

THE FLYER

One day in August Dennis was walking around the city centre aimlessly with his girlfriend Linda. "Two weeks' break, but no money to *do* anything!" he complained.

Just then Linda picked up a brightly-coloured flyer. "Guaranteed trip to Australia!" she read carefully, "Calls cost a pound..." Dennis sprang into action. "Come on, Linda! Get your phone out and let's get dialling!" After listening to a recorded message about the delights of Australia for ten minutes, both of their calls came to an end.

They were disappointed to be told that they hadn't won the trip "on this occasion", but that they should "call again" – and often – to have another chance of winning.

Neither of them had a lot of credit left on their mobiles, so Dennis suggested: "Let's get me dad's phone. It'll be amazing to go Down Under!"

They found Rob's phone and made a couple more calls, but each time they were unlucky. Then they tried from Dennis's home phone, and after that from Linda's grandma's mobile, but no joy. "I'm getting bored listening to all that going on about Australia!" commented Linda.

Dennis agreed, but they both fancied a luxury holiday in the sun, so they kept on calling, asking everyone they knew whether they could use their phones: "Just for a minute – and we'll pay you back!"

By the end of the day they had heard the same message twenty-seven times. It was then that Linda read the small print on the back of the flyer. "It says here calls cost a quid..."

"Right," agreed Dennis. "But it's a pound a minute, Dennis!" Dennis's face turned purple.

Their holiday of a lifetime would have to wait. The next day Dennis went back to the garage to put in some overtime.

The Flyer (Comprehension Questions)

1. Where did Dennis and Linda want to go?
2. Who had a very short summer holiday?
3. How much did each phone call cost?
4. What is the name of Linda's boyfriend?
5. Which nickname for Australia does Dennis use?
6. How did Dennis feel when he found out the full cost of the calls?
7. How many times did they phone the number on the flyer?
8. Who is Rob?

9. What did the small print say?
10. What is the name of Dennis's girlfriend?
11. Where were they walking aimlessly?
12. What did Linda find?
13. What season was it?
14. How much money did they spend on the phone calls in total?
15. How many times did they call the number from Rob's phone?
16. What were Dennis and Linda doing at the beginning of the story?
17. What did Linda read after making the phone calls?
18. Why did they phone the number on the flyer so many times?
19. When did the story take place.
20. How much holiday did Dennis have?
21. What did they hear when they dialled the number on the flyer?
22. How much did they owe by the end?
23. Where does Dennis work?
24. Why didn't they win a trip to Australia?
25. Whose grandma's mobile did they use?
26. What did Linda and Dennis fancy?
27. Did they use Linda's grandma's mobile before Dennis's dad's, or after?
28. Why was Dennis complaining at the beginning of the story?
29. Why did Dennis have to go back to work?
30. How much is a "quid"?

The Flyer (Answers - Comprehension Questions)

1. Australia.
2. Dennis.
3. Ten pounds – one pound per minute for ten minutes.
4. Dennis.
5. Down Under.
6. He turned purple, which suggests that he felt very angry and/or embarrassed.
7. Twenty-seven.
8. Dennis's dad.
9. That each call costs one pound *per minute*, i.e. ten pounds each.
10. Linda.
11. Around the city centre.

12. A brightly-coloured flyer.
13. Summer.
14. Two hundred and seventy pounds (twenty-seven calls @ £10 each)
15. Twice (a *couple* of times).
16. Walking around the city centre aimlessly together.
17. The small print on the back of the flyer.
18. Because they wanted to win a trip to Australia.
19. In August.
20. Two weeks.
21. A recorded message about the delights of Australia.
22. Two hundred and fifty pounds (they used their own phones for the first two calls).
23. At a garage.
24. Because the competition was probably a scam (not genuine).
25. Linda's.
26. A luxury holiday in the sun.
27. After.
28. Because he didn't have any money to do anything during his holiday.
29. To earn money to pay everybody back for using their phone credit.
30. One pound.

The Flyer (True, False, or Unknown?)

1. Dennis had two weeks' holiday.
2. Dennis is taller than Linda.
3. They were on their way to the train station when Linda picked up the flyer.
4. Dennis found the flyer and gave it to Linda.
5. They didn't ask for Rob's permission to use his phone.
6. They didn't read the terms and conditions on the flyer properly.
7. Dennis's girlfriend is called Leila.
8. Dennis felt embarrassed when he got to work the next day.
9. Each call cost one pound.
10. Dennis had to work extra hours to pay for the phone calls.
11. Linda is going out with Dennis.
12. Rob was angry when he found out what had happened.

13. They wanted to win a trip to Australia.
14. At the beginning of the story Dennis and Linda were at the bank.
15. They heard the message twenty times.
16. Dennis's phone is a three-year-old Nokia.
17. The calls were expensive.
18. Linda didn't have a mobile.
19. Linda picked up the flyer and read the small print on the back.
20. Dennis and Linda have fallen for this kind of phone scam before.
21. Linda has got brown hair.
22. They didn't go on a holiday of a lifetime.
23. Linda and Dennis had been on holiday together a few months before.
24. At the beginning of the story Dennis and Linda had nothing to do.
25. Linda's grandma let them use her phone.
26. Dennis was pleased when he found out the true cost of the calls.
27. Dennis and Linda used up all the credit on their phones.
28. Linda is hoping to buy a new phone before the autumn.
29. Dennis encouraged Linda to call the number on the flyer.
30. Dennis and Linda were right to do what they did.

The Flyer (Answers - True, False, or Unknown?)

(*T = True, F = False, U = Unknown*)

1. T
2. U
3. U
4. F
5. T
6. T
7. F
8. U
9. F
10. T
11. T
12. U
13. T
14. F

- 15. T (*but 27 in total!*)
- 16. U
- 17. T
- 18. F
- 19. F
- 20. U
- 21. U
- 22. T
- 23. U
- 24. T
- 25. U
- 26. F
- 27. F
- 28. U
- 29. T
- 30. U (*answers may vary*)