

READING COMPREHENSION : J. K. ROWLING

Read the biography below and answer the questions that follow. DSKP: LS3.1.1

Joanne Rowling, also known as J.K. Rowling, is a British author who is famous for writing the *Harry Potter* series. More than 500 million copies of her books have been sold worldwide. This makes *Harry Potter* the best-selling book series in history. However, Joanne's writing career wasn't always glamorous.

Joanne was born on July 31, 1965 in England. She grew up with her parents Peter and Anne Rowling, and a younger sister named Dianne. Even though neither of her parents went to college, both were booklovers. Their passion for books greatly influenced Joanne, and she became a bookworm herself. Soon after, she also developed a love for writing. At the age of six, Joanne wrote her first story titled *Rabbit*.

Her parents soon realised her talent. However, they did not encourage Joanne's dreams of becoming an author. After all, most authors don't make a lot of money. Some even struggle to feed themselves.

That was what happened to Joanne. After she graduated from Exeter University, she moved to London and worked many jobs. She was a teacher and researcher with Amnesty International. She also continued writing. However, the wages could not pay for the rental of her flat and she lived from hand to mouth. Eventually, she became so poor that she had to apply for government assistance. She was living on welfare support.

During this time, writing was her source of comfort. One day, Joanne was on a delayed train ride from Manchester to London when the idea of a wizard boy's adventure came to her mind. She quickly began working on the brilliant idea. When she completed her first book, she hoped to get it published. Sadly, she received countless rejections from 12 publishers. However, Joanne did not give up. Finally, a small publishing house agreed to publish Joanne's book. This was the beginning of *Harry Potter* and a new beginning for Joanne.

After becoming a successful children's book author, J.K. Rowling wanted to give back to children. She runs a non-profit charity organisation called *Lumos* and has donated millions of dollars to it. This charity focuses on helping disadvantaged and orphaned children all around the world.

1. In paragraph 1, how did Joanne Rowling become famous?
 - A She was known for her work.
 - B She was known for her wealth.
 - C She was known for her charity work.
 - D She was known for her success of her children.
2. In paragraph 2, what can you learn about Joanne?
 - A Joanne's family was poor.
 - B Joanne's parents taught her how to read.
 - C She started writing stories at a young age.
 - D Everyone in her family enjoy reading.
3. In paragraph 3, how did Joanne's parents feel about her becoming an author?
 - A They had different opinions.
 - B They did not have an opinion.
 - C They were supportive of Joanne.
 - D They were not supportive of Joanne.
4. What difficulty did Joanne face after she graduated?
 - A She could not earn enough money.
 - B She had no new ideas to write.
 - C Nobody wanted to rent her flat.
 - D She could not find a job.

5. How did she feel about finding a publisher?
- A She was disappointed.
 - B She was determined.
 - C She was confident.
 - D She was decisive.
6. Which of these phrases best describes Joanne's life story?
- A Save the best for last
 - B From rags to riches
 - C At rock bottom
 - D Hit the books