21, May

Thirsday

1. Study the advertisement.

You are considering using car washing services and you'd like to get more information. In 1.5 minutes you are to ask five direct questions to find out the following:

1) working hours
2) if they have a discount card
3) recommendations
4) number of clients per day
5) time they need to wash the car

You have 20 seconds to ask each question.

First Train Trip

I must have been about eight when I made my first train trip. I think I was in second grade at that time. It was midsummer, hot and wet in central Kansas, and time for my

aunt Winnie's annual vacation from the store, where she worked as a clerk six days a week. She invited me to join her on a trip to Pittsburgh, fifty miles away, to see her sister, my aunt Alice. 'Sally, would you like to go there by train or by car?' aunt Winnie asked. 'Oh, please, by train, aunt Winnie, dear! We've been there by car three times already!'

Alice was one of my favourite relatives and I was delighted to be invited to her house. As I was the youngest niece in Mother's big family, the aunties all tended to spoil me and Alice was no exception. She kept a boarding house for college students, a two-storey, brown brick building with comfortable, nicely decorated rooms at the corner of 1200 Kearney Avenue. She was also a world-class cook, which kept her boarding house full of young people. It seemed to me that their life was so exciting and joyful.

Since I'd never ridden a train before, I became more and more excited as the magic day drew near. I kept questioning Mother about train travel, but she just said, 'Wait. You'll see.' For an eight-year-old, waiting was really difficult, but finally the big day arrived. Mother had helped me pack the night before, and my little suitcase was full with summer sundresses, shorts and blouses, underwear and pyjamas. I was reading Billy Whiskers, a fantastic story about a goat that once made a train trip to New York, and I had put that in as well. It was almost midnight when I could go to bed at last.

We arrived at the station early, purchased our tickets and found our car. I was fascinated by the face-to-face seats so some passengers could ride backwards. Why would anyone, I thought, want to see where they'd been? I only wanted to see what lay ahead for me.

Finally, the conductor shouted, 'All aboard!' to the people on the platform. They climbed into the cars, the engineer blew

the whistle and clanged the bell, and we pulled out of the station.

This train stopped at every town between my home in Solomon and Pittsburgh. It was known as the 'milk train' because at one time it had delivered goods as well as passengers to these villages. I looked eagerly at the signs at each station. I'd been through all these towns by car, but this was different. The shaky ride of the coaches, the soft brown plush seats, the smells of the engine drifting back down the track and in through the open windows made this trip far more exotic.

The conductor, with his black uniform and shiny hat, the twinkling signals that told the engineer when to stop and go, thrilled me. To an adult, the trip must have seemed painfully slow, but I enjoyed every minute.

Aunt Winnie had packed a lunch for us to eat along the way as there was no dining car in the train. I was dying to know just what was in that big shopping bag she carried, but she, too, said, 'Wait. You'll see.' Midway, Aunt Winnie pulled down her shopping bag from the luggage rack above our seats. My eyes widened as she opened it and began to take out its contents. I had expected lunch- meat sandwiches, but instead there was a container of fried chicken, two hardboiled eggs, bread and butter wrapped in waxed paper, crisp radishes and slim green onions from Winnie's garden, as well as rosy sliced tomatoes. She had brought paper plates, paper cups and some of the 'everyday' silverware. A large bottle of cold tea was well wrapped in a dishtowel; the ice had melted, but it was still chilly. I cautiously balanced my plate on my knees and ate, wiping my lips and fingers with a large paper napkin. This was living!

When we had cleaned our plates, Aunt Winnie looked into the bag one more time. The best treat of all appeared —

homemade chocolate cakes! Another cup of cold tea washed these down and then we carefully returned the remains of the food and silverware to the bag, which Aunt Winnie put into the corner by her feet.

'Almost there,' said my aunt, looking out of the window at the scenery passing by. And sure enough, as we pulled into the Pittsburgh station we immediately caught sight of aunt Alice, waiting for us, a smile like the sun lighting up her face, arms wide open. We got off the train and she led us past the taxi rank and the bus stop to her car that was parked near the station. And all the way to her home she was asking about my impressions of my first train trip and I could hardly find the words to express all the thrill and excitement that filled me.

Задание 12 № 70

The first time Sally travelled by train was when she

1) had to move to her aunt Alice.
2) had a summer vacation at school.
3) went to Pittsburgh for the first time in her life.
4) visited her aunt Alice together with aunt Winnie.

Задание 13 № 71

Aunt Alice made her living by

1) working as a cook.
2) keeping a boarding house.
3) decorating houses.
4) working as a teacher at college.

Задание 14 № 72

Sally was waiting for her first train trip so impatiently that she

1) packed her things long before the trip.
2) lost her appetite a week before the trip.
3) asked her Mother many questions about train trips.
4) couldn't sleep the night before the trip.

Задание 15 № 73

Sally didn't like the idea of riding backwards because

1) it could make her sick.
2) she could miss her station.
3) she could miss .the conductor.
4) she wanted to see where she was going.

Задание 16 № 74

The trip to Pittsburgh by train seemed so exotic to Sally because

1) she had never travelled so far from her native town.
2) travelling by train was very different from a car ride.
3) she had never travelled in comfort.
4) she had never travelled without her parents.

Задание 17 № 75

Sally thought that at lunchtime they would have

1) meat sandwiches.
2) bread and butter with coffee.
3) fried chicken, eggs and vegetables.
4) tea with chocolate cakes.

Задание 18 № 76

Aunt Alice was waiting for Sally and aunt Winnie

1) at home.
2) in her car.

3) on the platform.
4) at the bus stop.