

“The Novel I Almost Didn’t Finish”

Last month, my sister lent me a mystery novel called *The Silent Street*. She had already read it and told me it was amazing. First, I wasn’t interested because I had never enjoyed detective stories before. On the first night, I only read one chapter. The plot seemed slow, and the characters didn’t feel very exciting. I almost gave up, but my sister said the story had surprised her in the middle. The next day, I took the book on the bus to work. By the time I arrived, I had finished five chapters. The plot twist completely changed the story. The author had hidden important clues, and suddenly everything made sense. After that, I couldn’t stop reading. I stayed up late because I wanted to know the ending. By midnight, I had read more than 200 pages. When I finally closed the book, I realized something: although I had expected a boring story, I had just finished one of the best novels I’d read all year. The characters felt real, the setting was vivid, and the ending was unforgettable. Now I always recommend it to friends. It taught me not to judge a book too quickly.

Choose the correct option.

1. Why was the narrator not interested in the book at first?

- A. The sister had already spoiled the ending
- B. The narrator disliked the mystery genre in general
- C. The first chapter was too long
- D. The author was unknown

2. What almost made the narrator stop reading?

- A. The book was difficult to understand
- B. The language was too advanced
- C. The beginning felt uninteresting
- D. There were too many characters

3. What does “By the time I arrived, I had finished five chapters” suggest?

- A. The narrator read slowly on the bus
- B. The narrator completed the chapters after arriving
- C. Most of the reading happened during the bus ride
- D. The narrator skipped some chapters

4. Why did the story suddenly make sense to the narrator?

- A. A friend explained the plot
- B. The author revealed all the answers directly
- C. The narrator reread earlier chapters
- D. Hidden clues became clear after a twist

5. Which event happened FIRST in the timeline?

- A. The narrator stayed up past midnight
- B. The sister recommended the book
- C. The narrator read five chapters on the bus
- D. The narrator discovered the plot twist

6. What can we infer about the narrator's reading habits before this experience?

- A. They regularly read mystery novels
- B. They avoided fiction books completely
- C. They had negative expectations about detective stories
- D. They preferred reading only at night

7. Why did the narrator stay up late?

- A. They needed to finish homework
- B. The book became more engaging
- C. The bus ride had been interrupted
- D. Their sister asked for the book back

8. What is the main message the narrator learned from this experience?

- A. Family recommendations are always correct
- B. Mystery novels are better than other genres
- C. Reading quickly improves comprehension
- D. First impressions about books can be misleading