

The journey from platform nine and three-quarters

Harry pushed his trolley off down the platform in search of an empty seat. He found an empty compartment near the end of the train. The door of the compartment slid open and the youngest redheaded boy came in. 'Anyone sitting there?' he asked, pointing at the seat opposite Harry. 'Everywhere else is full.' Harry shook his head and the boy sat down. He glanced at Harry and then looked quickly out of the window, pretending he hadn't looked.

'Are you really Harry Potter?' Ron asked. Harry nodded. 'Wow,' said Ron. He sat and stared at Harry for a few moments, then, as though he had suddenly realised what he was doing, he looked quickly out of the window again. 'Are all your family wizards?' asked Harry, who found Ron just as interesting as Ron found him. 'Yes, I think so,' said Ron. 'I think Mum's got a second cousin **who's an accountant**, but we never talk about him. 'I heard you went to live with Muggles,' said Ron. 'What are they like?' 'Horrible – well, not all of them. My aunt and uncle and cousin are. I wish I had three wizard brothers.' 'Five,' said Ron. For some reason, he was looking gloomy. 'You never get anything new, with five brothers. I've got Bill's old robes, Charlie's old wand and Percy's old rat.' Harry didn't think there was anything wrong with not being able to afford an owl. After all, he had never had any money in his life until a month ago, and he told Ron so, all about having to wear Dudley's old clothes and never getting proper birthday presents. His seemed to cheer Ron up. '... and until Hagrid told me, I didn't know anything about being a wizard or about myrents or Voldemort –' Ron gasped. 'What?' said Harry. 'You said You-Know-Who's name!' said Ron, sounding bot shocked and impressed. They were quiet for a time, watching the fields past.

Match the pictures and their meanings

Match phrases and meanings



Accountant



Trolley

He glanced at Harry

Harry nodded

realised

Afford

cheer Ron up

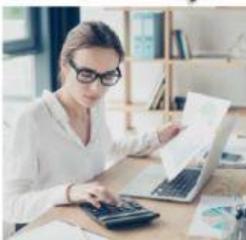
Harry moved his head
expressing "yes".

Noticed

Make Ron feel better.

Have the possibility to pay.

He quickly looked at Harry.



wand

Questions

- 1) Who sat next to Harry?
- 2) Did Ron know Harry's story?
- 3) How did Harry describe his family?
- 4) Why was Harry happy?