

Read the text below. For questions (22-26) choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D). Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

## PEN FRIENDSHIP

Barbara Cajowski looked out the window. "I have been feeling anxiety all day," she said. She felt like she was meeting a celebrity, someone she'd read about, and seen pictures of, but never met. "I'm excited, thrilled, but I am terrified." Barbara said. Would they instantly like each other? Would they struggle to make small talk, or would it be easy like in all the letters over the years? She had been waiting for this for 37 years.

In 1980, Barbara was a 9-year-old girl living in Long Island, New York. Barbara's parents had bought her an Etch A Sketch, the classic drawing toy with the red frame and two white knobs. Barbara had read on the box that there was an Etch A Sketch Club. She joined and received a newsletter that included a pen-pal exchange and drawing contests. Barbara signed up to be a pen pal and received a photo and a letter, dated April 14, 1980, from 9-year-old Janelle Cooper who lived on a farm in Indiana.

Barbara wrote right back. In careful handwriting on paper with a teddy bear in the bottom right corner, she asked, "What is your favorite show? Mine is The Brady Bunch." She remembers looking at the picture and thinking: "I'm never going to meet this person. She's never going to meet my friends or my teachers. I can tell her anything." So she wrote: "If you don't tell anyone I will tell you I am scared to death of the noise of Thunder and hate Lightning. Please don't tell anyone."

As a girl, Barbara had plenty of friends, but she loved getting mail too. She had more than one pen pal. Barbara's other pen pals wrote a few times and then stopped. Janelle kept writing. Back and forth the girls wrote, on pretty stationery with matching envelopes that came in packets tied with silky ribbons. They dropped letters in the mail twice a month. They wrote through high school, swapping prom pictures and writing about the classes they didn't like and the boys they did.

As kids, Janelle and Barbara had plotted to get together, elaborate plans that their parents would never approve. When they were grown, they talked about it, but the years went by, and somehow it never happened. They only spoke on the phone a few times. When they were kids, a long-distance call was expensive still. Barbara called Janelle on her wedding day, to wish her well, but that was it.

Now they met, 37 years after that first tentative exchange of letters. Janelle came to visit Barbara. Barbara finally met the little girl she thought would be the perfect friend because they would never meet. And she discovered that it *was* different in person. It was better. And she could still tell her anything.

22 What is TRUE about Barbara, according to Paragraph 1?

- A She was happy to meet a celebrity.
- B She was nearly forty years old.
- C She found it hard to talk to people.
- D She was experiencing mixed feelings.

23 How did Barbara and Janelle start corresponding?

- A They first met at a drawing competition.
- B They got acquainted through their parents.
- C They joined a program in the toy society.
- D They spent a summer together on a farm.

24 In her first letter Barbara told Janelle about her \_\_\_\_\_.

- A teddy bear
- B personal secret
- C teachers
- D friends

25 Which of the following is NOT TRUE about Barbara's corresponding?

- A She loved her pen pals more than her friends.
- B Her corresponding was usually quite short.
- C She and Janelle exchanged letters every fortnight.
- D Barbara's and Janelle's letters looked alike.

26 What did Barbara and Janelle do as kids?

- A They were trying to find some ways to meet.
- B They asked parents to arrange their meeting.
- C They saved money to make expensive calls.
- D They were dreaming about their weddings.