

1.3 I've heard that one before

READING

1. Read the text and number the events (A-H) in the correct order (1-8).

My blog

Get me out of here!

My adventure in the Escape Room

New post from Dan C. 21 October

It was 9.00 p.m. and I was with three of my friends. We were sitting in a small, dark room. The door was locked and we didn't have a key.

It had been a long day. I had got up at 6.00 a.m. to finish an essay. I had been to all my classes. I had done my homework and then gone to football training. After that, I had had pizza for dinner. Then I had received a text from Remi, my best friend: 'Want an adventure? Meet at 7.45 outside the shopping centre.'

The 'adventure' was a game called Escape Room. It's the latest form of entertainment for parties and groups of friends who want a fun night out. The rules are simple. A group of people are locked in a room. To 'escape' from the room they have to follow clues and find solutions to different puzzles or problems. Unlike most games, it's not competitive – the challenge is to work together to agree a strategy that helps you escape inside a certain time, usually one hour.

We started at 8.00. We took part in pairs and divided the different problems between us. After half an hour we were doing well. We had solved most of the clues and there were just two problems left. We decided to work together on these. After ten minutes, we had found the answer to one of the problems. After another fifteen minutes, we were still trying to work out the final answer and we were all getting very tired. At 8.59 we still hadn't solved the last problem and we were almost ready to give up. We waited for someone to unlock the door. And waited. No one came.

We shouted. We banged on the door. We took turns trying to phone out, but there was no mobile signal. We realised that the manager had forgotten us. Then, while we were trying to decide what to do, we heard the sound of a key in the lock. It was the manager. He explained that it had been a very busy evening and he had made a mistake about the number of people in the building. The other groups had finished their games at 8.30, so at 8.45 he had locked the building and left. Halfway home, he remembered he had left his laptop behind. When he came into the building, he heard us shouting.

Did I enjoy the game? Yes, except that we hadn't solved all the clues, which was disappointing. Will I do it again? Yes ... maybe.

- A Dan and his friends finished their game. ☐
- B The friends heard a key in the lock. ☐
- C The other groups left the building. ☐
- D The manager returned to the building. ☐
- E Dan and his friends started their game. ☐
- F Dan and his friends tried to decide what to do. ☐
- G The manager left the building. ☐
- H Dan got a text from Remi. ☐

Answer the questions. Read the text again if necessary.

- 1 Why had it been a long day for Dan?
- 2 Why is Escape Room not competitive?
- 3 What is the challenge in Escape Room?
- 4 Why did Dan say they were 'doing well' after half an hour?
- 5 What did they expect would happen at 9.00 p.m.?
- 6 Why did the manager return to the building?