PEEKABOO ENGLISH CENTER

DAY 3 • BÀI 4

PARAGRAPH COMPREHENSION

PET Reading – Part 2 Extension Practice

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

INSTRUCTIONS Read each paragraph carefully. Choose the correct answer (A, B or C) for each question.

Topic: On the rails | 4 profiles • 12 questions

PARAGRAPH 1 – ANDREA THOMPSON (NEWSREADER)

I fell in love with the south of France a long time ago and try to get back there as often as I can. There's a local train from Cannes along the coast which crosses the border with Italy. It takes you past some of the most amazing seascapes. It never matters what the weather is like, or what time of the year it is, it is always enchanting. Out of the other window are some of the best back gardens and residences in the whole of France. You feel like someone peeping into the property of the rich and famous. The travellers themselves are always lively because there is an interesting mix of tourists and locals, all with different itineraries but all admirers of the breathtaking journey.

1. What does Andrea enjoy most about the train journey?

A. The chance to see beautiful coastal scenery.

B. The opportunity to visit her relatives in Italy.

C. The chance to travel in comfortable weather only.

2. Why does Andrea find the other passengers interesting?

A. They are all travelling for the same reason.

B. They include both local people and tourists with different plans.

C. They often invite her to visit their homes.

3. What does Andrea suggest about this train journey?

A. It is best enjoyed during the summer.

B. It is only attractive when the sea is calm.

C. It is enjoyable whatever the season or weather.

PARAGRAPH 2 – ROD SIMPSON (EXPLORER)

I have enjoyed so many rail journeys through the years, but if I had to pick a favourite it would be the Nile Valley Express, which runs across the desert of northern Sudan. The one misfortune in my youth, growing up in South Africa, was missing out on a family train journey from Cape Town to the Kruger National Park. I was regarded as being too young and troublesome and was sent off to an aunt. When I came to live in England as a teenager, I still hadn't travelled by train. London Waterloo was the first real station I ever saw and its great glass dome filled me with wonder.

4. Which railway journey is Rod's favourite?

A. The journey from Cape Town to the Kruger National Park.

B. The Nile Valley Express.

C. The journey from London to northern Sudan.

5. Why did Rod miss the family train journey when he was young?

A. He was considered too young and difficult to take along.

B. He did not want to travel with his family.

C. He had already travelled to the Kruger National Park.

6. What impressed Rod when he first saw London Waterloo?

A. The number of trains arriving there.

B. The shops inside the station.

C. The station's large glass dome.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

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PARAGRAPH 3 – BETTY COOPER (NOVELIST)

I am indebted to one train in particular: the Blue Train, which took my husband and me on our honeymoon across France to catch a boat to Egypt. It was on the train that my husband gave me a pink dress, which I thought was absolutely wonderful. Someone happened to mention that pink was good for the brain, and I've never stopped wearing the colour since. What I remember about the journey itself, however, is how lovely it was to travel through France and then by boat up the Nile to Luxor. It was, without a doubt, the perfect way to wind down after all the wedding preparations.

7. Why does Betty feel grateful to the Blue Train?

A. It helped her find a job as a writer.

B. It was part of a memorable honeymoon with her husband.

C. It took her to France for the first time as a child.

8. What did Betty's husband give her during the journey?

A. A pink dress.

B. A book about Egypt.

C. A ticket to another train journey.

9. Why was the honeymoon journey especially enjoyable for Betty?

A. She was able to avoid travelling by boat.

B. She had time to prepare for another wedding.

C. It gave her a chance to relax after the wedding preparations.

PARAGRAPH 4 – JENNIFER DICKENS (ACTRESS)

I imagine most people's favourite impressions of trains and railways are formed when they are young children, but that's not my case. I was brought up in Singapore and Cyprus, where I saw very few trains, let alone travelled on them. It wasn't until I was a teenager that trains began to dominate my life. I made a film which featured a railway in Yorkshire. Most of the filming took place on an old, disused stretch of the line which had been lovingly maintained by volunteers. That's where my passion for steam trains began. When we weren't filming, we took every opportunity to have a ride on the train, and, when I went back last year, it was as if time had stood still. Everything was the same, even the gas lights on the station platform!

10. Why did Jennifer have little experience of trains as a child?

A. Her family did not allow her to travel.

B. She grew up in places where there were very few trains.

C. She preferred travelling by ship.

11. How did Jennifer first develop a passion for steam trains?

A. By working on a film that featured an old railway in Yorkshire.

B. By travelling across Europe with her family.

C. By becoming a volunteer at a modern railway station.

12. What surprised Jennifer when she returned to the railway?

A. The railway had been replaced by a new station.

B. The volunteers had stopped looking after the line.

C. The place looked almost unchanged, including the gas lights.

LIVEWORKSHEETS