Reading Test #1

Name : _____ **INTERM 03**

1 Read the text. Are these sentences true (T) or false (F)?

a) The writer got injured in a school cookery lesson. T / F

b) Cookery lessons in schools don't help children learn to cook. T / F

c) Things don't seem to have changed in school cookery lessons. T / F

d) The writer can't cook. T / F

e) The writer doesn't let his daughter cook in case she hurts herself. T / F

I remember when I was at school learning to cook, or perhaps I should say *not* learning to cook. Cookery was a compulsory lesson, meaning everyone had to do it. But all we ever learnt to make were cucumber sandwiches, fruit salad and boiled eggs. Hardly what you'd call good food and not much cooking involved! We never learnt to grill, bake or fry and cutting things such as fruit or vegetables was supervised by the teacher just in case you accidentally cut yourself or the boy standing next to you. It's no wonder young people can't cook. How many people can learn anything practical without being given the opportunity to practice doing it? And, thirty years later, things aren't any better. What did my daughter learn to 'cook' last week? A cup of tea! How much cooking is involved in that?

Fortunately, my parents realised how important it was to know how to cook, and from a young age they not only encouraged me to go into the kitchen, but would often ask me to cook something for them. I remember the first meal I ever made for my mother. I decided to make her breakfast as a surprise on her birthday. However, as I didn't know how to switch on the kettle by myself, or operate the gas cooker, she was a little surprised as her tea was cold and her egg hadn't actually been cooked!

So, I now get my daughter to help me in the kitchen and I really don't worry too much about the potential dangers. I've taught her to be careful and now I trust her not to do anything stupid. The great thing about it is that she doesn't have to rely on her cookery ssons at school to teach her a skill that is really quite important in everyday life.

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