# Reading
# Putting Others First



***Read the text below, choose the correct answers (A, B, C, D) .***

It was Sunday morning, and I woke up to the sound of my phone buzzing. A message from Claire. "Morning! I know it's early, but can I come over for breakfast? I need to talk!" I glanced at the clock—6:30 a.m. I had planned to sleep in, maybe catch up on some work later, but Claire sounded like she needed me. "Sure, come on over," I replied, rubbing my eyes and trying to wake up. I hadn't even thought about breakfast, but she was already on her way.

Not ten minutes later, the door swung open and Claire burst in. "I'll help with breakfast!" she called, heading straight to the kitchen like she owned the place. "I'm thinking pancakes," she announced, already pulling out ingredients. I smiled but felt a twinge of stress. I wasn't even fully awake, and my kitchen was about to be a mess. But it was Claire, so I didn't say anything.

"You're okay with pancakes, right?" she asked as she whisked the batter. Before I could answer, she was off. "Work has been crazy," she sighed, "I just don't know how to deal with my boss anymore. He's driving me insane!" I found myself nodding along, flipping pancakes while trying to follow her story. As the kitchen turned into chaos, I kept quiet. Claire needed to vent, and I didn't want to seem like I wasn't there for her.

By the time breakfast was ready, Claire had spilled her entire work drama. I hadn't said much, but I smiled and reassured her where I could. "Thanks for listening. I feel so much better," she said as she left, not noticing the flour-covered countertops or the stack of dirty dishes. I looked around, feeling a little drained already, but I'd made her day better, and that was something.

The rest of the morning flew by in a blur of cleaning and catching up on emails. Then, in the afternoon, my friend Rachel texted me, asking if I wanted to meet for dinner. "Sushi?" she suggested, and I knew it was her favorite so I said yes. She also knew I was allergic to seafood. I replied, "Sure, but I'll just have veggies." It didn't bother me too much anymore. I was used to going along with what others wanted, even if it meant ordering something bland just to keep the peace.

We met at the restaurant, and Rachel dove straight into ordering, oblivious to the fact I'd only have a plate of plain vegetables in front of me. As she chatted away about her latest adventure, I found myself nodding and smiling again. When she noticed my plate, she simply laughed, "Oh right, the allergy thing! I forgot." It stung a little, but I shrugged it off. "You're always so easygoing," she said, "I appreciate that about you." I smiled weakly, wondering if being 'easygoing' really meant putting everyone else first.

The day didn't end there. As I got home late that evening, I found a work email from my colleague, asking if I could cover her shift the next day. "I know it's last-minute, but you're the best!" she wrote. I sighed, already feeling the exhaustion creeping in. But before I could stop myself, I typed, "No problem, I can handle it," knowing full well I had plans to relax and recharge.

I thought the day was finally over, but my phone buzzed again. It was my boss. "Hey, I need you to take on a new project starting next month. It's a big one, and I know you're the only one who can handle it." The message sat on my screen, and for a moment, I considered saying no, that I needed a break. But then, the familiar feeling of guilt kicked in. I couldn't let him down, could I? "Sure, I'll get started on it," I replied, even though my calendar was already packed. Another 'yes' that meant pushing my own needs aside.

As I sat on the couch that night, utterly drained from a day of saying yes to everyone, I realized how much I'd given of myself. It was Sunday—my supposed day of rest—but it felt like anything but.

# Reading

**1. How does the author feel about Claire's sudden breakfast plans?**

A) Grateful for the help.

B) Slightly stressed but keeps quiet.

C) Happy and relaxed.

D) Excited to cook together.

**2. Why does the author agree to eat sushi with Rachel?**

A) The author loves sushi.

B) The author wants vegetables.

C) The restaurant was nearby.

D) The author knows Rachel loves sushi.

**3. How does Rachel react when she realizes the author can't eat sushi?**

A) She apologizes profusely.

B) She laughs it off and quickly forgets.

C) She orders something else for the author.

D) She insists the author should try the sushi anyway.

**4. Why does the author agree to take a colleague's shift the next day?**

A) The author has no other plans.

B) The colleague promises to repay the favor.

C) The colleague helped her before.

D) The author feels guilty saying no.

**5. What theme best describes the author's Sunday?**

A) A stressful day of trying to please others.

B) A relaxing day of self-care.

C) A day spent organizing and planning.

D) A productive day of completing personal projects.



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