

[GRAMMAR] – [READING COMPREHENSION 5]
READING COMPREHENSION (NO.5)

READING 1: Read the text and questions below. For each question, choose the correct answer.

Our Great Ocean Road adventure

by Donna Waverley

My family and I recently went to Australia to see my grandparents. But before we visited them, we went sightseeing along the Great Ocean Road, on the Australian coast.

Dad had intended to drive, but even though he was used to driving miles without getting exhausted, he then read on the website that the road wouldn't be an easy drive, with a number of sharp bends. Anyway, we thought he deserved to enjoy the fantastic views too, which he couldn't do as our driver. So instead, we persuaded him to book discount bus tickets and of we went.

Our first stop was where wild kangaroos lived - and Dad and I were talking a walk when a big one appeared! For a moment, it seemed to consider coming towards us, which made me slightly nervous-but then it went off along the road, stopping to check if we were following. Although it was with us for a while, I was so excited I didn't even manage to pull out my camera. Then it looked back once more and went off into the bushes.

That wasn't the only wildlife we saw. I thought it unlikely we'd see Australia's famous koala bears during our short visit, as I'd heard they were rare-but we weren't disappointed at our next stop. In fact, we discovered there were roughly six million in that area! Sadly, some gum trees they were in had very few leaves left, which people told us was because of the koalas, although I'd read that lack of water is actually the problem. Still, I guess they looked cute and were easy to find-we just followed the tourists looking up into the trees.

Dad had booked a campsite for the night, with ready-made tents - for an adventure! I wasn't sure about that, but they were actually luxury tents, within walking distance of some famous rocks and other places we hoped to visit. However, Dad also said the sounds of wild creatures would help us sleep. That sounded worrying-until the "wild creatures" turned out to be frogs! So I was embarrassed by my fear and kept awake by the frogs! But we had fun making meals together - we'd brought food, as we knew there'd be nowhere to eat.

In fact, this whole trip was fantastic!

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(Adapted from Pet for school trainer 1 for revised exam from 2020)

Question 1: *Donna's Dad decided not to drive the Great Ocean Road himself because*

- A. he realized he wouldn't enjoy the views as much.
- B. he thought it would be too tiring for him.
- C. he discovered the bus would be a cheaper option.
- D. he found out the route was very challenging.

Question 2: *When Donna saw a kangaroo along the route, she was*

- A. worried that it might approach her.
- B. amazed at the size of it.
- C. sad that it didn't stay with them long.
- D. disappointed that she had forgotten her camera.

Question 3: *Donna says that the koala bears they saw were*

- A. responsible for damage to the trees.
- B. even more attractive than people had told her.
- C. more common than she'd expected.
- D. very skilled at hiding away from tourists.

Question 4: *According to the text, what do you think is the main food for koalas?*

- A. water
- B. gum leaves
- C. caterpillars on gum trees
- D. frogs

Question 5: *What was Donna's opinion of the place where they stayed?*

- A. She found it was less comfortable than she'd hoped.
- B. She liked the fact that it was convenient for sightseeing.
- C. She enjoyed hearing the sounds of nature as she slept.
- D. She was disappointed there was no restaurant nearby.

Question 6: *What might Donna write in her blog during the trip?*

- A. The bus we're travelling on is pretty comfortable, with great views from the window. Grandma and Grandad are enjoying it, too!
- B. We can see quite a lot as we drive along, I just wish we could stop and get out to explore the property.
- C. Yesterday we went to see some huge rocks near our campsite - and we were really impressed! I'm surprised they're not well known.
- D. I wasn't looking forward to camping, in case there were wild animals, but we haven't seen anything at all dangerous, so I feel silly now!

[GRAMMAR] – [READING COMPREHENSION 5]

READING 2: Read the passage and choose the best answer for the questions below.

When I opened the first “Body Shop” in 1976 my only object was to earn enough to feed my children. Today “The Body Shop” is an international company rapidly growing all around the world. In the years since I began, I have learned a lot. Much of what I have learned will be found in this book, for I believe that we, as a company, have something worth saying about how to run a successful business without giving up what we really believe in.

It’s not a normal business book, nor is it just about my life. The message is that to succeed in business you have to be different. Business can be fun, a business can be run with love and it can do well. In business, as in life, I need to enjoy myself, to have a feeling of family and to feel excited by the unexpected. I have always wanted the people who work for “The Body Shop” to feel the same way.

Now this book sends these ideas on mine out into the world, makes them public. I’d like to think there are no limits to our “family”, no limits to what can be done. I find that an exciting thought. I hope you do, too.

Question 1: *What is the writer’s main purpose in writing this text?*

- A. to tell the reader her life story.
- B. to introduce her ideas to the reader.
- C. to explain how international companies operate.

Question 2: *What would someone learn from this text?*

- A. what the writer’s book is about.
- B. what the writer’s family is like.
- C. how to write a book about business.

Question 3: *How does the writer feel about the business she runs?*

- A. She doesn’t care about success if her children are fed.
- B. She just runs it for her own entertainment.
- C. It is not like any other company.

Question 4: *What kind of workers does the writer like to employ?*

- A. workers who can explain her ideas.
- B. workers who get on well with the public.
- C. workers who have the same attitudes as she does.

[GRAMMAR] – [READING COMPREHENSION 5]

READING 3: Read the text and questions below. For each question, choose the correct answer.

The shortcut

"Follow me. I know a shortcut," Danny said.

Carl held back. "I don't think that's a good idea," he said. He was used to his brother looking for easy ways to do things. Danny slept on the floor so he didn't have to make his bed. And now he had found a shortcut from the store to their grandmother's house.

They were visiting for the Thanksgiving weekend. The block around her house was familiar. It was just four blocks from the store, with a turn on one corner. Between the store and the house was a junkyard. It was a dirty place with old cars and sofas piled in heaps. There was a fence around it. But nobody seemed to own it or to care about it.

"Come on!" Danny said. "Don't be chicken!" Carl hated it when he called him a chicken. But he felt he had to keep an eye on his brother. It's what he had been doing his whole life, even though Danny was a year older.

They pushed aside a broken part of the fence and walked through the mud. Danny hopped onto the springs of a discarded bed. His foot got stuck. He had to take off his shoe to free it. Then he saw something interesting on the ground. It looked like a silver dollar, but it turned out to be just a bottle cap. Danny tossed a flat football to Carl. He filled his pockets with all sorts of finds. A piece of blue glass. A soggy picture of a dog. Four pennies. While Danny studied the ground, Carl was looking at the sky. "It's getting late," he said. Finally, they reached the other side. There, the fence was strong and high. There was no way to climb over it. So, they had to run-fast-back to where they'd started.

(Adapted from readworks.org)

Question 1: *What is the theme of the passage?*

- A. Watching out for danger
- B. It is important to be kind to your brother.
- C. The value of things.
- D. Taking a shortcut can be an adventure.

Question 2: *Which of the following does not support the theme?*

- A. Danny saw a bottle cap on the ground.
- B. The shortcut lead to a junk yard.
- C. There was no way out of the junkyard.
- D. Danny wanted to take a shortcut.

[GRAMMAR] – [READING COMPREHENSION 5]

Question 3: What is the problem in this story?

- A. The shortcut took more time than Danny planned.
- B. Danny called Carl a chicken.
- C. Carl is always watching out for Danny.
- D. Danny wanted to take a shortcut.

Question 4: Carl seemed _____.

- A. mean.
- B. cautious.
- C. adventurous.
- D. boring.

Question 5: At the end, Danny and Carl _____.

- A. kept taking the shortcut
- B. succeed in taking the shortcut
- C. couldn't reach their grandmother's house
- D. turned back to where they had started

READING 4: Read the passage and answer the questions.

Our new old house

Boom!

A clap of thunder made the old house shake. Ramon huddled under the covers of his bed. A jagged streak of lightning lit up the room. *I hate this house*, Ramon thought. It was his first night in his new home. The house had belonged to his grandma. It was very, very old. Paint peeled off of the walls. The wood boards of the floor creaked when you walked on them.

The house looked really creepy at night, Ramon thought. The trees outside his windows looked like monsters in the dark. Their branches looked like long arms. They **waved when the wind blew**. The storm made everything extra creepy. Ramon hated storms anyway. But it somehow seemed worse in the old house.

Ramon pulled the covers off of his head. The thunder became quieter. Ramon **drifted off to sleep**. When he woke up, sun was streaming through his window. Ramon yawned and climbed out of bed.

The trees outside didn't look like monsters anymore. The branches had nice green leaves growing on them. Ramon could see a bird sitting on one of the branches. It chirped a happy song.

Ramon walked to the window and looked outside. It looked pretty nice in the daylight. A bubbling stream cut across the yard. A tire swing hung from one of the trees. A garden of flowers grew next to the tree. Butterflies flew around the flowers. "Maybe living here won't be so bad after all," Ramon said.

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(Adapted from readworks.org)

Question 1: At the beginning of the passage, it is a stormy night. Which of the following *does not* show that?

- A. There was a clap of thunder.
- B. Streaks of lightning lit up the room.
- C. There was paint peeling off the walls.
- D. The trees looked like monsters.

Question 2: The author describes the house and yard with a lot of detail. Which of the following is true about the house and yard?

- A. There was a bench by some flowers.
- B. Squirrels climbed up trees.
- C. Bees buzzed through the air.
- D. A stream ran through the yard.

Question 3: What does the author mean by saying that the branches of the trees "waved when the wind blew"?

- A. The tree branches looked like waves in an ocean.
- B. The tree branches moved in the wind.
- C. The tree branches were waving hello to Ramon.
- D. The tree branches turned into an ocean wave when the wind blew.

Question 4: What does the author mean by saying that "Ramon drifted off to sleep"?

- A. Ramon could not sleep.
- B. Ramon found it hard to sleep.
- C. Ramon gradually started to sleep.
- D. Ramon slept immediately.

Question 5: The theme of this passage is

- A. seeing the bright side of things.
- B. loving your family.
- C. fear.
- D. getting used to changes.