the bad writing and spelling", ' Pat said.

Answer these questions:

1. Why did Pat come to England?
2. How did he manage to save money?
3. Why did his wife have to go to Ireland?
4. Why didn't he write the letter to his wife?
5. Pat brought his wife to England with him. (True / False)
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 118

Mark went to a barber's shop and had his hair cut, but when he came out, he was not happy with the result, and when his friend George saw him, he laughed and said, "What's happened to your hair, Mark?" Mark said, "I tried a new barber's shop today, because I wasn't at all satisfied with my old one, but this one seems even worse." George agreed. "Yes, I think you're right, Mark. Now I'll tell you what to do next time you go into a barber's shop; look at all the barber's hair, and then go to the one whose own hair has been cut the worst." "The one whose hair's been cut the worst?" Mark repeated. "But that would be foolish!" "Oh, no, it wouldn't," answered George. "Who do you think cut the man's hair? He couldn't cut it himself, could he? Another of the barbers cut it—and he must have been a worse barber than the one whose hair he cut."

Answer these questions:

1. Mark's hair was cut badly. (True / False)
2. What did his friend advise him?
3. How did Mark feel when he came out of the barber's shop?
4. Was Mark satisfied with the new barber?
5. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 119

Mrs. Harris's husband died when she was forty-five years old. She had a son, who was eighteen years old at that time. Mrs. Harris was not a widow for a long time. She met a nice man who was a few years older than she was, and two years after her first husband had died, she married for the second time. Her son, Peter, was twenty years old then. Mrs. Harris had a nice, quiet wedding in the village church, and after that, they had the usual party at her house for her family and her new husband, and for some of their friends, but Peter was very late for the party. At last he hurried in, kissed his mother, and said, "I'm sorry I'm late, Mum, but I've been looking everywhere for a card which says, "To my Mother, for her Wedding," and I haven't been able to find one."

Answer these questions:

1. Why did Mrs. Harris marry when she was forty-seven?
2. What kind of wedding did Mrs. Harris have?
3. Why was Peter late?
4. How old was Peter when his mother got married for the second time?
5. Mrs. Harris was twenty-five when Peter was born. (True / False)
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 120

A long time ago, when airplanes were not very big or strong yet, all the passengers had to be weighed with their luggage, so that planes did not have to carry more than it was safe to carry. Then later, when airplanes became bigger and stronger, only the luggage had to be weighed; and now very often, the luggage has to be measure instead of being weighed, because size is more important to the airlines than weight. Airplanes are so big and strong now, that they can carry almost any weight. But before a passenger can travel by Hawaiian Airlines, he or she still has to be weighed. Once when one fat man was asked by the airlines' clerk how much he weighed, he thought for a few seconds and then said to her: "With or without my clothes?" "Well, sir," the girl answered, "how are you planning to travel?"

Answer these questions:

1. Hawaiian Airlines only weigh fat passengers. (True / False)
2. Why did airplane passengers have to be weighed a long time ago?
3. Why does luggage have to be measured instead of being weighed?
4. Could airlines carry any weight in the past?
5. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 121

When Dick was six years old, he went and stayed with his grandparents in the country for a few weeks in the summer. He talked a lot with his grandmother while he was there, and she told him a lot of interesting things about their family which he had not known before. When he came home again to his own parents, he said to his father, "Is it true that I was born in London, Daddy?" "Yes, it is, Dick," his father answered. "And were you really born in Germany?" Dick asked. "Yes, that's right," his father answered. "I was." "And is it true that Mummy was born in Ireland?" Dick continues. His father said, "Yes, it is, but why are you asking all these questions?" Dick answered, "Because when Granny told me all those things while I was with her, I couldn't understand how we had all met."

Answer these questions:

1. Whom did Dick visit when he was six?
2. How did Dick find out a lot of interesting things about his family?
3. Dick's parents had been born in the same country. (True / False)
4. Who was born in Ireland?
5. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 122

When Dave Perkins was young, he played a lot of games, and he was thin and strong, but when he was forty-five, he began to get fat and slow. He was not able to breathe as well as before, and when he walked rather fast, his heart beat painfully. He did not do anything about this for a long time, but finally he became anxious and went to see a doctor, and the doctor sent him to hospital. Another young doctor examined him there and said, "I don't want to mislead you, Mr. Perkins. You're very ill, and I believe that you are unlikely to live much longer. Would you like me to arrange for anybody to come and see you before you die?" Dave thought for a few seconds and then he answered, "I'd like another doctor to come and see me."

Answer these questions:

1. What was Dave like when he was young?
2. What happened to him when he was forty-five?
3. As soon as Dave had trouble in breathing and walking, he went to see a doctor. (True / False)
4. What did the young doctor think will happen to Dave Perkins?
5. Did Dave trust the young doctor?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 123

Joe was one of those people who love the sound of their own voice. He never had anything interesting to say, but he talked and talked and talked, and every story he told reminded him of another one, so that he never stopped for a second to let anybody else say anything. One evening he was invited to a party by someone whom he had met only a few days before and who did not know him very well yet. They had a good meal, and then they had some music and dancing. Joe danced once with a pretty girl and then suggested that they should sit and talk. He talked and talked and talked, and was just beginning, "And that reminds me of the time..." when the girl said, "The time? Yes, you're quite right!" She looked at her watch quickly and said, "Look how late it is. I must go."

Answer these questions:

1. What kind of person was Joe?
2. What happened whenever he found someone to talk to?
3. Joe wanted to talk instead of dancing. (True / False)
4. Who invited Joe to the party?
5. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 124

Matthew Hobbs was sixteen years old. He had been at the same school for five years, and he had always been a very bad pupil. He was lazy, he fought with other pupils, he was rude to the teachers, and he did not obey the rules of the school. His headmaster tried to make him work and behave better, but he was never successful—and the worst thing was that, as Matthew grew older, he was a bad influence on the younger boys. Then at last Matthew left school. He tried to get a job with a big company, and the manager wrote to the headmaster to find out what he could say about Matthew. The headmaster wanted to be honest, but he also did not want to be too hard, so he wrote, "If you can get Matthew Hobbs to work for you, you will be very lucky."

Answer these questions:

1. How did Matthew behave at school?
2. What did Matthew do when he left school?
3. Matthew had come to his school when he was ten. (True / False)
4. Did the manager succeed at making Matthew a better pupil?
5. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 125

Harry came to his mother one morning while she was having her breakfast, and said to her, "No one at my school likes me, Mother. The teachers don't, and the children don't. Even the cleaners and the bus drivers hate me." "Well, Harry," his mother answered, "perhaps you aren't very nice to them. If a few people don't like a person, he or she may not be responsible for that; but if a lot of people don't, there's usually something wrong, and that person really needs to change." "I'm too old to change," Harry said. "I don't want to go to school." "Don't be silly, Harry," his mother said, going towards the garage to get the car out. "You have to go. You're quite well, and you still have a lot of things to learn. And besides that, you're the headmaster of the school."

Answer these questions:

1. What was Harry's job?
2. What did he complain to his mother about?
3. Harry's mother thought he should change, because a lot of people did not like him. (True / False)
4. Why didn't Harry think he can change?
5. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 126

Mrs. Watson was a doctor's wife. She had a nice neighbor, Mrs. Potts. They often did each other's shopping. One day, Mrs. Potts had to go to Dr. Watson because she was ill, so Mrs. Watson said, "I'll do your shopping today, Beryl." Mrs. Potts told her that she only wanted a sheep's kidney. Mrs. Watson went to the shops, and when she came back, she went to Mrs. Potts's house, but she was not there, so she went to her own house. She looked in her husband's waiting-room, but Mrs. Potts was not there either, so she went into her husband's office. Her husband told her that Mrs. Potts had just left him and gone to the lavatory. Mrs. Watson ran out into the crowded waiting-room just in time to catch Mrs. Potts. She shouted, "Here's your kidney!" and ran and gave her the parcel.

Answer these questions:

1. Mrs. Potts lived near Mrs. Watson. (True / False)
2. What work did Mrs. Watson's husband do?
3. How did Mrs. Potts and Mrs. Watson help each other?
4. Where did Mrs. Potts ask Mrs. Watson to buy her?
5. Where did Mrs. Watson find Mrs. Potts in the end?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 127

Jim was intelligent, but he hated hard work. He said, "You work hard, and earn a lot of money, and then the government takes most of it. I want easy work that gives me lots of money and that the government doesn't know about." So he became a thief—but he did not do the stealing; he got others to do it. They were much less intelligent than he was, so he arranged everything and told them what to do. One day they were looking for rich families to rob, and Jim sent one of them to a large beautiful house just outside the town. It was evening and when the man looked through one of the windows, he saw a young man and a girl playing a duet on a piano. When he went back to Jim, he said, "That family can't have much money. Two people were playing on the same piano there."

Answer these questions:

1. Jim was clever, but lazy. (True / False)
2. He always used clever people to steal for him. (True / False)
3. Why did Jim become a thief?
4. Why did the man think that the family was poor?
5. Did Jim steal the houses himself?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 128

Henry was from the United States and he had come to London for a holiday. One day he was not feeling well, so he went to the clerk at the desk of his hotel and said, "I want to see a doctor. Can you give me the name of a good one?" The clerk looked in a book and then said, "Dr Kenneth Grey, 61010." Henry said, "Thank you very much. Is he expensive?" "Well," the clerk answered, "he always charges his patients two pounds for their first visit to him, and 1.50 for later visits." Henry decided to save 50p, so when he went to see the doctor, he said, "I've come again, doctor." For a few seconds the doctor looked at his face carefully without saying anything. Then he nodded and said, "Oh, yes." He examined him and then said, "Everything's going as it should be. Just continue with the medicine I gave you last time."

Answer these questions:

1. Why did Henry have to ask someone else for the name of a doctor?
2. How much did the second visit to the doctor cost?
3. Henry tried to make the doctor believe that he had been to him before. (True / False)
4. What did the doctor prescribe to Henry?
5. Why did Henry want to see a doctor?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 129

Mrs. Jenkins was the owner of a small restaurant in Southampton. Southampton is a big port. Mrs. Jenkins had two young waitresses and a cook to help her. One day a sailor came into the restaurant, sat down at one of the tables, ordered what he wanted from the waitress and then got up and left again a few minutes. The owner of the restaurant was surprised when she saw this, so she called the waitress and asked her why the man had left before having his meal. "Well," the waitress answered, "he asked for some of our fried rabbit, and when I went out into the kitchen to order it from the cook, the cat was just on the other side of the door and I stepped on its tail by mistake. It made a terrible noise, of course, and then the man got up from his table and went out very quickly."

Answer these questions:

1. What was Mrs. Jenkins's job?
2. Who did she have working for her?
3. What did the sailor order?
4. The cat made a noise because its tail hurt. (True / False)
5. Why did the sailor leave the restaurant?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 130

There is a prison in Iceland which allows its prisoners to go out without any guards to work every day. They work on the farms near the prison during the day, and come back to have their evening meal and to sleep every evening. Before they are allowed to go out like this, they have to promise to come back every evening. If they do not promise this, they are not let out. One night one of the prisoners was invited to have a meal and a drink with the family of the farmer he was working for, so he came back to the prison very late. He had to knock at the gate several times before the guard came to let him in. The guard did not like being disturbed at this time, so he said to the prisoner angrily, "If you come back so late again, I won't let you in."

Answer these questions:

1. What was special about the prison in Iceland?
2. What do prisoners have to do in order to be allowed to work outside?
3. Why was one prisoner very late one night?
4. The guard did not like opening the gate late at night because he was afraid. (True / False)
5. Where should prisoners have their evening meal?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 131

Peter was 10 years old, and he was having painting lessons every week at a small private class. During the Christmas holidays, he had a party at his home, and he wanted to invite one of the other students, but he only knew her name—Celia Poe. He did not know her address or her telephone number. Peter's mother looked in the telephone book and said, "Well, there are only four Poes here, so I'll telephone each of them and ask whether they have a daughter who has painting lessons." She telephoned the first one, and the telephone rang for rather a long time before a woman answered. Peter's mother said, "Excuse me. Is that the Mrs. Poe who has a daughter who takes painting lessons?" "No, it isn't," the woman answered. "This is the Mrs. Poe who had to get out of her bath to answer the telephone!"

Answer these questions:

1. Why did Peter want to telephone Celia?
2. How did his mother plan to help Peter?
3. Peter studied painting with a lot of other children. (True / False)
4. Did Peter's mom call the correct Poe?
5. How often did Peter have painting lessons?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 132

Can you think of a sentence in which the word 'and' appears five times, without any words in between? There is one at the end of this story. There was once an inn which was called "The Horse and Cart". It had a sign outside it which had a picture of a horse and cart on it, but the sign was getting very old, so the owner of the inn decided to have a new made. He went to a painter and asked him to paint one, and to write "The Horse and Cart" on it in large letters. A few days later, he went to see how the painter was getting on. He liked the picture of the horse and cart very much, but he did not like the writing at all. He said to the painter, "No, no! There's too much space between HORSE and AND and AND and CART!"

Answer these questions:

1. What is strange about the last sentence in this story?
2. Why did the owner of the inn want a new sign?
3. What didn't he like about the writing on the new sign?
4. What was the name of the inn?
5. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 133

A young man was called up for army service and had to go to be medically examined. The doctor was sitting at a desk when he went in. He said to the man, "Take your coat and shirt off, loosen your belt and sit on that chair." The young man did so. The doctor looked at him for a moment without getting up from his chair and then said, "All right. Put your clothes on again." "But you haven't examined me at all!" the young man said in a troubled voice. "It isn't necessary," the doctor said gently. "When I told you to take your coat and shirt off, you heard me all right, so you aren't deaf. You saw the chair I pointed to, so your eyesight's good enough for the army. You managed to take your clothes off and to sit on the chair, so your body must be healthy, and you understood that I told you to do and did it without a mistake, so you must possess enough intelligence for the army."

Answer these questions:

1. What was the young man being medically examined for?
2. What worried the young man?
3. How did the doctor know that the young man was not deaf?
4. How did he know that he could see all right?
5. How did he know that he was intelligent enough for the army?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 134

A man was telling one of his friends the secret of his contented married life. "My wife makes all the small decisions," he explained, "and I make all the big ones, so we never interfere in each other's business and never get annoyed with each other. We have no complaints and no arguments." "That sounds reasonable," answered his friend sympathetically. "And what sort of decisions does your wife make?" "Well," answered the man, "she decides what jobs I apply for, what sort of house we live in, what furniture we have, where we go for our holidays, and things like that." His friend was surprised. "Oh?" he said. "And what do you consider important decisions then?" "Well," answered the man, "I decide who should increase our help to poor countries, what we should do about the atom bomb, and things like that."

Answer these questions:

1. What was the secret of the man's happy marriage?
2. What sort of decisions did the wife make?
3. What sort of decisions did the husband make?
4. Which of the two was able to carry out his or her decisions?
5. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 135

John was the only son of a wealthy American businessman. Usually he was taken to school by the chauffeur in his father's beautiful car, before the chauffeur took John's father to his office. One evening his father told him that he had to go to the airport early the next day, so he would need the car at the time that John had to go to school. He said that John's mother, who possessed another car, would still be in bed at the time he had to leave the house. "Well, how will I get to school if you need your car and Mummy is still in bed?" John asked. His father thought this was a good opportunity to teach him a lesson about how hard life was for the less unfortunate people of the world, so he answered, "You'll go in the same way as every other child in the world goes—in a taxi."

Answer these questions:

1. Why was John able to go to school in a beautiful car driven by a chauffeur?
2. Why couldn't the chauffeur take John to school one day?
3. What was the lesson that John's father wanted to teach him?
4. Did John's mother take him to school by her car?
5. Who was usually taken first, John to school or his father to his office?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 136

At the entrance to a big office in London there was a book which all employees had to sign when they arrived each morning. At nine o'clock, the manager's secretary, who lived in a small flat above the office, had to draw a red line under the last name in the book, and anyone who came after that had to explain why he was late. Whenever there was a thick fog in the city, the first person to arrive late usually wrote "Delayed by fog" under the red line in the book, and then everybody else who came after that just put "ditto" underneath. But one foggy morning, the first man to arrive late wrote "My wife had a baby early this morning" instead of "Delayed by fog" under the red line in the book. Twenty or thirty people who came after him put "ditto" underneath this as usual.

Answer these questions:

1. What was a common reason for being late?
2. What was the first man's reason for being late?
3. What was there at the entrance to a big office in London?
4. Where did the manager's secretary live?
5. When was the red line drawn?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 137

A policeman returned to his police station one evening and reported to the sergeant that he had found an old car with no number plates. "Where was it?" asked the sergeant. "In Ecclesiastes Street, beyond the bridge," answered the policeman. The sergeant opened the report book and began to write. When he reached the name of the street, he began to spell aloud: "E-c-l". He looked at this for a few seconds, then crossed it out and wrote "E-c-k". Then he became annoyed, decided that he was already too busy with other jobs, and said to the policeman, "Write the report yourself." The policeman had a try too, but after a minute, he put his helmet on and began to go out slowly. "Where are you going?" the sergeant asked. "Back to Ecclesiastes Street," answered the policeman. "I'm going to push the car round the corner into Green Street."

Answer these questions:

1. What report did the sergeant want to write in the book?
2. Why did he become annoyed?
3. Why did the policeman want to push the car into Green Street?
4. Where was the old car?
5. What job did the sergeant ask the policeman to do?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 138

The leader of a band was finding it extremely difficult to prepare for an important performance, because the members of the band were never all present at any of the rehearsals. Then the last rehearsal before the show came, and again some of the members were not there. At the end of the rehearsal, the leader said to all the members of the band who were present, 'I have been making a note of those who have been absent from our various rehearsals. Here it is. 'I see that the only man who has been hard-working and faithful enough to be present every time is the drummer.' The drummer went very red, stood up and answered, 'Well, I thought it was the only right thing to do, as I won't be able to come to the show tomorrow.'

Answer these questions:

1. What made it difficult for the leader of the band to do his work properly?
2. How did the leader of the band know who had been at previous rehearsals?
3. Who had never missed a rehearsal?
4. Why did the drummer go very red?
5. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 139

A man was tired of living in his old house in the country and wanted to sell it and buy a better one. He attempted to sell it for a long time, but was not successful, so at last he decided to solve the problem by using an estate agent. The agent promptly advertised the house, and a few days later, the owner saw a very attractive photograph of it, with a wonderful description of its gardens, in an expensive magazine. After the house owner had read the advertisement through, he hastened to telephone the estate agent and said to him, "I'm sorry, Mr. Jones, but I've decided not to sell my house after all. After reading your advertisement in that magazine, I can see that it's just kind of house I've wanted to live in all my life."

Answer these questions:

1. Why did the man want to sell his house?
2. Why did he finally have to go to an estate agent?
3. What did the estate agent do about selling the house?
4. Did the man change his mind about selling the house?
5. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 140

Jean was a very beautiful young girl, so she was quite used to some men showing their admiration for her, and to others being confused and shy when they saw her. One summer, when Jean was travelling abroad, she went into a café in a small town, sat down and waited to be served. The young waiter was talking to someone at the bar when she came in, and at first he did not pay any attention to her, because he had not looked at her properly. Then he turned round and saw how beautiful she was. His face went bright red, and he hurried over to take her order. "I'd like coffee without cream, please," Jean said. The waiter hurried out, and came back a few minutes later without the coffee. "I'm very sorry," he said, "but we haven't got any cream. Would you like your coffee without milk?"

Answer these questions:

1. Why didn't the young waiter pay attention to Jean at first?
2. The waiter's face reddened because he was hurrying. (True / False)
3. What was Jean used to?
4. What did Jean order?
5. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 141

Carol and Susan were great friends. They were in the same class at school, and they often visited each other's homes at weekends. When they were both eight years old, Carol's mother had a baby. Carol was overjoyed to have a little sister and was always talking about her to Susan, who had no brothers or sisters. At first Susan was very interested in the new baby, but after some time she began to get rather discontented with Carol's continual talking about it. She also felt a little jealous. One morning when the two girls were in the school playground, Carol said to Susan cheerfully, "Do you know, Sue, my baby sister gained nearly two hundred grams in weight this week." "That's not very much," answered Susan. "I know a baby that gains five kilograms a day." "Oh, that can't be true!" answered Carol scornfully. "Whose baby is it?" "An elephant's," said Susan.

Answer these questions:

1. How many children did Susan's parents have?
2. Why did Susan get tired of hearing about Carol's sister?
3. What did Carol boast to Susan about one morning?
4. How old was Carol when her mother gave birth to a new baby?
5. Who had no brothers or sisters?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 142

One year Miss Wyatt decided to have a holiday in Italy. She did not speak much Italian, but whenever she went, she was fortunate enough to find people who knew enough English to be able to understand what she wanted, until one day she decided to have lunch in a charming little restaurant in a village in the south of Italy. She had seen some nice mushrooms in the market of another village near there and thought they would taste very good, so when the waiter came to take her order for lunch, she inquired whether she could have some mushrooms for her meal, but she had great difficulty in explaining to him, because she did not know the Italian word for mushrooms. At last she took out a pencil and drew a picture of a mushroom. The waiter's face brightened at once, and he hastened out to the kitchen. A minute later he returned, carrying an umbrella.

Answer these questions:

1. Where did Miss Wyatt have trouble in making herself understood?
2. Why did she think she would like some mushrooms?
3. How did she try to show the waiter what she wanted?
4. Why did the waiter bring her an umbrella?
5. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 143

Tom saw an advertisement in a newspaper for a beautiful, modern bicycle which cost \$54.99, so he went to the shop which had put the advertisement in and asked to see one of their wonderful bicycles. The shopkeeper was very happy to show one to Tom, who examined it carefully and then turned to the shopkeeper, saying, "There isn't a lamp on this bicycle, but there was one on the bicycle in your advertisement." "Yes, sir," answered the shopkeeper, "but the lamp isn't included in the price of the bicycle. It's an extra." "Not included in the price of the bicycle?" Tom said angrily. "But that's not honest. If the lamp's in the advertisement, it should have been included in the price you gave there." "Well, sir," answered the shopkeeper calmly, "there's also a girl on that bicycle in our advertisement, but we don't supply one of them with the bicycle either."

Answer these questions:

1. How did Tom find out about the bicycle which cost \$54.99?
2. What did he object to about the bicycle in the shop?
3. Why was there no lamp on that bicycle?
4. Tom was angry because the lamp was an extra. (True / False)
5. The bicycle cost \$54.99 without the lamp. (True / False)
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 144

David was a young man who worked in an office in a big city. His hobby was fishing, but he did not often get a chance to practice it. Then one summer he decided to have a holiday in a beautiful place in the mountains where there were a lot of streams. "I ought to be able to have some good fishing there," he said to himself. The first morning after he arrived, he walked to the nearest stream with his fishing-rod. He saw an old man standing beside the water, so he asked him whether it was a private stream. The old man answered that it was not, so David then said to him, "Well, then it won't be a crime if I catch some fish here, will it?" "On, no," answered the old man, "it won't be a crime, but it will certainly be a miracle."

Answer these questions:

1. Did the stream that David went to first belong to someone?
2. Did the old man think that David would catch any fish in the stream?
3. What was David's hobby?
4. Where did he decide to do one summer?
5. What did David ask the old man about?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 145

Jack had gone to the university to study history, but at the end of his first year, his history professor failed him in his last examinations, and he was told that he would have to leave the university. However, his father decided that he would go to see the professor to urge him to let Jack continue his studies the following year. "He's a good boy," said Jack's father, "and if you let him pass this time, I'm sure he'll improve a lot next year and pass the examinations at the of it really well." "No, no, that's quite impossible!" replied the professor immediately. "Do you know, last month I asked him when Napoleon had died, and he didn't know!" "Please, sir, give him another chance," said Jack's father. "You see, I'm afraid we don't take any newspapers in our house, so none of us even knew that Napoleon was ill."

Answer these questions:

1. Why did Jack have to leave the university?
2. What did his father try to do?
3. Did Jack's father know the answer to the professor's question?
4. Jack's father thought that his son would improve and pass the examinations next year. (True / False)
5. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 146

Mr. Briggs got a job with an insurance company after he left school and went around visiting people in their homes to sell them life insurance. One day, after he had been working for the company for about a year, the insurance manager sent for him and said, "Mr. Briggs, I have been looking at your record as a salesman with our company, and there is one thing that surprises me about it. Why have you been selling insurance only to people over 95 years old, and why have you been giving them such generous conditions? You'll ruin our company if you go on like that." "Oh, no, sir," answered Mr. Briggs at once. "Before I started work, I looked at the figures for death in this country during the past ten years, and I can tell you that extremely few people die at the age of 95 or above each year."

Answer these questions:

1. What surprised the manager about Mr. Briggs's work?
2. What was Mr. Briggs job?
3. Who sent for him one day?
4. Why was Mr. Briggs selling insurance only to people over 95 years old?
5. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 147

For a long time, Dr. Jackson had wanted to get a permanent job in a certain big modern hospital, and at last he was quite successful. He was appointed to the particular position which he wanted, and he and his wife moved to the house which they were now to live in. The next day some beautiful flowers were delivered to them, with a note which said, "Deepest sympathy". Naturally, Dr. Jackson was annoyed to receive such an extraordinary note, and telephone the shop which had sent the flowers to find out what the note meant. When the owner of the shop heard what had happened, he apologized to Dr. Jackson for having made the mistake. "But what really worries me much more," he added, "is that the flowers which ought to have gone to you were sent to a funeral, with a card which said, "Congratulations on your new position".

Answer these questions:

1. What did Mr. Jackson succeed in doing?
2. What annoyed him about the note on the flowers he had received?
3. Why was the owner of the shop worried about the card which had gone to the funeral?
4. Why did Dr. Jackson telephone the shop?
5. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 148

A poor farmer who had always lived in the country and had never visited a big town won a lot of money, so he decided that he could now afford a holiday in an excellent hotel by the sea. When lunch-time came on his first day there, he decided to go and eat in the restaurant of the hotel. The head waiter showed him to his table, took his order and went away. When he looked at the farmer again, he had a surprise! The farmer had tied his table napkin round his neck. The head waiter was very annoyed at this and immediately told one of the other waiters in the restaurant to go to the man and inform him, without being in any way insulting, that people did not do such a thing in restaurants of that quality. The waiter went to the farmer and said in a friendly voice, "Good morning, sir. Would you like a shave, or a haircut?"

Answer these questions:

1. What made it possible for the farmer to afford to stay in an expensive hotel?
2. What surprised the head waiter?
3. The head waiter tried to warn the farmer about the table napkin in an insulting way. (True / False)
4. Did the farmer want a shave?
5. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 149

A man and his wife had arranged to have a holiday at the seaside. They were waiting at the railway station for their train when the man saw a weighing-machine near the bench on which they were sitting. It was one of those weighing-machines that give cards on which one's fortune is printed as well as one's weight. The man decided to weigh himself, so he went to the machine, got on it, put a penny in, and a card came out. The man took it back to his wife, and she read it out to him, because he had not got his glasses on. On the card was written, "You are the leader of men and have a masterly character. You have great intelligence and are attractive to women." After she had read this out, the man's wife turned the card over, looked at the back for a moment and then remarked, "It's got your weight wrong too."

Answer these questions:

1. Why were the man and his wife at the station?
2. What information did the weighing-machine provide / give?
3. Why did the man give the card to his wife to read?
4. Did the wife believe the weighing-machine?
5. How much money did the man put in the weighing-machine?
6. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 150

A man went to see his doctor one day because he was suffering from pains in his stomach. After the doctor had examined him carefully, he said to him, "Well, there's nothing really wrong with you, I'm glad to say. Your only trouble is that you worry too much. Do you know, I had a man with the same trouble as you in here a few weeks ago, and I gave him the same advice as I'm going to give you. He was worried because he couldn't pay his tailor's bills. I told him not to worry his head about the bills any more. He followed my advice, and when he came to see me again two days ago, he told me that he now feels quite all right again." "Yes, I know all about that," answered the patient sadly. "You see, I'm that man's tailor."

Answer these questions:

1. Why did the man go to see his doctor?
2. What did the doctor say about the man's health?
3. What advice had the doctor given to a previous patient?
4. Why was the previous patient worried?
5. Give the passage a suitable title.

Passage 1

1. He was a very lazy boy.
2. a doctor.
3. garbage collector.
4. Because he wanted to work one day a week.
5. She was very surprised.
6. Because he knows the ones who come to their house only work on Wednesday (once a week).
7. John أو A lazy boy أو Garbage Collector

Passage 2

1. By train.
2. A man sitting behind him, who Mr. Smith had never met before, leaned forward, tapped him on the shoulder and spoke to him.
3. He was reading his newspaper.
4. False
5. Because he is always sitting in the seat behind him.
6. Mr. Smith أو A Stranger on the Train

Passage 3

1. In the mountains.
2. Because she didn't bring enough money.
3. "Can you identify yourself, please?" أو He asked her to identify herself.
4. She was puzzled.
5. She took her mirror out of her handbag, looked at it, and then said happily, "Yes, it is me."
6. Lisa أو Summer Vacation أو No Money أو Lisa and the Bank's Teller

Passage 4

1. Shoes and boots.
2. Because the store wanted to get rid of as many as possible in order to make room for their new stock.
3. Yes, it was.
4. Because she was wearing the shoes she bought.
5. Because the prices had been reduced a lot.
6. A Large Store أو Spring Sale

Passage 5

1. When Fred sells his rusty old car.
2. He put a "For Sale" sign in the back window of the car, and he put another sign on the bulletin board in his college dormitory.
3. Because he had to pay before being allowed to use the road.
4. The attendant.
5. No, he didn't.
6. Fred أو Rusty Old Car

Passage 6

1. Because he had to walk so much.
2. Because his doctor told him that salt water was the best thing for them.
3. Because all of the hotels near the sea were expensive.
4. put his feet in the water.
5. Because the tide had gone out.
6. Salt Water أو A Traveling Salesman

Passage 7

1. To give a twenty-minute speech in another city.
2. His secretary.
3. Restless and bored.
4. Because he read the original and two copies.
5. To check them before he gives the speech.
6. Important Businessman أو A Long Speech أو The Speech

Passage 8

1. On his knowledge of what to do if someone fell overboard while he was in charge of the ship.
2. A big can was thrown into the sea.
3. No, he wasn't.
4. He struck the can once more straight in front of the ship.
5. The sailor.
6. A Young Officer أو Inexperience Officer أو Do not save me

Passage 9

1. Because he had read a lot about air accidents.
2. Take-off and the landing.
3. He was extremely frightened and closed his eyes.
4. No, they didn't.
5. No, he didn't.
6. Mr. Johnson أو Air Accidents

Passage 10

1. Yes, she did.
2. No, he didn't.
3. Six months.
4. Very bad for one's health.
5. He thought he's a wise young man.
6. A Man and Woman أو A Good Son أو The Baby

Passage 11

1. They were sitting together on a bench in the park.
2. There was cool air and clear sky.
3. Like bright stars shining in the clear night sky.
4. Like pearls reflecting the light of the moon.
5. Yes, he did.
6. Joe's girlfriend.
7. Joe and His Girlfriend أو Wonderful Things

Passage 12

1. A big collection of extremely rare bones.
2. He managed to get a new and better job at another university.
3. Because Mr. Grey was very busy.
4. He took a large wooden box.
5. He was just about to throw it into the van with all the other things.
6. Mr. Grey أو The Biology Professor أو Rare Bones

Passage 13

1. Some diving in the sea.
2. He bought a rubber suit and all the other things that he needed, and took some lessons at a diving school.
3. He saw a lot of beautiful fish and other things.
4. Drowning.
5. A bathing suit.
6. Young Rich Man أو Drowning أو Help Me!

Passage 14

1. She went to live in an attractive village out in the country.
2. The nearest town.
3. Good morning, Mrs. Brown.
4. Because there's another lady who comes to their store every Saturday who looks just like her.
5. Every week.
6. Mrs. Green أو I'm not Mrs. Brown أو The Cashier

Passage 15

1. Because she was going to have her first baby.
2. Sam was walking anxiously up and down in the corridor.
3. Because he has an older sister, and she was always very kind to him when he was a child.
4. It was a boy.
5. Midnight.
6. Helen and Sam أو A Baby Boy

Passage 16

1. It is often very difficult these days to find someone to come and fix it.
2. Because everybody wants to sell you new products.
3. Because Mrs. Harris discovered that her bathroom faucet was leaking.
4. Three days.
5. No, he didn't.
6. The Plumber أو Mrs. Harris أو Leaking Faucet

Passage 17

1. He found his wife very annoyed about something.
2. Mr. Smith always thought that he was more sensible than his wife.
3. Because there was a bee on his nose.
4. a bee
5. It was on the importance of always remaining calm.
6. Mr. Smith أو The Bee

Passage 18

1. Very old, rusty and dirty.
2. its engine.
3. He was pulling one of the red lights off the back of it.
4. No, he didn't.
5. Old Car أو Mac's Car

Passage 19

1. To travel cheaply on a bus if they have a special card.
2. She went into town.
3. By bus.
4. She always had to pay the full price for her ride.
5. She felt very old.
6. A Special Card أو Mrs. Matthews أو 65 years old

Passage 20

1. Because a lot of movie stars and other famous people ate there, and she was curious to see some of them.
2. A very attractive man and woman came into the restaurant.
3. They were beautifully dressed.
4. No, they weren't.
5. At a table nearby Mr. and Mrs. Alda.
6. Mr. and Mrs. Alda أو Attractive Man and Woman أو Expensive Restaurant

Passage 21

1. A very kind man.
2. forgot that he did not have any money to pay for lunch.
3. If he would like to have lunch with him.
4. The beggar.
5. To his home.
6. The beggar أو The Artist

Passage 22

1. When one of the students was going to receive his first visit from a new girlfriend.
2. Usually the trick was to take all the furniture out of the student's room, so that when his girlfriend arrived, there was nothing to sit on.
3. Ted Jones was a country boy who had never left his birthplace until his admission to the university.
4. He disliked it.
5. The door of his room was gone.
6. Crazy Students أو Tricks أو Girlfriend

Passage 23

1. Medicine.
2. They enjoyed playing jokes on people.
3. Their professors were strongly against it, because smoking was dangerous to one's health.
4. There was always a skeleton in the room.
5. They put a cigarette in the mouth of the skeleton.
6. Skeleton أو Carol and George أو Medical Students أو Smoking أو Jokes

Passage 24

1. Because she was the manager of a large company.
2. Because many of the other people at the meetings smoked.
3. The air-conditioning company sent in two estimates for Mrs. Green to choose from.
4. The choose between two estimates. One estimate was for \$5,000 to put in new air-conditioning, and the other was for \$5.00 for a sign which said, NO SMOKING.
5. She asked them to work out how much it would cost to keep the air of the meeting room in her building really clean.
6. Mrs. Green أو No Smoking

Passage 25

1. He saw a young person was standing on the other side of the pond.
2. Because a lot of boys and girls in Western countries are wearing the same kinds of clothes, and many of them have long hair, so it is often difficult to tell whether they are boys or girls.
3. loose pants.
4. False
5. Because he saw a person on the other side of the pond and didn't know if it was a boy or a girl.
6. Loose pants أو Old Gentleman

Passage 26

1. He kicked it too hard, and it broke the window of a house and fell inside.
2. A lady came to the window with the ball and shouted at the young boy.
3. Because he wanted his ball back.
4. Because she thought that his father had fixed the broken window.
5. The young boy's father.
6. False.
7. Young Boy أو Broken Window أو Angry Lady أو Liar

Passage 27

1. An account in both Mr. and Mrs. Scott's names.
2. Mrs. Scott.
3. Some photographs of his wife.
4. Because she was not sure he was really Mr. Scott.
5. He had a vacation.
6. Mr. and Mrs. Scott أو Bank Accounts

Passage 28

1. He used to walk there and back every day.
2. He played in the water of the playground when it rained.
3. She would tell his father if he came home wet again and he would punish him.
4. Because the young boy was dry when he came home from school.
5. Because there wasn't any room for him in the wet playground at all.
6. Young Boy أو Angry Mother أو Wet Playground

Passage 29

1. Because he moved to another town.
2. The doctor's degrees.
3. No, he wasn't.
4. a teacher.
5. There had been a student with the same name in his class at school, and he had become a doctor.
6. Mr. Jones أو A New Doctor أو A Mistake أو Embarrassing

Passage 30

1. Because he had cheated on an exam.
2. Because he was the best player in the football team.
3. The dean showed him two answer papers.
4. Yes, he did.
5. The best player copied from Susan.
6. The Best Player أو Cheater أو You are fired!

Passage 31

1. He owned his own business.
2. That he would get sick if he continued like that.
3. She tried to get him to take a vacation.
4. Not to bother him with telegrams and letters about business problems while they're away.
5. False.
6. Mr. Young و Vacation

Passage 32

1. A lot of people used to load their garbage cans into the backs of their cars and take them to the dump to get rid of them.
2. Very old, beat-up car.
3. Turned around, drove backwards down the hill where the garbage was piled and unloaded his.
4. Because the engine of his car died.
5. To give his car a push
6. Old Car و City Dump و Store Owner و Funny Man

Passage 33

1. Because he was always afraid that he was getting some terrible disease.
2. The doctor was getting very tired of his patient's imagined illnesses.
3. Because he was sure he had a certain terrible disease which he had read about in the newspaper.
4. He lived by himself.
5. Mr. Harris.
6. Mr. Harris و Imagined Illnesses و The Patient Doctor و The Patient

Passage 34

1. A small ship which carried things from one port to another along the coast.
2. He knew that the river had plenty of channels, and that some of them were very shallow and dangerous.
3. Because both of the boats hit sand under the water and stopped.
4. No, it didn't.
5. A load of sand.
6. A Load of Sand و Fred و The Captain

Passage 35

1. Stealing a beautiful necklace.
2. Caught him.
3. The owner of the store felt sorry for the man and he didn't want to have a lot of trouble with the police.
4. He was always very careful to prevent people from stealing it.
5. No, he couldn't.
6. Store Owner و Thief و Expensive Necklace

Passage 36

1. He discovered that the car wasn't there.
2. They found that thieves had taken almost everything they had had in their apartment
3. The car was back again in its usual place in front of his house
4. Two theater tickets on one of the seats and a letter which said, "We're very sorry. We took your car because of an emergency."

5. Mr. and Mrs. Smith went to the theater with the two tickets the next night and enjoyed themselves very much.
6. Mr. Smith أو An Emergency أو Thieves

Passage 37

1. He wasted a lot of it on things which he saw in the stores and suddenly wanted to buy.
2. She gave him a notebook to write down the prices of anything he buys. He will look at it again when his money's all gone, and he won't waste so much money next time.
3. An allowance.
4. True.
5. Because Jimmy didn't learn the value of money.
6. Jimmy أو Wasting Money أو The Value of Money

Passage 38

1. He saw several old people put eyeglasses on before reading their newspapers.
2. No, he didn't.
3. To go to a store to buy himself some glasses too.
4. No, he couldn't.
5. Because Tom couldn't read with all the glasses he tried on.
6. Tom أو Eyeglasses أو I can't read

Passage 39

1. Because it didn't have much gas in the tank.
2. He thought that there was something loose.
3. The garage man.
4. The side of his wrench.
5. Because it was in the garage for repairs.
6. John أو The Small Wrench

Passage 40

1. Fractions.
2. How much his students had been able to remember.
3. Halves.
4. Six times.
5. He thought that it was becoming a little silly.
6. Math Teacher أو Silly Questions أو Fractions

Passage 41

1. In small restaurants.
2. He saw a large, heavy man who he had not seen for several years sitting by himself at a table.
3. Yes, he did.
4. True.
5. Dinner.
6. George أو Mr. Grey

Passage 42

1. Because they had to be at the airport at eleven forty a.m.
2. They were still all running around doing things.
3. She was sitting quietly on a chair in the garden enjoying the sun.

4. She moved all the clocks and watches ahead twenty minutes.
5. Mr. Wilson and the children.
6. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson أو Vacation أو Too Late!

Passage 43

1. About sound in physics.
2. False.
3. Electricity.
4. Because when it's eleven o'clock in New York, it's only eight o'clock in Los Angeles.
5. Physics.
6. Miss Rogers أو Physics Lesson أو A Test

Passage 44

1. On one of the seats at the counter.
2. A young man and a young woman came in.
3. Mr. Martin immediately offered to change places with the man so that he and the young woman could be together.
4. Because he didn't know her.
5. One on Mr. Martin's left, and the other on his right.
6. Mr. Martin أو Coffee Shop

Passage 45

1. The dog seemed to order food and talk about it.
2. The owner thought that a lot of people would come to his restaurant to listen to the dog speak if it was his.
3. The ventriloquist agreed to sell the dog for a high price.
4. No, he couldn't.
5. The owner of the restaurant.
6. Peter أو The Ventriloquist أو The Dog

Passage 46

1. He liked music very much.
2. Medicine.
3. He had to work in a hospital for some time.
4. They were happier and caused less trouble if pleasant music was played to them.
5. To keep his patients happy.
6. Eddie أو Dr. Eddie أو Relaxing Music أو Medicine and Music

Passage 47

1. A Senator in the government.
2. To have some coffee.
3. Jam.
4. To make an important speech.
5. Some nice fresh rolls, butter and jam.
6. Mr. Marsh أو The State Senator

Passage 48

1. Dancing.
2. To have more work.
3. False.
4. No, he wasn't.
5. True.
6. Mr. Lewis أو Dance Teacher أو Bad Teacher

Passage 49

1. Fifteen dollars.
2. No, he couldn't.
3. Seashore أو Small town by the sea.
4. By train.
5. A hammer and some nails.
6. Joe أو Vacation أو Expensive Hotel

Passage 50

1. No, he / she couldn't.
2. Who was the first President of the United States?
3. An airport
4. Because the student couldn't answer the second easy question.
5. Because he/she thought that the teacher called the next student.
6. The Teacher and Student أو Easy Questions

Passage 51

1. In a very shallow river near his house.
2. Their new house had a very small garden.
3. Because his father got a job in a big city.
4. WARNING: This pool is dangerous. 367 people have fallen into it.
5. False
6. Jimmy أو Life in City

Passage 52

1. By big plane.
2. a seat near a window.
3. On the other side of the aisle, near a window.
4. He's always looking at the engine outside his window.
5. To watch that engine for him for a few minutes.
6. Mrs. Green أو The Engine

Passage 53

1. Because they were going to the zoo.
2. Because he liked going to the zoo very much.
3. He dreamed about the zoo.
4. His mother.
5. By train.
6. Teddy and His Mom أو Mrs. Edwards أو The Zoo

Passage 54

1. Because her teacher, Miss Yates, and the other children were nice.
2. She stayed behind and waited.
3. Six years old.
4. Because she wanted to ask the teacher a question.
5. Polly أو School

Passage 55

1. To look at a beautiful old church.
2. There was a cemetery in front of it, and an old man was raking the grass around the graves.
3. No, he didn't.
4. He was raking the grass around the graves.
5. Because the man didn't understand her question.
6. Jean أو Cemetery

Passage 56

1. He learned to fly a plane.
2. His friend Mark.
3. George flew around for half an hour and did all kinds of tricks in the air.
4. He was very glad to be back safely.
5. George's friend, Mark.
6. George and Mark أو First and Last Flight

Passage 57

1. He suggested taking a vacation in a trailer because it's cheaper than a hotel.
2. To go fishing.
3. Because they didn't have an alarm clock.
4. He put small pieces of bread on the roof of the trailer.
5. The noise of the birds eating bread on the roof of the trailer.
6. Bill and Fred أو A Vacation أو The Trailer

Passage 58

1. Because they didn't live near each other and were busy with their families.
2. They were shopping.
3. Kate.
4. Her husband.
5. False.
6. Kate and Jenny أو Nothing's Perfect

Passage 59

1. Because he was away.
2. Because she didn't know much about fixing broken faucets.
3. The plumber.
4. True.
5. Because he wanted to get more money as a plumber.
6. Mrs. Brown أو Broken Faucet أو The Plumber أو High Prices

Passage 60

1. Because she liked children.
2. She was a good teacher, and she laughed a lot with the children in her class.
3. Twenty-one years old.
4. False.
5. Mary Smith أو Miss Smith أو Men's Gray Hair

Passage 61

1. When Molly was eight years old.
2. No, they didn't.
3. After school.
4. Joan's step-brother.
5. Because her step-brother George has a bad cold.
6. Molly and Joan أو A New Friend أو Sick Step-Brother

Passage 62

1. He only put his hands in the water for a few seconds and then took them out again.
2. Mike's uncle and aunt and their son Ted.
3. Their son Ted.
4. True.
5. Soap and water.
6. Dirty Hands أو Mike and Ted

Passage 63

1. To his birthday party.
2. Not to forget to be polite and not to ask for food until someone gives it to him.
3. On his bicycle.
4. To give Peter some food.
5. Because it was empty and wanted some food.
6. I Want Food أو Peter أو Paul's Birthday Party

Passage 64

1. Jim was sometimes naughty.
2. She loved him and was always very nice to him.
3. He was running along the street towards her.
4. Tom and himself.
5. Nora.
6. Nora and Jim أو Naughty Jim

Passage 65

1. He was washing his car.
2. When there's a party in town.
3. When there's a football game.
4. When it looks really nice and clean.
5. When it needs gas.
6. Hank أو The Red Car أو Family Car

Passage 66

1. Because she was very kind.
2. She was Alice's patient in the hospital last year.
3. To help her cross the street.
4. She was a nurse at a big hospital.
5. When the light's green.
6. Alice أو The Kind Nurse أو Mrs. Herman أو Helping Others

Passage 67

1. Ten years.
2. An electric heater.
3. The salesman showed him three or four different kinds of electric heaters.
4. No, they can't.
5. To work.
6. John أو Electric Heater

Passage 68

1. Both of them went to the same school, and both of them liked sports and games very much. They also liked fighting.
2. When they had fights with other boys
3. Because Harry hit him.
4. Harry was one of the boys at school.
5. True.
6. Steve and Tim أو The Fight with Harry

Passage 69

1. He was playing with the new ball happily for a few minutes.
2. He wanted to play with the ball too.
3. He played in the street.
4. False.
5. Billy أو A New Ball أو Dangerous Dog

Passage 70

1. A photographer.
2. She went to the photographer's studio.
3. Twenty.
4. Because her husband looked like a monkey in the photographs.
5. A week later.
6. Mr. and Mrs. Williams أو The Photographer أو Bad Photographs

Passage 71

1. He went to the hospital.
2. Two injections.
3. The first one was in the evening and the second one tomorrow morning.
4. Because nobody's ever let him choose where to take the injection.
5. In in the left arm of the nurse.
6. An Old Man أو Injections أو The Nurse

Passage 72

1. In his car.
2. To the Sun Hotel.
3. About twelve miles.
4. To the old man's house.
5. True.
6. Pat and the Old man أو The Sun Hotel

Passage 73

1. He was three years old.
2. He painted many beautiful and interesting pictures.
3. This boy's going to be famous when he's a little older, and then we're going to sell these pictures for a lot more money.
4. He never painted on all of the paper. He painted on half of it, and the other half was always empty.
5. Because he was small, and his brushes don't reach very high.
6. Jimmy أو The Small Painter أو Unique Painting

Passage 74

1. Because living in the city all the time isn't good for him and wanted to take him to the country for a vacation.
2. A small house.
3. For two weeks.
4. Washing.
5. Yes, he was because there wasn't a bathtub in the house.
6. Mr. and Mrs. Gray أو Pete أو I Hate Washing

Passage 75

1. He wanted to go and see his brother in his new house.
2. No, he didn't.
3. His car.
4. Two, a man and a woman.
5. False.
6. Mr. Parker أو I Lost the Way أو Lost

Passage 76

1. In a big crowded city.
2. In the country.
3. Because it was a quiet, clean place and very different from the city.
4. It was big and crowded.
5. He was sitting alone in the warm sun outside his front door.
6. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson أو City vs. Country

Passage 77

1. Because he forgot to put on his watch.
2. whenever it becomes twelve o'clock, they always start from the beginning again – one o'clock, two o'clock
3. False
4. Twelve-thirty.
5. Because he was hungry, and wanted his lunch.
6. Don أو I'm Hungry أو What's the time?

Passage 78

1. In an office.
2. He began to forget things.
3. He went to see Dr. Martin.
4. After half a minute.
5. True
6. Mr. Clark
7. Mr. Clark و Dr. Martin و Forgetful Man

Passage 79

1. Because he forgot.
2. Train toy.
3. Five years old.
4. It was Bobby's birthday.
5. No, he didn't.
6. Mr. and Mrs. Davis و Bobby's Birthday

Passage 80

1. He was a sailor in a big ship.
2. He only saw the sea, or sometimes a port.
3. In his wife's town.
4. Because when he woke up and looked out of the window, he saw trees a few feet away. He thought they have it land.
5. Because he was a sailor, and big ship went to Japan and Australia.
6. Dick و The Sailor

Passage 81

1. False
2. False
3. True
4. For two hours.
5. To go and report the speech of James Bright.
6. To write more than two and a half columns on the speech of James Bright.
7. George و Newspaper Reporter و James Bright

Passage 82

1. True
2. False
3. False
4. False
5. True
6. to be the first person to use the new bath.
7. An eye watching her through a hole.
8. She saw an old man and a donkey there.
9. A New Bath و English Lady

Passage 83

1. No, it wasn't.
2. For tickets for a very popular show.
3. False.
4. In the fresh air.
5. Trumpet Player و Outside The Scala Theater

Passage 84

1. He brought the hearing-aid of his wife.
2. False.
3. He wrote his answer on a piece of paper.
4. No, he wasn't.
5. Because he's just had a throat operation.
6. Mr. Richards أو Hearing Aids أو I'm not Deaf

Passage 85

1. They came into her garden, damage her vegetables and run after her cat and her chickens.
2. To accuse her neighbor of allowing his dogs to come into her garden, damage her vegetables and run after her cat and her chickens.
3. No, he didn't.
4. True
5. A drink.
6. Mrs. Grey أو Deaf Old Woman

Passage 86

1. Because he was bored with living in London.
2. He wanted his house to be in the country from which he could get to his office in the city easily every day.
3. It claimed that the house was a stone's throw of a railway station.
4. At least a kilometer.
5. The writer meant it was very close.
6. Moving to the Country أو The Advertisement

Passage 87

1. False
2. True
3. He called her an elephant.
4. The magistrate found Mr. Williams guilty.
5. Mr. Williams was a gardener and a very good one too
6. Mr. Williams أو The Elephant

Passage 88

1. He wanted to find a qualified pilot to guide him because he had to go along a coast with which he was unfamiliar.
2. True
3. Because he needed some money.
4. Are you sure you are a qualified pilot?
5. No, he couldn't.
6. The Cautious Captain أو The Fisherman

Passage 89

1. A very strict officer.
2. Sir.
3. Because he was silent.
4. Because his name was Stonebreaker, and the officer's name was Stone.
5. True
6. A Strict Officer أو Call Me Sir

Passage 90

1. He was famous in the navy for his bad temper.
2. True
3. He had his breakfast early.
4. He thought the second cruiser was missing, but he was on it.
5. A young sailor.
6. Old Admiral و Big International Exercise

Passage 91

1. True
2. Twelve pence.
3. No, they didn't.
4. True
5. b. arithmetic
6. Miss Jones و A Difficult Question

Passage 92

1. When he left university.
2. True
3. He wanted to get a more important position, so that he could get more money, and perhaps also do more interesting work.
4. Yes, he was.
5. To give his name and address to Mr. Andrews's employer because he wanted to find a position like his for a long time.
6. Mr. Andrews و Changing Jobs

Passage 93

1. Because her parents were not rich.
2. Valuable Christmas and birthday presents.
3. Because he was so wealthy and had everything he wanted.
4. False
5. Yes, it was.
6. Mary and Her Uncle و Envy و Rich Uncle

Passage 94

1. She taught chemistry and physics from the lowest to the highest classes in the school.
2. Because sometimes the new classes learnt very slowly.
3. True
4. Water is a liquid which has no color until you wash your hands in it. Then it turns black.
5. Because no one knew the answer to her question.
6. Miss Richards و Difficult Question و What is Water?

Passage 95

1. False.
2. Yes, she did.
3. She agreed to be a witness in a court case concerning the accident.
4. A lawyer questioned her in court.
5. Because she always said "I think that..." instead of saying things she knows about the accident.
6. Mrs. Edwards و Car Crash و Mrs. Edwards at Court

Passage 96

1. True
2. At a dance.
3. Because he had been wounded and was in a certain army hospital in England.
4. False
5. The Captain's mother.
6. World War Two أو Joan Philips and The Captain

Passage 97

1. A lot of valuable things.
2. True
3. No, he wasn't.
4. Relatives and friends.
5. Because he wasn't Mrs. Black's relative and wouldn't get any of her money.
6. Mrs. Black أو The Funeral

Passage 98

1. It was very difficult to find jobs.
2. Because things were better, and that it was easier to find work.
3. Another man burst in carrying a gun and said to him, "Your money, or your life!"
4. False
5. His job
6. John Needs A Job أو A Thief أو Your Money, Or Your Life!

Passage 99

1. His eyes were not very good and he had to wear glasses.
2. One day he was invited to go out shooting bears in the mountains.
3. By mistake Mr. Grey shot at one of the other hunters and hit him in the leg.
4. True
5. It rained and his glasses got wet.
6. Mr. Grey أو I Can't See أو Wrong Shot

Passage 100

1. There is usually a guard composed of several soldiers at each gate, and the men in the guard take turns to stand at the gate with a gun and stop everyone who wants to go in or out to see their passes.
2. The man on guard is told to say, "Halt! Who goes there?"
3. to make sure that nobody goes in or out without permission.
4. True
5. Army Camps أو Who Goes There?

Passage 101

1. Her children always resisted going to bed.
2. He did not come home from work until after they had gone to bed during the week.
3. When he heard his small son whisper to his younger sister, "If you pretend that you're asleep, he stops!"
4. True
5. At weekends.
6. Joe and Helen Mills أو A Bad Singer

Passage 102

1. Mr. Hodges was the owner and editor of a small newspaper.
2. He always tried to bring his readers the latest news.
3. There was a big flood in a village up in the mountains.
4. That no other paper had got hold of the story.
5. Angry telephone calls soon showed that he had been tricked.
6. Mr. Hodges أو A Trick أو False News

Passage 103

1. He thought that it would have an accident.
2. False
3. Nobody was hurt.
4. He agreed to be a witness at the trial.
5. The judge.
6. Mr. Green أو An Accident أو The Trial

Passage 104

1. Because the roads will be quieter.
2. He will stop at one of the small restaurants at the side of the road and have something to eat.
3. False
4. At about midnight.
5. Yes, he did.
6. Mr. Jones أو It Won't Kill Me!

Passage 105

1. He won a lot of money on the football pools.
2. He wanted from him the best thing to do with the money.
3. To buy some modern paintings. Their value goes up every year.
4. He thought that they were terrible.
5. It was the electric light switch.
6. Mr. Robinson أو I am Rich!

Passage 106

1. Yes, she was.
2. Because he didn't like babies and was soon going to be one in his house too.
3. They planned to find a larger house and move to it because their house won't be big enough for them all when the baby comes.
4. He'll follow them to the new house.
5. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor أو A New Baby

Passage 107

1. Mary ordered an electric machine which made the drinking tea and then woke you up in the morning.
2. False
3. Yes, it did.
4. Mary's mother.
5. Before you go to bed, put the tea in the pot and the water in the kettle and switch the electricity on.
6. Mary's mother أو Electric Machine أو Tea Maker

Passage 108

1. Because the seats were needed for important government and army people.
2. Mr. Brown worked for the government.
3. Because he was doing very secret work.
4. Because an important army officer came to the airport at the last minute, and Mr. Brown's seat was given to him.
5. False
6. Mr. Brown أو Important Army Officer

Passage 109

1. Shooting.
2. No, he couldn't.
3. True
4. Because he missed the target.
5. No, he didn't.
6. Peter Judd أو Missed The Target أو Angry Officer

Passage 110

1. It was a comfortable house near the sea.
2. False
3. Because their relatives did not visit them in the winter.
4. Because it was a nice place for a holiday, and it was much cheaper than staying in a hotel.
5. He borrowed money from all the rich ones, and lent it to all the poor ones. After that, none of them came again.
6. Mr. Richards أو A Comfortable House أو Annoying Relatives أو A Complaint

Passage 111

1. The walls of the rooms had been painted a short time before, and Mrs. Scott like the colors.
2. The person who had sold her the house had taken the curtains with him.
3. She wanted to buy ones whose colors would go with the walls of her rooms.
4. Her comb was exactly the same color as the walls and she wanted to match it with the curtains.
5. He got tired.
6. Mrs. Scott أو A New House أو New Curtains

Passage 112

1. Mary always drove, because her eyes were better.
2. False
3. They turned right into a street which cars were not allowed to go into.
4. To look at some things which they had read about in the newspaper.
5. Helen and Mary أو Don't Enter This Street

Passage 113

1. Fun-fair in the park.
2. No, he wasn't.
3. False
4. Mr. Davis.
5. Because he's got his own money.
6. Mr. and Mrs. Davis أو Fun-Fair أو Behaving Like A Child

Passage 114

1. There was a mistake in the bill and wanted to speak to the Accounts Department.
2. Anyone from the Accounts Department.
3. No, he wasn't.
4. No, he didn't.
5. Mr. Jones

Passage 115

1. He's a chicken farmer.
2. He had hundreds of chickens, and sold the eggs and the meat and got quite a lot of money for them.
3. False.
4. Into his chicken-house so that the hens would lay well all through the year and could get more eggs and in that way earn more money
5. No, he didn't.
6. Mr. Hodge و Air Conditioning

Passage 116

1. He worked for a good newspaper
2. Arguing with people.
3. He knew that he could never persuade them to agree, because they could never really understand what he was saying.
4. False
5. True
6. George Banks و A Clever Journalist

Passage 117

1. To find work.
2. He did not drink or smoke.
3. Her mother was ill. She went to see her.
4. He could not read or write very well.
5. False
6. Pat and His Wife و From Ireland to England

Passage 118

1. True
2. To go into a barber's shop; look at all the barber's hair, and then go to the one whose own hair has been cut the worst.
3. He was not happy with the result.
4. No, he wasn't.
5. Mark و Bad Hair Cut

Passage 119

1. Because her husband died when she was forty-five years old.
2. Mrs. Harris had a nice, quiet wedding in the village church.
3. Because he has been looking everywhere for a card which says, "To my Mother, for her Wedding," and he hasn't been able to find one.
4. He was twenty years old.
5. False
6. Mrs. Harris و A New Wedding و Second Husband

Passage 120

1. False
2. So that planes did not have to carry more than it was safe to carry.
3. Because size is more important to the airlines than weight.
4. No, they couldn't.
5. Fat Passenger أو Airlines: Now and Then

Passage 121

1. He went and stayed with his grandparents in the country for a few weeks in the summer.
2. He talked a lot with his grandmother while he was there.
3. False
4. Dick's mom.
5. Dick أو A Visit to Grandparents

Passage 122

1. He was thin and strong.
2. He began to get fat and slow.
3. False
4. The young doctor thought that Dave was going to die soon.
5. No, he didn't.
6. Dave Perkins أو Mr. Perkins

Passage 123

1. Joe was one of those people who love the sound of their own voice.
2. He talked and talked and talked, and every story he told reminded him of another one, so that he never stopped for a second to let anybody else say anything.
3. True
4. Someone whom he had met only a few days before and who did not know him very well yet.
5. Joe أو Never Stop Talking

Passage 124

1. He was lazy, he fought with other pupils, he was rude to the teachers, and he did not obey the rules of the school.
2. He tried to get a job with a big company, and the manager wrote to the headmaster to find out what he could say about Matthew.
3. False
4. No, he didn't.
5. Matthew Hobbs أو A Bad Pupil

Passage 125

1. Headmaster of the school.
2. No one at his school likes him.
3. True
4. Because he thought that he was too old to change.
5. Harry أو The Headmaster

Passage 126

1. True
2. He was a doctor.
3. They often did each other's shopping.
4. A sheep's kidney.
5. In the crowded waiting room.
6. Mrs. Watson و Mrs. Potts و A Sheep's Kidney

Passage 127

1. True
2. False
3. He wanted easy work that gives lots of money and that the government doesn't know about.
4. Because he saw two people were playing on the same piano there.
5. No, he didn't.
6. Jim و Smart Man و A Thief

Passage 128

1. Henry was from the United States and he had come to London for a holiday.
2. 1.50
3. True
4. The same medicine he gave him last time.
5. One day he was not feeling well.
6. Henry و Dr. Kenneth

Passage 129

1. Mrs. Jenkins was the owner of a small restaurant in Southampton.
2. Mrs. Jenkins had two young waitresses and a cook to help her.
3. Fried rabbit.
4. True
5. Because he heard a terrible noise from the kitchen and thought it was the rabbit's.
6. Mrs. Jenkins و A Small Restaurant و The Sailor

Passage 130

1. It allows its prisoners to go out without any guards to work every day.
2. They have to promise to come back every evening.
3. He was invited to have a meal and a drink with the family of the farmer he was working for.
4. False
5. In the prison.
6. Strange Prison و Don't Come Late

Passage 131

1. He wanted to invite her to a party at his home.
2. Peter's mother looked in the telephone book and found four Poes to call each of them and ask whether they have a daughter who has painting lessons.
3. False
4. No, she didn't.
5. Every week.
6. Peter و Celia Poe و Wrong Phone Call

Passage 132

1. It has the word 'and' five times.
2. The sign was getting very old.
3. Because There's too much space between HORSE and AND and AND and CART.
4. The Horse and Cart.
5. The Horse and Cart و The Inn و A New Sign

Passage 133

1. For army service.
2. The doctor hasn't examined him at all.
3. When he told him to take his coat and shirt off, he heard him all right.
4. The young man saw the chair the doctor pointed to.
5. Because the young man understood what the doctor told him to do and did it without a mistake.
6. Army Service و Smart Doctor

Passage 134

1. His wife makes all the small decisions and he makes the big ones, so they never interfere in each other's business and never get annoyed with each other.
2. She decided what jobs he apply for, what sort of house they live in, what furniture they have, where we they for their holidays, and things like that.
3. He decided who should increase their help to poor countries, what they should do about the atom bomb, and things like that.
4. The wife.
5. Happy Marriage و Contented Married Life

Passage 135

1. John was the only son of a wealthy American businessman.
2. One evening his father told him that he had to go to the airport early the next day, so he would need the car at the time that John had to go to school.
3. About how hard life was for the less unfortunate people of the world.
4. No, she didn't.
5. John to school.
6. John و No Car Today

Passage 136

1. Fog
2. His wife had a baby early this morning.
3. There was a book which all employees had to sign when they arrived each morning.
4. In a small flat above the office.
5. When anyone came after nine o'clock.
6. Delayed by Fog و Ditto

Passage 137

1. A report about an old car with no number plates in Ecclesiastes Street.
2. He couldn't write the correct spelling of the name of the street 'Ecclesiastes'
3. Because it was easier to spell than Ecclesiastes.
4. In Ecclesiastes Street.
5. To write the report himself.
6. A Policeman and Sergeant و Ecclesiastes Street

Passage 138

1. The members of the band were never all present at any of the rehearsals.
2. He has been making a note of those who have been absent from their various rehearsals.
3. The drummer.
4. He wouldn't be able to come to the show tomorrow.
5. The Drummer أو Important Performance

Passage 139

1. He wanted to buy a better one.
2. He attempted to sell his house for a long time, but was not successful, so at last he decided to solve the problem by using an estate agent.
3. The agent promptly advertised the house in a magazine with a very attractive photograph of it.
4. Yes, he did.
5. Selling the House

Passage 140

1. Because he had not looked at her properly.
2. False
3. Some men show their admiration for her, and to others are confused and shy when they see her.
4. Coffee without cream.
5. Jean أو A Beautiful Young Girl

Passage 141

1. One.
2. Because Carol continued talking about it.
3. That her new baby sister gained nearly two hundred grams in weight in a week.
4. Eight years old.
5. Susan.
6. Carol and Susan أو A New Baby

Passage 142

1. In a charming little restaurant in a village in the south of Italy.
2. She had seen some nice mushrooms in the market of another village near there and thought they would taste very good.
3. She took out a pencil and drew a picture of a mushroom.
4. Because Miss Wyatt drew a mushroom on paper which he misinterpreted as umbrella.
5. Miss Wyatt أو Mushroom

Passage 143

1. Tom saw an advertisement in a newspaper.
2. About the lamp which wasn't included in the price.
3. Because it was an extra.
4. True.
5. True
6. Tom أو Dishonest Advertisement أو A Bicycle

Passage 144

1. No, it didn't.
2. No, he didn't.
3. Fishing.
4. He decided to have a holiday in a beautiful place in the mountains where there were a lot of streams.
5. Whether the stream was private or not.
6. David أو Fishing

Passage 145

1. His history professor failed him in his last examinations.
2. To urge the professor to let Jack continue his studies the following year.
3. No, he didn't.
4. True
5. Jack أو Bad Pupil

Passage 146

1. He has been selling insurance only to people over 95 years old.
2. He worked at an insurance company, visiting people in their homes to sell them life insurance.
3. The insurance manager.
4. Because extremely few people die at the age of 95 or above each year.
5. Mr. Briggs أو Selling Life Insurance

Passage 147

1. He got a permanent job in a certain big modern hospital.
2. "Deepest sympathy", which means it was expected to be sent to someone's death.
3. Because the card said, "Congratulations on your new position".
4. To find out what the note meant.
5. Dr. Jackson أو Deepest Sympathy

Passage 148

1. He won a lot of money.
2. The farmer had tied his table napkin round his neck.
3. False
4. No, he didn't.
5. A Poor Farmer أو Wrong Napkin

Passage 149

1. They arranged to have a holiday at the seaside and were waiting for their train at the railway station.
2. One's fortune is printed as well as one's weight.
3. Because he had not got his glasses on.
4. No, she didn't.
5. A penny.
6. A Weighing-Machine

Passage 150

1. Because he was suffering from pains in his stomach.
2. There's nothing really wrong with him. His only trouble is that he worries too much.
3. Not to worry his head about the bills any more.
4. Because he couldn't pay his tailor's bills.
5. The Tailor's Bills

