

Sample B2

READING

Part 1 You are going to read a magazine article about a young mother whose house was burgled. (2 points for each question).

For questions 1 – 7, choose the correct answer A, B, C or D.

Lisa Tyler was weary after a long, hard day at the pottery factory where she works. But as she approached her home in the English city of Stoke -on-Trent, her heart lightened.; soon she would be having a nice cup of tea, putting her feet up and watching *Friends*, her favourite TV series. But first, she needed to change out of her work clothes and **pick up** her three-year-old son from his grandmother's house nearby.

As Lisa walked up her garden path, she noticed a light flashing on and off in an upstairs bedroom. A shiver went down her back. What if it was a burglar? Quietly, she crept round to the back of the house to see if there was any sign of a break-in. Sure enough, a window was open and someone's coat was hanging on the gatepost!

Well, 26-year-old Lisa didn't fancy coming face to face with a burglar, so she ran to a neighbour's house and rang the police. But as she sat waiting for the police to arrive, Lisa's curiosity got the better of her and she decided to go back and see what was going on. That's when she saw a leg coming out of the downstairs front window. It was a man climbing out. Lisa gasped in shock. The burglar was carrying her portable television!

At this point, **Lisa saw red**. She didn't have many possessions and she'd saved long and hard to buy that set. Besides, nobody was going to stop her watching *Friends*.

„Oh, no you don't,“ she muttered under her breath, as the fury swelled inside her. Without even stopping to think, she tore across the garden and started shouting at the burglar. „Give me my TV - drop it now!“ she screamed.

Ignoring her, the man fled across the garden. So Lisa threw herself at him and successfully rugby - tackled him to the ground. The burglar struggled to escape, but Lisa hung on like the best kind of guard dog despite being punched and kicked. As she looked up, she realised that she recognised the burglar's face. She was so surprised that she lost her grip and burglar got away, leaving the TV behind in the garden.

By the time the police and her father arrived, Lisa was in tears. 'I can't believe you were so foolish, Lisa,' scolded her father. 'You could have been killed.' 'I know, but at least he didn't get my TV,' she replied.

Lisa later remembered the name of the burglar, who had been in the same year as her at school. He was later caught and jailed for 15 months after admitting burglary and assault. In May last year, Lisa was given a Certificate of Appreciation by Staffordshire Police, for her 'outstanding courage and public action'. But in the future she intends to leave household security to a new member of her family, Chan, who is real guard dog.

Choose the correct answer.

1. **How was Lisa feeling as she walked home from work ?**
 - A tired
 - B anxious
 - C depressed
 - D relieved
2. **What does 'pick up' mean in line 5 ?**
 - A contact
 - B visit
 - C collect
 - D check
3. **What first led Lisa to think there was a burglar in her house?**
 - A Something had been broken.
 - B Something had been left outside.
 - C Something was in the wrong place
 - D Something was moving inside.
4. **Why didn't Lisa wait in her neighbor's until the police arrived?**
 - A She was worried about losing her television.
 - B She wanted to know what was happening.
 - C She noticed something from her neighbor's window.
 - D She realised that the burglar was leaving.
5. **What does 'Lisa saw red' (line 16) mean?**
 - A She got impatient.
 - B She felt frightened.
 - C She got angry.
 - D She felt brave.

6. **What happened when Lisa shouted at the burglar?**

- A He tried to explain why he was there.
- B He fell over as he ran towards her.
- C He pretended not to have heard her.
- D He dropped the TV and attacked her.

7. **What did Lisa's father do when he arrived?**

- A He told her off.
- B He comforted her .
- C He praised her.
- D He argued with her.

Part 2

You are going to read a magazine article. Six sentences have been removed from the article. Choose from the sentences **A-H** the one which fits each gap **(8-14)**. There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use. There is an example at the beginning **(0)**. **(2 points for each question)**

MAKING MIRRORS

Jane Thomas, together with her husband Clive, returned to Britain after nearly 30 years of living abroad with wonderful memories (**0**)

Determined to use them rather than just keep them in a box or throw them out, Jane made a shell mirror for her bathroom. This was very much admired by friends and neighbours who came to visit her. (**8**)

That was two years ago. Jane now runs her own small mirror-making business. She buys shells from all over the world through a wholesale company and has converted a spare bedroom in her house into an office-cum-studio. (**9**)

A local carpenter makes frames for her and a glazier then fits the glass inside. Jane does everything else herself: the design, the initial painting of the frame and then the final making up. (**10**)

Clive is a banker and was able to advise Jane on deciding how much money should be invested when she decided to set up the business. Around £ 3000 was spent on shells alone.

(**11**) Jane's main problem was knowing how to market her work more widely.

Local shops could only sell a small number because once they had added their profit margin, the mirrors became rather expensive. However, Jane has now made contact with another company that makes and sells mirrors of a different type. (**12**) At such events, the right sort of people get to see the mirrors and can order them directly.

Venturing into other areas, Jane plans to approach restaurants and hotels directly as she thinks her mirrors might be attractive to them. She has also taken a website on the Internet. (**13**) It means Jane doesn't have the expense of travelling around with her range of mirrors in the back of the car.

Jane reckons it will take another year before her business starts to make money. (**14**) She would like to employ someone to help her with the administration and preparation of the frames, for example, which would allow her to devote more time to the artistic side.

- A** Together they can afford to take stands at specialist exhibitions and craft fairs.
- B** This represents about one week's work and each mirror brings in anything between £ 100 and £ 400 for the business.
- C** As Jane discovered, it's a good idea to find a company willing to sell goods on your behalf.
- D** Before long, she was being asked to make mirrors for other people.
- E** But it didn't end there, Jane also had to think about equipment such as the heavy-duty boxes needed to send the mirrors abroad.
- F** She works there, surrounded by shells of every shape and colour and the other materials needed to make the mirrors.
- G** Once this happens, she feels she will be able to concentrate on the side of the business she enjoys.
- H** This is a very economical way of selling.
- I** She also brought back a huge collection of sea shells collected from beaches around the Indian Ocean.