



Reading comprehension



1) Read the text and fill in the gaps with the verbs in past tenses (active or passive).

The great painter Sir James Thornhill 1 _____ (employ) for decorating the interior of the dome of St. Paul's in London. One day he 2 _____ (step back) on the scaffolding x) to see how the work 3 _____ (look) at a distance. His servant, who 4 _____ (stand) near, was terrified to see his master within some inches of the edge of the scaffolding. At the last moment backwards the painter 5 _____ (throw) and 6 _____ (dash) to pieces on the pavement. How 7 _____ he _____ (can, warn) of this danger? If the servant 8 _____ (cry out), he 9 _____ probably in his alarm _____ (take) a fatal step.

So the man 10 _____ (throw) a pot of paint over the piece of work the painter 11 _____ just _____ (admire). Sir James, in a rage, 12 _____ (rush forward) to punish him. Thus his life 13 _____ (save). On finding out why the servant 14 _____ (spoil) his painting, Sir James 15 _____ (be) glad to reward him instead of punishing him.

x) Scaffolding – a raised structure that supports workers and materials during work on a building

2) Complete the sentence with the suitable ending.

The text is about _____

- A) the servant who saved the life of his master.
- B) St. Paul's Cathedral and how it was decorated.
- C) the servant who helped his master with decoration.
- D) the servant who spoilt his master's painting.

6) Choose the correct word (A-D) to complete the sentence.

Sir James Thornhill was _____

3) Choose the right answer to the question.

Why did the servant throw the pot of paint over the painting?

7) Choose the synonym to this expression.

'had spoilt the painting'

4) Which sentence doesn't fit the story?

- A) The master rewarded his servant.
- B) Sir James Thornhill was surprised.
- C) The painter wanted to punish the servant.
- D) Sir James Thornhill got very angry.

8) Finish the sentence according to the text.

5) Choose the sentence which best fits the story.

9) Decide which heading best summarizes the text.

