

**READING**

A. You are going to read an extract from a novel. For questions 1-8, choose the answer which you think fits best according to the text.

‘Afternoon, Mattie!’ Mr Eckler called from the bow of his boat. ‘Got a new one. Brand-new. Just come in. By a Mrs Wharton. *House of Mirth*, it’s called. I tucked it in behind the coffee beans, under W. You’ll see it.’

‘Thank you, Mr Eckler!’ I said, excited at the prospect of a new book. ‘Did you read it?’

‘Yup. Read it whole.’

‘What’s it about?’

‘Can’t hardly say. Some flighty city girl. Don’t know why it’s called *House of Mirth*. It ain’t funny in the least.’

The Fulton Chain Floating Library is only a tiny room, a closet really, below decks in Charlie Eckler’s pickle boat. It is nothing like the proper library they have in Old Forge, but it has its own element of surprise. Mr Eckler uses the room to store his wares, and when he finally gets around to moving a chest of tea or a sack of cornmeal, you never know what you might find. And once in a while, the main library in Herkimer sends up a new book or two. It’s nice to get your hands on a new book before everyone else does. While the pages are still clean and white and the spine hasn’t been snapped.

I stepped onto the boat and went below decks. The *House of Mirth* was under W, like Mr Eckler said it would be, only it was wedged next to *Mrs Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch*. Mr Eckler sometimes gets authors

and titles confused. I signed it out in a ledger he kept on top of a molasses barrel, then rooted around behind a crate of eggs, a jar of marbles and a box of dried dates but found nothing I hadn’t already read. I remembered to get the bag of cornmeal we needed. I wished I could buy oatmeal or white flour instead, but cornmeal cost less and went further. I was to get a ten-pound bag. The fifty-pound bag cost more to buy but was cheaper per pound and I’d told Pa so, but he said only rich people can afford to be thrifty.

Just as I was about to climb back upstairs, something caught my eye – a box of composition books. Real pretty ones with hard covers on them, and swirly paint designs, and a ribbon to mark your place. I put the cornmeal down, and Mrs Wharton too, and picked one up. Its pages were smooth and white. I thought it would be a fine thing to write on paper that nice. The pages in my old composition book were rough and had blurry blue lines printed on them, and were made with so little care that there were slivers of wood visible in them.

I handed Mr Eckler fifty cents of my father’s money for the cornmeal. ‘How much is this?’ I asked, holding up one of the pretty composition books. I had sixty cents from all the fiddleheads Weaver and I had sold to the Eagle Bay Hotel. It was money I knew

I should have given to my pa. I’d meant to, really. I just hadn’t gotten around to it.

‘Those notebooks? They’re expensive, Mattie. Italians made them. I’ve got to get forty-five cents apiece,’ he said. ‘I’ve got some others coming in for fifteen cents in a week or so if you can wait.’

Forty-five cents was a good deal of money, but I didn’t want the ones for fifteen cents, not after I’d seen the others. I had ideas. Tons of them. For stories and poems. I chewed the inside of my cheek, deliberating. I knew I would have to write a lot when I went to Barnard College – if I went to Barnard College – and it might be a good idea to get a head start. Weaver had said I should be using my words, not just collecting them, and I knew they would just glide across this beautiful paper, and when I was done writing them, I could close them safely inside the covers. Just like a real book. Guilt gnawed at my insides. I took the money from my pocket and gave it to Mr Eckler quickly, so the thing was done and I couldn’t change my mind. Then I watched breathlessly as he wrapped my purchase in brown paper and tied it with string. I thanked him as he handed me the package, but he didn’t hear me because Mr Pulling, the station-master, was asking him the price of oranges.

## QUESTIONS

1. When Mr Eckler told Mattie about the new book,
  - A. Mattie felt it sounded familiar to her.
  - B. he said that he thought its title was inappropriate. \_\_\_\_\_
  - C. he said that it was a book Mattie would enjoy.
  - D. Mattie suspected that he hadn't really read it.
  
2. What does Mattie say about the library in Mr Eckler's boat?
  - A. New books are frequently added to it.
  - B. All the books in it are in excellent condition. \_\_\_\_\_
  - C. It contains books that are hidden from view.
  - D. Mr Eckler doesn't know exactly what is in it.
  
3. When Mattie found the new book, she
  - A. discovered that there were other new books nearby.
  - B. saw that it had been put in the wrong place. \_\_\_\_\_
  - C. followed Mr Eckler's system for borrowing books.
  - D. had to move something so that she could find it.
  
4. What was the situation concerning the cornmeal?
  - A. Her father was unable to save money by buying the bigger bag.
  - B. Her father could not see the point of buying the bigger bag. \_\_\_\_\_
  - C. Her father felt that cornmeal was better than oatmeal or white flour.
  - D. Her father decided to stop buying what he usually bought.
  
5. One reason why Mattie liked the look of the composition books was that
  - A. the covers were shiny.
  - B. the pages were completely clear. \_\_\_\_\_
  - C. the pages were thicker than in her old book.
  - D. they had better ribbons than her old book.
  
6. When Mattie asked Mr Eckler how much the composition books cost, he said that
  - A. they weren't really worth the money.
  - B. they were not the books he had been expecting to receive. \_\_\_\_\_
  - C. he did not expect many people to buy them.
  - D. he had no choice about how much to charge for them.
  
7. While she was buying one of the books, Mattie thought about
  - A. how she could use it for making lists of words.
  - B. what the experience of writing in it would be like. \_\_\_\_\_
  - C. what people at Barnard College would think of it.
  - D. whether she would have enough ideas to fill the whole book.
  
8. What do we learn about Mattie in the text as a whole?
  - A. She always thought carefully before making any decisions.
  - B. She was very keen to impress other people. \_\_\_\_\_
  - C. She was often criticized by people who were close to her.
  - D. She had an enormous interest in both literature and language.


## GRAMMAR AND USE OF ENGLISH

B. Complete the sentences with the correct form of these words.

allow break confess dismiss find reach rob steal

1. It took the jury three days, but they finally \_\_\_\_\_ a verdict.
2. I suspect Marcus \_\_\_\_\_ my new iPad, but I have no proof.
3. Be careful. If you \_\_\_\_\_ the law, you will be punished.
4. After hours of questioning by the police, Harold \_\_\_\_\_ to the crime.
5. We were \_\_\_\_\_ by our taxi driver while we were on holiday!
6. The prisoners were \_\_\_\_\_ to have few visitors.
7. Do you think the jury will \_\_\_\_\_ Freddie guilty of robbery?
8. The case against Gina was \_\_\_\_\_ due to lack of evidence.

C. Use the word given in capitals at the end of each line to form a word that fits in the space in the same line.

 <p><b>Arthur's life of crime</b></p> <p>At his last trial, nobody believed in Arthur's</p> <p>(1) <u>innocence</u> He had been accused of the</p> <p>(2) _____ of a valuable Chinese vase, and was also charged with ten other (3) _____.</p> <p>The value of the (4) _____ goods was said to be over £20,000. Arthur said in his own (5) _____ that the vase had been put into his car</p> <p>(6) _____. He also pointed out that the Chinese vase was a fake, and was almost (7) _____. The judge did not believe Arthur's story. He told Arthur he was a hardened (8) _____ and that he deserved a severe (9) _____. Then the judge sentenced Arthur to five years' (10) _____. Arthur just smiled. He had spent most of his life in prison and so he was used to it.</p>	<p><b>INNOCENT</b></p> <p><b>THIEF</b></p> <p><b>OFFEND</b></p> <p><b>STEAL</b></p> <p><b>DEFEND</b></p> <p><b>ACCIDENT</b></p> <p><b>WORTH</b></p> <p><b>CRIME</b></p> <p><b>PUNISH</b></p> <p><b>PRISON</b></p>
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D. Rewrite the sentences using the causative form.

1. You should remove all that rubbish from your front garden.

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2. My car was broken into while I was at work.

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3. Someone has replaced the locks on Grandma's doors.

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4. Many people install smoke detectors in their homes.

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5. The authorities will test the soil for chemical poisoning.

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6. Someone used to deliver Gary's firewood every winter.

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E. For questions 1-6, complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. **Do not change the word given.** You must use between **two** and **five** words, including the word given. Here is an example (0).

0. My grandfather hasn't spoken to me since Sunday.

**SPOKE**

My grandfather last spoke to me on Sunday.

1. The students gave a concert after their exams.

**WAS**

A concert \_\_\_\_\_ students after their exams.

2. My computer needs to be repaired before the weekend.

**HAVE**

I must \_\_\_\_\_ before the weekend.

3. We heard reports last week that the dictator had fled the country.

**IT**

Last week \_\_\_\_\_ the dictator had fled the country.

4. No one gave my message to the shop manager.

**NOT**

My message \_\_\_\_\_ the shop manager.

5. The teacher said Simon had cheated.

**ACCUSED**

Simon \_\_\_\_\_ his teacher.

6. The address the tourist office gave us for the hotel was wrong so we got lost.

**RIGHT**

We \_\_\_\_\_ address for the hotel by the tourist office so we got lost.

## LISTENING

You will hear a man called Peter Green talking about a group expedition he went on to the South Pole for a TV documentary. For questions 1 -10, complete the sentences with a word or short phrase.

Peter was working as an **1.** \_\_\_\_\_ when he applied to join the expedition. On the expedition, Peter and his group went to the South Pole on **2.** \_\_\_\_\_ instead of more typical means of transport. Peter says that his greatest challenge was the **3.** \_\_\_\_\_ he suffered. Peter says that ensuring they could get enough **4.** \_\_\_\_\_ took up a good deal of the group's time. Peter was surprised at how quickly his **5.** \_\_\_\_\_ decreased. Peter's **6.** \_\_\_\_\_ were affected by the cold during the expedition. One of Peter's teammates had a chest infection and the lack of **7.** \_\_\_\_\_ made it worse. When they reached the **8.** \_\_\_\_\_ point, Peter's team were given a medical check.

Peter felt a great sense of **9.** \_\_\_\_\_ when he reached the pole.

Peter uses the word **10.** \_\_\_\_\_ to describe the environment at the South Pole.