

READING STRATEGIES 7

CONTEXT CLUES

Read the texts, consider the questions below the text. The answer the multiple choice questions.

Task 1. Read the text about a woman who left London to live on an isolated island in Scotland.

"I certainly wasn't trying to get away from people, but just from the daily **hustle and bustle**. When London friends come to stay now, we get to talk in a way that we hardly ever got the chance to before.

- What do you think the woman trying to get away from?
- Consider the situation in the second sentence about talking together. Notice how this situation is contrasted with "hustle and bustle".
- Answer the question:

What does "hustle and bustle" mean?

- A the pollution in a city environment
- B the constant demands of city life
- C the increasing crime rate in the cities
- D the problems of making new friends in a city.

Task 2. Read the text about a businesswoman who makes and sells expensive chocolates.

Some years later she opened the exclusive chocolate boutique, Rococo, in an upmarket area of London, selling expansive handmade chocolates. The extravagant decorations and her fancy chocolates immediately **struck a chord** with the fashionable city dwellers.

- Do you think "struck a chord" has a negative or positive connotation?
- Notice the symmetry of the adjectives - exclusive, extravagant, fancy, fashionable. Notice the connection London / city
- Answer the question:

The phrase "struck a chord" suggests that Chantal's products

- A had a very distinctive taste.
- B went against the trend for simple packaging.
- C suited the local clients.
- D were beyond many people's budget.



Task 3. Read the text about about a man who runs a hotel on a beach.

To Roy's mind, there was no point in doing something unless you gave it your best. He never **cut corners**. He did things properly. The same couldn't be said of everyone.

- Contrast "best" and "properly" with "cut corners".
- Note that "cutting corners" is something Roy never did.
- Answer the question:

What does "cut corners" mean?

- A do something that is illegal
- B do something that is dangerous
- C do something that is unnecessary
- D do something without sufficient care

Task 4. Read the text about two brothers in the film industry.

"It was on the last day when Jamie noticed it," says Smith, "and so we got our entry in just in time, and then we didn't think anything more of it. We were on the shortlist: we didn't win but Faber ended up taking the book on." And that was their **big break** because since then they've gone from strength to strength.

- What part of speech is "big break"? Adjective, verb, noun?
- What happened before and after the "big break"?
- Answer the question:

What does "big break" mean?

- A a frustrating disappointment
- B a fortunate development
- C a practical decision
- D a lucky escape

