READING

SEMESTER II

NAME _____

1. **Read the extract from a novel. Choose the correct answer, A, B, C or D**

1 After filming,
A the extras mixed socially with the actors.
B outsiders sometimes got into the studio and disturbed the actors.
C the actors felt more relaxed.
D actors gave helpful advice to the extras.

2 Dan's feelings of guilt and anger were caused by the fact that he
A was friends with some of the extras.
B knew what it was like being an extra.
C wasn't a very good actor.
D didn't get on with the other actors.

3 When Elmira spoke to the director,
A he was surprised by the sound of her voice.
B he took no notice of her.
C it changed the director's feelings towards Dan.
D Dan's role in the film came to an end.

4 When Dan found out that he was no longer wanted, he
A was shocked at what had happened.
B tried to find work at a different studio.
C decided to leave the movie business.
D went to a Hollywood party to beg for work.

5 The author shows
A how hard it is to make a career as an actor.
B who holds the real power in Hollywood.
C the importance of not giving up in life.
D how hurt Dan was by what happened.

Dan's revenge

The lights went off in the studio. Almost immediately, the tension in the air seemed to disappear. Some of the actors stood and chatted together. Others stood alone, stretching their aching muscles. The extras left the area quickly, no longer a part of the team, unappreciated and unwanted. Any who stayed hoping for a kind word of praise or advice were sent running by the security men who were there to protect the studio's stars from anything that might disturb them.

Only one actor noticed this and felt guilt and anger at the same time. Dan had worked his way up from being an extra himself. Anger because he remembered the way he had been treated and, although he wasn't close to the extras he was working with, he hated it happening to them. Guilt because he wasn't brave enough to speak out. He was still very much a junior member of the cast and he knew he could be sent back to where he came from if he upset his more famous colleagues.

As he stood, lost in thought, he noticed Elmira Ray, the highest-paid star in the studio and one of the romantic leads in this movie. He smiled and made a friendly remark about the difficulties she'd had getting one of her scenes right. Elmira glared at him with hatred and turned away to where the director was deep in discussion with the producer. Elmira's screaming voice was very unlike anything her fans had ever heard but it was well-known by all who worked with her. Her message was clear. She wanted Dan off the set, off the movie and, if possible, out of Hollywood. The director and producer exchanged knowing glances. They disliked Elmira intensely but they also knew how much she was worth to the studio. Whatever their feelings for Dan, if Elmira didn't want to work with him, he would have to go.

They called Dan over. They didn't have to say anything. One look was enough for Dan. He'd been in the business long enough to know how things worked. 'Oh well,' he thought, 'It has been fun while it lasted.' He knew he could ask around at the other studios for work but his heart wasn't in it anymore. He disliked the work, he disliked the people and he hated living in Los Angeles. He would go to the party that he had been invited to earlier that week but he would spend the time having fun, not desperately trying to impress people and begging for work. Tomorrow, he'd pack and head back east to New York.

At eight o'clock that evening, wearing jeans rather than the usual dark suit, he arrived at an already packed villa high in Beverly Hills. As he walked in, he noticed Elmira. She glanced at him with no sign of recognition. He was no one important. Nothing to do with her or her life. She passed him and moved on, searching for more famous faces to spend her time with. Suddenly Dan knew what he had to do.

2. **Read an article about a child star. Five sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences A–F the one that fits each gap (1–5). There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use**

LIVEWORKSHEETS

A Although she was defeated, she soon found another, even more important, role to play.
B Shirley didn't retire completely from show business and, several times, appeared to be about to make a comeback.
C However, Shirley realised that it would be more beneficial to share her problem with others than to keep it to herself.
D As she grew into a teenager, her charm faded. Even her blond hair turned brown.
E This turned out to be the wrong decision.
F It was while she was at a dancing class, at the age of three, that she was spotted by a Hollywood casting director.

1 _____
2 _____
3 _____
4 _____
5 _____

More than just a child star

Shirley Temple didn't have a family background in show business but she enjoyed singing, dancing and acting from a very early age. **(1)** _____ She soon had her first role in a movie, and within a couple of years she had become a household name. She went on to become one of Hollywood's biggest stars during the 1930s.

Unfortunately, her success didn't last. **(2)** _____ She became a lot less appealing to the public, and the two films she made in 1940 failed at the box office. Her parents felt that trying to cling on to Hollywood fame would be a mistake, so they decided it was time for a change. Shirley was taken away from Hollywood by her parents, and put into full-time education, where she enjoyed a happy five years.

The course of her life might have been very different, however. In 1939, MGM offered Shirley the role of Dorothy in *The Wizard of Oz*. Instead, Shirley accepted an alternative offer from her own studio, who were also keen to cast her in a leading role again. **(3)** _____ *The Wizard of Oz* was a huge hit and made Judy Garland a star. Shirley's film was far less successful and it was the beginning of the end for her.

After her film career finished, Shirley became interested in politics and good causes. She was a Republican and tried to win election for Congress in 1967. **(4)** _____ In 1969, she became an ambassador to the United Nations. In 1974 she became US ambassador to Ghana and later she was also the US ambassador to Czechoslovakia.

She also used her fame to promote causes that were important to her. In 1972, she found that she had breast cancer. At that time, many women were reluctant to talk about the illness. This was why so many people died of it. By the time they went to see a doctor, it was often too late.

(5) _____ She held a news conference from her hospital bed. She talked about her experiences and how important it was to diagnose the illness early. Thanks to her, attitudes changed and many lives were saved.

Shirley recovered and lived for another 42 years, finally dying peacefully of natural causes at the age of 85. However, for most people, she will always be a little girl with blond curls, dancing and singing her most famous song, 'On The Good Ship Lollipop'.

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