

L A Hill

Intermediate Stories for Reproduction

First Series

This is the second in a series of books designed to provide students with carefully graded passages for oral or written reproduction. The aim is to train the student in the understanding and re-telling of material which he has listened to or read. The book consists of 54 illustrated anecdotes, each about 150 words in length and each followed by a short set of questions on the passage. Vocabulary is restricted to the 1500-word level and the book contains a complete word list. The accompanying tape and cassette contain straight readings of all the texts at a speed appropriate to the level.

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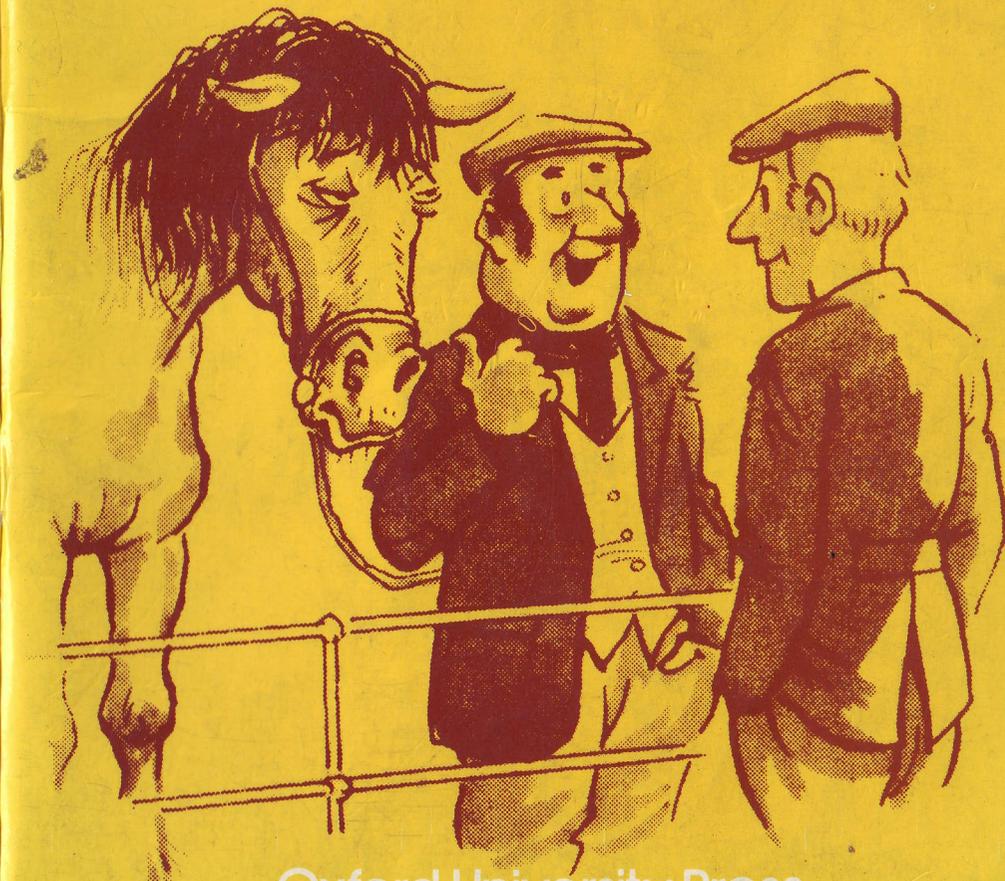
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L. A. HILL

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Introduction

In this book there are 54 stories, each about 150 words long, which can be used for oral or written reproduction work. Here are some ways in which these stories can be used:

(i) *Listening and Speaking*

Only the teacher has the book. He reads one of the stories aloud to the students two or three times, and then gets one or more of the students to retell the story orally, or to answer oral questions* about it. This is best done in very small classes, of course.

(ii) *Listening and Writing*

Only the teacher has the book. He reads one of the stories aloud to the students two or three times, and they then write down as much of it as they can remember, or answer questions about it in writing (these questions can be written on the blackboard or dictated by the teacher). This can be done in a large class.

(iii) *Reading and Writing*

Each student has a copy of the book. He reads one of the stories for a certain number of minutes, then shuts the book and writes down as much of the story as he remembers, or answers questions about it in writing. The questions can be written on the blackboard or dictated by the teacher.

With (i), (ii) and (iii), there can be an interval of time—even of several days—between the telling or reading of the story and the reproduction.

(iii) can be done by students who have not got a teacher. They can read, close their books and then write down as much of the story as they can remember. When they have finished, they can open their books again and check what they have written by referring to the story in the book.

All the stories in this book are written within the 1,500 word vocabulary which can be found in the appendix. The grammatical structures in the book are also limited.

* Suggested questions follow each piece.



I

Ali, who was working a long way from home, wanted to send a letter to his wife, but he could neither read nor write, and he had to work all day, so he could only look for somebody to write his letter late at night. At last he found the house of a letter-writer whose name was Nasreddin.

Nasreddin was already in bed. 'It is late,' he said. 'What do you want?' 'I want you to write a letter to my wife,' said Ali. Nasreddin was not pleased. He thought for a few seconds and then said, 'Has the letter got to go far?'

'What does that matter?' answered Ali.

'Well, my writing is so strange that only I can read it, and if I have to travel a long way to read your letter to your wife, it will cost you a lot of money.'

Ali went away quickly.

What was Ali doing?

Where was he?

What did he want to do?

Why couldn't he write the letter himself?

When did he look for somebody to write his letter?

Whom did he find?

What was Nasreddin doing?

What did Ali say to Nasreddin?

How did Nasreddin feel when Ali spoke to him?

What did Nasreddin then ask Ali?

What did Ali reply?

What did Nasreddin say then?

What did Ali then do?

I



2

An old man died and left his son a lot of money. But the son was a foolish young man, and he quickly spent all the money, so that soon he had nothing left. Of course, when that happened, all his friends left him. When he was quite poor and alone, he went to see Nasreddin, who was a kind, clever old man and often helped people when they had troubles.

'My money has finished and my friends have gone,' said the young man. 'What will happen to me now?'

'Don't worry, young man,' answered Nasreddin. 'Everything will soon be all right again. Wait, and you will soon feel much happier.'

The young man was very glad. 'Am I going to get rich again then?' he asked Nasreddin.

'No, I didn't mean that,' said the old man. 'I meant that you would soon get used to being poor and to having no friends.'

How did the young man get his money?

What kind of man was he?

What happened to the money?

What did the young man's friends then do?

What did the young man do after that?

Why did he go to Nasreddin?

What did the young man say to Nasreddin?

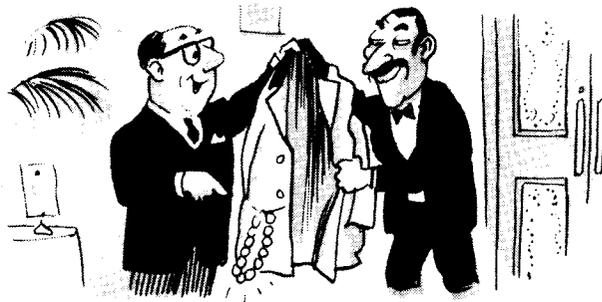
What did Nasreddin answer?

How did the young man feel then?

What did he ask Nasreddin?

What was Nasreddin's answer?

2



3

When Mr Jones went to a restaurant one day, he left his coat near the door. There was nothing in the pockets of the coat when he left it, so he was very surprised when he took his coat after his meal and found the pockets full of jewellery!

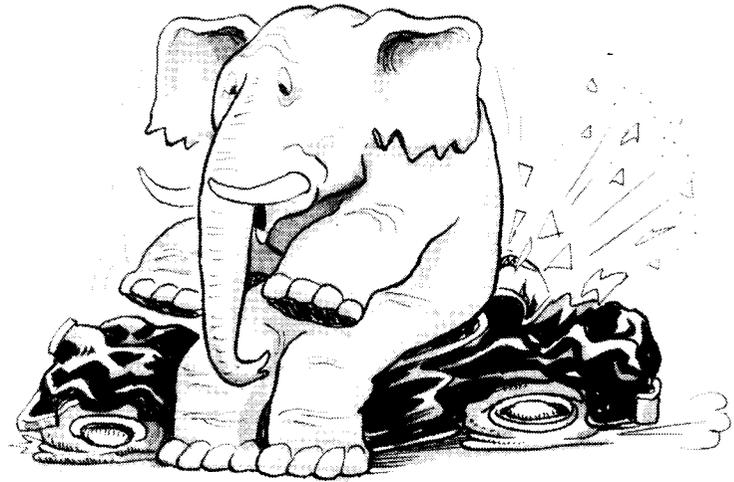
There was a waiter near the door, so Mr Jones said to him, 'Somebody has made a mistake. He has put some jewellery in my coat. Take it, and when he comes back, give it to him.' The waiter took it and went away. Suddenly another man came in with a coat just like Mr Jones's. 'I am sorry,' said this man. 'I made a mistake. I took your coat and you have got mine. Please give me my coat and jewellery.' Mr Jones answered, 'I gave the jewellery to the waiter. He will give it to you.'

Mr Jones called the manager of the restaurant; but the manager said, 'We have no waiters here. We only have waitresses.' 'You gave the jewellery to a thief!' shouted the other man. 'I shall call the police!' Mr Jones was frightened and paid the man a lot of money for the jewellery.

Where did Mr Jones go one day?
 What did he do with his coat?
 Was there anything in the pockets of the coat when Mr Jones left it?
 What happened when he took the coat after his meal?
 Whom did he see near the door?
 What did Mr Jones say to him?

What did the waiter do then?
 What happened after that?
 What was the man wearing?
 What did he say to Mr Jones?
 What did Mr Jones answer?
 What did Mr Jones do then?
 What did the manager of the restaurant say?
 What did the man shout then?
 What did Mr Jones do?

3



4

A man was travelling abroad in a small red car. One day he left the car and went shopping. When he came back, its roof was badly damaged. Some boys told him that an elephant had damaged it. The man did not believe them, but they took him to a circus which was near there. The owner of the elephant said, 'I am very sorry! My elephant has a big, round, red chair. He thought that your car was his chair, and he sat on it!' Then he gave the man a letter, in which he said that he was sorry and that he would pay for all the damage.

When the man got back to his own country, the customs officers would not believe his story. They said, 'You sold your new car while you were abroad and bought this old one!'

It was only when the man showed them the letter from the circus man that they believed him.

What was the man doing at the beginning of the story?
 Where did he leave his car?
 Why did he leave it there?
 What did he see when he came back?
 What did the boys say?
 Where did they take him?
 What did the owner of the elephant say?

Why had the elephant sat on the car?
 What did the owner of the elephant do then?
 What did he write in his letter?
 What happened when the man returned to his own country?
 What did the customs men say?
 How did the man make them believe him?

4



5

Nasreddin was cutting a branch off a tree in his garden. While he was sawing, another man passed in the street. He stopped and said, 'Excuse me, but if you continue to saw that branch like that, you will fall down with it.' He said this because Nasreddin was sitting on the branch and cutting it at a place between himself and the trunk of the tree.

Nasreddin said nothing. He thought, 'This is some foolish person who has no work to do and goes about telling other people what to do and what not to do.'

The man continued on his way.

Of course, after a few minutes, the branch fell and Nasreddin fell with it.

'My God!' he cried. 'That man knows the future!' and he ran after him to ask how long he was going to live. But the man had gone.

What was Nasreddin doing at the beginning of this story?
 Who passed in the street?
 What did the man say?
 Why did he say this?
 What did Nasreddin say?
 What did he think?
 What did the other man do then?

What happened after a few minutes?
 What did Nasreddin say then?
 What did he do?
 Why did he do this?
 Did he find the man?
 Why (not)?

5



6

It was half-past eight in the morning. The telephone bell rang and Mary went to answer it.

'Hullo, who's that?' she asked.

'It's me—Peter.'

Peter was a friend of Mary's eight-year-old brother, Johnny.

'Oh, hullo, Peter. What do you want?' said Mary.

'Can I speak to Johnny?'

'No,' said Mary, 'you can't speak to him now. He is busy. He is getting ready for school. He is eating his breakfast. Grandmother is combing his hair. Sister is under the table, putting his shoes on. Mother is getting his books and putting them in his school bag. Goodbye, I've got to go now. I have to hold the door open. The school bus is coming.'

What time was it at the beginning of this story?
 What happened at that time?
 What did Mary do?
 What did she say?
 What was the answer?
 Who was Peter?
 What did Mary ask Peter?
 What did he answer?

What did Mary then say?
 What was Johnny doing?
 What was his grandmother doing?
 What was his other sister doing?
 What was his mother doing?
 Why did Mary say goodbye?
 Why did she have to go?

6



7

Two rich ladies were sharing a taxi and talking about the high cost of going anywhere by taxi.

One of the ladies said, 'Taxis are terribly expensive these days. The owners get a lot of money for nothing.'

'Yes,' said the other lady, 'and the drivers get such big tips that they soon become rich. They ought to be ashamed of themselves.'

One of the ladies was smoking a cigarette. After a minute or two she said to the other lady, 'Can you see an ashtray in this taxi? There isn't one on my side.'

'No,' said the other, 'there isn't one on this side either. Driver! Where is the ashtray in this taxi? Why haven't you got one?'

The driver, who had heard everything the ladies had said, answered, 'Oh, just drop the ashes on the carpet—I have a servant who comes in and cleans three days in the week!'

What were the two rich ladies doing?
 What were they talking about?
 What did one of them say?
 What did the other one say?
 What was one of the ladies doing?

What did she say to the other lady?
 What did the other lady answer?
 What did she say to the driver?
 What did he answer?
 Why did he answer in this way?

7



8

Nasreddin put two big baskets of grapes on his donkey and went to market. At midday it was very hot, so he stopped in the shade of a big tree. There were several other men there, and all of them had donkeys and baskets of grapes too. After their lunch they went to sleep. After some time, Nasreddin began to take grapes out of the other men's baskets and to put them in his.

Suddenly one of the men woke up and saw him. 'What are you doing?' he said angrily.

'Oh,' said Nasreddin, 'don't worry about me. I am half mad, and I do a lot of strange things.'

'Oh, really?' said the other man. 'Then why don't you sometimes take grapes out of *your* baskets and put them in somebody else's baskets?'

'You did not understand me,' said Nasreddin. 'I said that I was *half* mad, not *quite* mad.'

What did Nasreddin put on his donkey?
 Where did he then go?
 When did he stop?
 Why did he stop?
 Where did he stop?
 What did he see there?
 What did the men have?

What did they do after lunch?
 What did Nasreddin do then?
 What happened then?
 What did the man say?
 What did Nasreddin answer?
 What did the man say then?
 What was Nasreddin's answer?

8



9

There was a big garden near Nasreddin's house, and it had a lot of fruit trees in it. One day Nasreddin saw some beautiful apples on one of them. He went home and got a ladder, put it against the high wall of the garden and climbed up. Then he pulled the ladder up, put it down on the other side, and climbed down into the garden. Just then a gardener came round a corner and saw him.

'What are you doing here?' he shouted.

Nasreddin thought quickly and then said, 'I am selling my ladder.'

'Selling your ladder? In somebody else's garden? Do you think I believe such a stupid story?' said the gardener and came towards Nasreddin with a stick.

'It is my ladder,' said Nasreddin, 'and I can sell it where I like. You needn't buy it if you don't want to.' And he took his ladder and climbed over the wall again.

What was there near
Nasreddin's house?

What did it have in it?

What did Nasreddin see one
day?

What did he do then?

What did he do with the
ladder?

How did he get into the
garden?

What happened then?

What did the gardener shout?

What did Nasreddin answer?

What did the gardener say
then?

What did he do?

What did Nasreddin say then?

What did he do?

9



10

Nasreddin woke up in the middle of the night and saw something white in his garden. It seemed to be moving towards the house.

'That is a thief!' he thought, and he took his gun and shot at him. Then he went back to bed, because he was too frightened to go out of the house in the dark.

The next morning Nasreddin went out and saw one of his white shirts hanging on the clothes-line in the garden. His wife had washed it the day before and hung it out to dry. Now it had a bullet-hole right through the middle of it.

'My God,' said Nasreddin, 'I was lucky last night. If I had been wearing that shirt, the bullet would have killed me!' And he called his neighbours together and asked them to thank God for saving him.

When did Nasreddin wake up?

What did he see?

Where did he see it?

What did he think?

What did he do?

Why did he go back to bed
after that?

What did he see the next
morning?

Where was it?

Why was it there?

What was the matter with it?

What did Nasreddin say then?

What did he do?

What did he ask his
neighbours?

Why was Nasreddin silly?

10



I I

A judge was working in his room one day when a neighbour ran in and said, 'If one man's cow kills another's, is the owner of the first cow responsible?'

'It depends,' answered the judge.

'Well,' said the man, 'your cow has killed mine.'

'Oh,' answered the judge. 'Everyone knows that a cow cannot think like a man, so a cow is not responsible, and that means that its owner is not responsible either.'

'I am sorry, Judge,' said the man. 'I made a mistake. I meant that my cow killed yours.'

The judge thought for a few seconds and then said, 'When I think about it more carefully, this case is not as easy as I thought at first.' And then he turned to his clerk and said, 'Please bring me that big black book from the shelf behind you.'

What was the judge doing at the beginning of the story?

Who ran in?

What did this man say?

What did the judge answer?

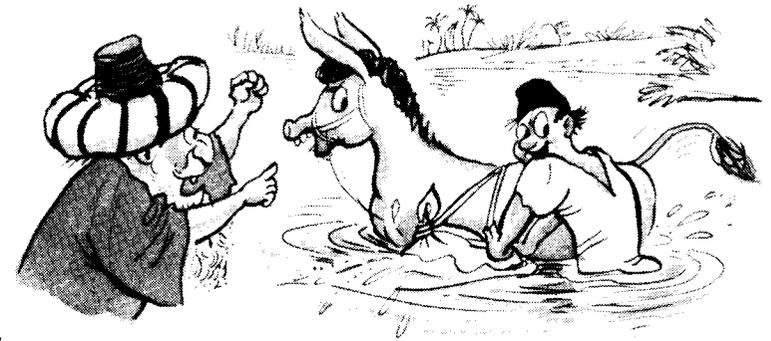
What did the man say then?

What did the judge answer?

What did the man say?

What did the judge do then?

What did he say?



I 2

When Nasreddin was a boy, he never did what he was told, so his father always told him to do the opposite of what he wanted him to do.

One day, when the two were bringing sacks of flour home on their donkeys, they had to cross a shallow river. When they were in the middle of it, one of the sacks on Nasreddin's donkey began to slip, so his father said, 'That sack is nearly in the water! Press down hard on it!'

His father of course expected that he would do the opposite, but this time Nasreddin did what his father had told him to do. He pressed down on the sack and it went under the water. Of course, the flour was lost.

'What have you done, Nasreddin?' his father shouted angrily.

'Well, Father', said Nasreddin, 'this time I thought that I would do just what you told me, to show you how stupid your orders always are.'

What was Nasreddin like when he was a boy?

What did his father do?

What were Nasreddin and his father doing at the beginning of this story?

What did they have to do?

What happened in the middle of the river?

What did Nasreddin's father then say?

What did he expect?

What did Nasreddin do?

What happened then?

How did Nasreddin's father feel?

What did he say?

What did Nasreddin answer?

Why did Nasreddin do what his father had told him to do that time?



13

Nasreddin had lost his donkey. He was going about looking for it everywhere, and while he was looking, he was singing gaily.

One of his neighbours saw him and said, 'Hullo, Nasreddin. What are you doing?'

'I am looking for my donkey,' answered Nasreddin.

'Don't you know where it is?' asked the neighbour.

'No, I don't.'

'Then why are you singing so gaily? Usually when somebody loses something, he is sad.'

'Yes, that is quite true,' answered Nasreddin. 'But you see, I am not yet sure that my donkey is lost. My last hope is that it is behind that hill over there. If you wait a little, you will hear how I will cry and complain if it is not there!'

What had happened to Nasreddin?

What was he doing at the beginning of this story?

What was he doing while he was doing this?

Who saw him?

What did this man say?

What did Nasreddin answer?

What did the neighbour say then?

What was Nasreddin's answer?

What did the neighbour say then?

What did Nasreddin answer?



14

One winter Nasreddin had very little money. His crops had been very bad that year, and he had to live very cheaply. He gave his donkey less food, and when after two days the donkey looked just the same, he said to himself, 'The donkey was used to eating a lot. Now he is quickly getting used to eating less; and soon he will get used to living on almost nothing.'

Each day Nasreddin gave the donkey a little less food, until it was hardly eating anything.

Then one day, when the donkey was going to market with a load of wood on its back, it suddenly died. 'How unlucky I am,' said Nasreddin. 'Just when my donkey had got used to eating hardly anything, it came to the end of its days in this world.'

What was the matter with Nasreddin one winter?

Why had this happened?

What did he have to do?

What did he do to his donkey?

What happened after two days?

What did Nasreddin then say to himself?

What did he do each day after that?

What was the donkey doing in the end?

What happened to the donkey?

When did it happen?

What did Nasreddin say?



I 5

Nasreddin's wife was very ill, and at last she died. After a few months, Nasreddin married again. His new wife was a widow.

Exactly seven days after he married her, she had a baby.

Nasreddin at once hurried away to the market and bought some paper, some pencils, some pens and some children's books. Then he hurried back home again with these things and put them beside the baby. His new wife was surprised. 'What are you doing?' she said. 'The baby won't be able to use those things for a long time. Why are you in such a hurry?'

Nasreddin answered, 'You are quite wrong, my dear. Our baby is not an ordinary baby. It came in seven days instead of nine months, so it will certainly be ready to learn to read and write in a few weeks from now.'

What happened to Nasreddin's first wife?	What did Nasreddin do at once?
What did Nasreddin do?	What did he buy?
When did he do this?	What did he do with these things?
What was his new wife?	How did his wife feel?
What happened to his new wife then?	What did she say to Nasreddin?
When did it happen?	What did he answer?



I 6

One of Nasreddin's neighbours had been abroad for many years, and during that time he had travelled in many strange places. When he came back home after many years, his old friends and neighbours listened to the old man's stories about foreign countries and strange people, and found them very interesting.

'Do you know,' the old man said, 'in one country which I visited where the climate is very hot all the year, nobody wears any clothes at all!'

Nasreddin loved a joke, so he said at once, 'Oh, is that so? Then how do you know whether somebody is a man or a woman in that country?'

Where had Nasreddin's neighbour been?	What did they think of his stories?
How long had he been there?	What did the old man say about one country?
What had he done during that time?	What did Nasreddin then ask?
What happened when he came home?	Why did he ask this?



17

Some of Nasreddin's old friends were talking about the young people in their town. They all agreed that old people were wiser than young people. Then one of the old men said, 'But young men are stronger than old men.'

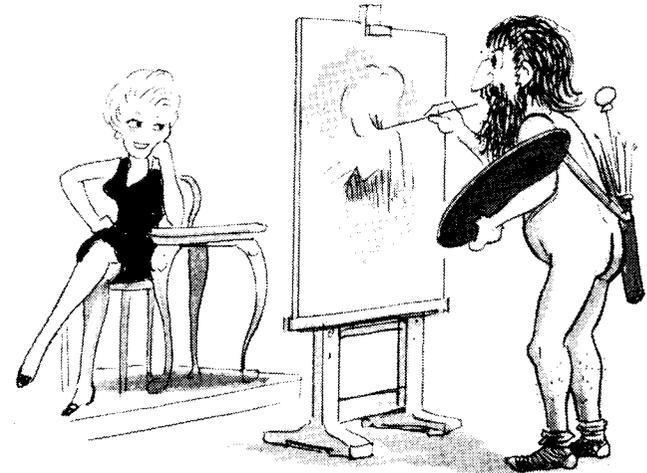
All of them agreed that this was true, except Nasreddin. He said, 'No. I am as strong now as when I was a young man.'

'What do you mean?' said his friends. 'How is that possible? Explain yourself!'

'Well,' said Nasreddin, 'in one corner of my field there is a rock. When I was a young man I used to try to move it, but I couldn't because I was not strong enough. I am an old man now, and when I try to move it, I still cannot.'

Who were talking at the beginning of this story?
 What were they talking about?
 What did they all agree?
 What did one of the old men say then?
 What did the others do?
 Who did not agree?

What did he say?
 What did his friends say then?
 What did Nasreddin answer?
 Why did he think that he was as strong as when he was a young man?
 What mistake was he making when he thought this?



18

One day a beautiful young lady went to a famous artist and said, 'I want you to paint a picture of me. How much will it cost?'

'Five hundred pounds,' said the artist.

'Oh?' said the lady. 'That is a lot of money.' Then she thought that, as she had a very beautiful body, the artist might be happy to paint her picture more cheaply if she wore no clothes while he was painting it. So she said, 'And how much will it cost if you paint me without any clothes on?'

The artist thought for a moment. 'One thousand pounds,' he then said. 'But I shall have to keep my socks on, because my feet get cold; and I shall have to wear something to put my brushes in.'

Who are the two people in this story?
 What did the lady do?
 What did she say?
 What did she ask?
 What did the artist answer?
 What did the lady say then?

What did she think?
 What did she say then?
 Did the artist answer at once?
 What did he say then?
 What mistake did the artist make?



19

Henry and Mary had just got married, and everybody was enjoying their wedding party. There was plenty to eat and plenty to drink, and everybody was getting very merry, when a very thin, very young man came into the room. He looked at Mary sadly and accusingly, walked slowly towards her, kissed her lovingly and said, 'Why did you do it?'

Then he walked to the door and disappeared.

Nobody had ever seen the young man before—not even Mary.

- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| What had just happened at the beginning of this story? | What did he do? |
| What was everybody doing? | What did he say to Mary? |
| What was there at the party? | What did he do then? |
| What was happening to the people? | Did anybody know who he was? |
| Who came into the room then? | Why not? |



20

The Second World War had begun, and John wanted to join the army, but he was only 16 years old, and boys were allowed to join only if they were over 18. So when the army doctor examined him, he said that he was 18.

But John's brother had joined the army a few days before, and the same doctor had examined him too. This doctor remembered the older boy's family name, so when he saw John's papers, he was surprised.

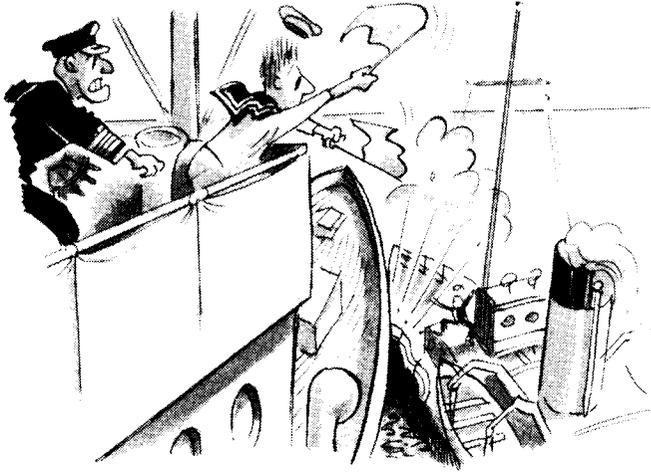
'How old are you?' he said.

'Eighteen, sir,' said John.

'But your brother was eighteen, too,' said the doctor. 'Are you twins?'

'Oh, no, sir,' said John, and his face went red. 'My brother is five months older than I am.'

- | | |
|---|--|
| What did John want to do? | Who had examined John's brother? |
| When did he want to do it? | Why was the doctor surprised? |
| How old was he? | What did he say to John? |
| At what age were boys allowed to join the army? | What did John answer? |
| What did the army doctor do to him? | What did the doctor say then? |
| What did John say to him? | What did John answer? |
| What had happened a few days before? | How did the doctor know that John was lying? |



21

One day a big ship hit a smaller ship while they were both going from England to America. The smaller ship was badly damaged, and had to be taken back to England, where a judge had to decide who was to blame for the accident.

Several of the people who had seen the big ship hit the smaller one said that, a few seconds before the accident, the big ship had sent a signal to the smaller one. The judge was puzzled by this, so he said, 'Who sent this signal?'

A young signalman came forward and said, 'I did, sir.'

'Oh?' said the judge. 'And what signal did you send to the other ship?'

The young signalman's face went red as he answered, 'Good luck on your voyage.'

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| What happened one day in this story? | How did the judge feel about what these people said? |
| Where were the ships going? | What did he say? |
| What happened to the smaller ship? | Who answered? |
| Where did it go? | What did this man say? |
| What happened then? | What did the judge then say to him? |
| What did several people say? | What did he answer? |
| Who were these people? | What happened to his face? |

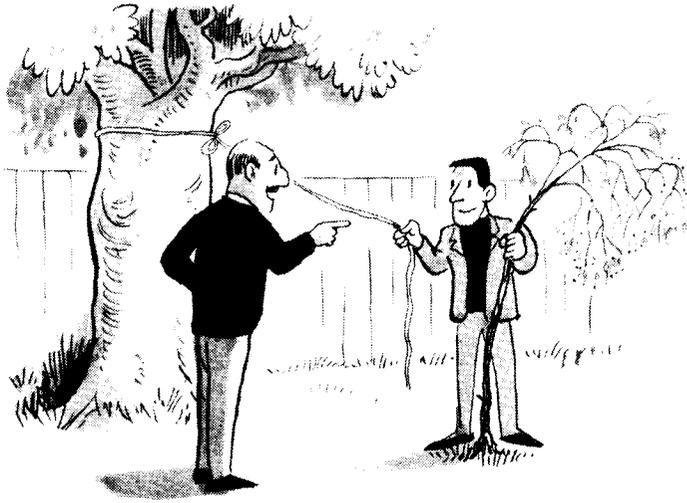


22

Mr Jones was very fond of climbing mountains, so one year he went to Switzerland for his holidays. After he had climbed some easy mountains, he decided one day to climb a more difficult one; but he did not want to go up it alone, so he found a good Swiss guide, who had often climbed that mountain.

At first it was not a difficult climb, but then they came to a place which was not so easy. The guide stopped, turned round and warned Mr Jones. 'Be careful here,' he said. 'This is a dangerous place. You can easily fall, and if you do, you will fall straight down a very long way. But,' he continued calmly, 'if you *do* fall here, don't forget to look to the right while you are going down. There is a quite extraordinarily beautiful view there—much more beautiful than the one you can see from here.'

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| What was Mr Jones very fond of? | What had the guide done? |
| Where did he go? | How was the climb at first? |
| What did he do first there? | What happened then? |
| What did he decide after that? | What did the guide do? |
| What didn't he want to do? | What did he say to Mr Jones? |
| What did he do then? | What did he tell him to do if he fell? |



23

A young father was visiting an older neighbour. They were standing in the older man's garden and talking about children. The young man said, 'How strict should parents be with their children?'

The older man pointed to a string between a big, strong tree and a thin, young one.

'Please untie that string,' he said. The young man untied it, and the young tree bent over to one side.

'Now tie it again, please,' said the older man. 'But first pull the string tight so that the young tree is straight again.'

The young man did this. Then the older man said, 'There. It is the same with children. You must be strict with them, but sometimes you must untie the string to see how they are getting on. If they are not yet able to stand alone, you must tie the string tight again. But when you find that they are ready to stand alone, you can take the string away.'

What was the young father doing at the beginning of this story?

Where were the men standing?

What were they talking about?

What did the young man ask?

What did the old man do?

What did he ask the young man to do?

What did the young man do?

What happened then?

What did the old man say after that?

What did the young man do?

What did the old man say then?

23



24

Mrs Smith was looking out of her window, when she saw a truck and a big car hit each other. She ran out to help. There was only one man in the truck and one woman in the car, and neither of them was hurt, but the car was damaged.

The lady looked very white and her hands were shaking, so Mrs Smith invited her into her house and gave her some tea. She was a pleasant woman of about 50 years old. She drank the tea and soon looked much better. Then she said to Mrs Smith, 'Have you got a telephone, please? I would like to telephone my husband. We have a kind of custom—when-ever I have an accident with the car, I telephone him.'

What was Mrs Smith doing at the beginning of this story?

What did she see?

What did she do?

Why did she do this?

Who was there in the truck?

Who was there in the car?

What happened to them?

What happened to the car?

What did Mrs Smith do?

Why did she do this?

What did she do in the house?

What was the lady like?

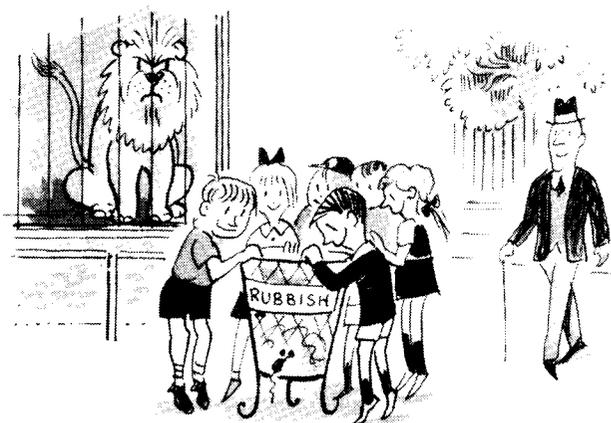
What did *she* do?

How did she look after a short time?

What did she say then to Mrs Smith?

Why did she want to telephone her husband?

24

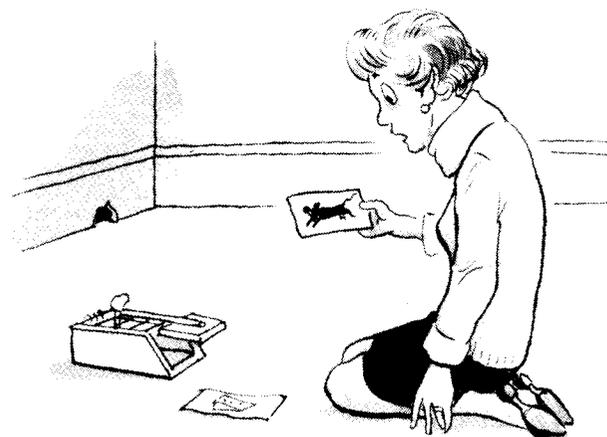


25

The zoo had big baskets for rubbish, where people who bought ice-creams and other things could throw the papers from them. One Saturday afternoon Mr Brown was walking near the cages where the lions and tigers were kept. Usually there were a lot of people round these cages on a Saturday afternoon, but that day there was nobody there. Mr Brown was surprised. But he was even more surprised when he saw a crowd around the rubbish basket near the lions' cage.

He went towards the crowd. Most of them were children. He looked over their heads and saw—a little mouse, which was running about among the pieces of paper in the basket and looking for bits of food. It was only a few centimetres from the children, but it was not afraid—and the children were more interested in this small, common mouse than in the lions and tigers.

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|--|--|
| What did the zoo have? | What made him even more surprised? |
| Where did it have these things? | What did he do? |
| What did people do with these things? | What were most of the people in the crowd? |
| What was Mr Brown doing one Saturday afternoon? | What did Mr Brown do then? |
| What did he usually see there on a Saturday afternoon? | What did he see? |
| Why was he surprised? | What was this animal doing? |
| | Was it frightened? |
| | How did the children feel? |



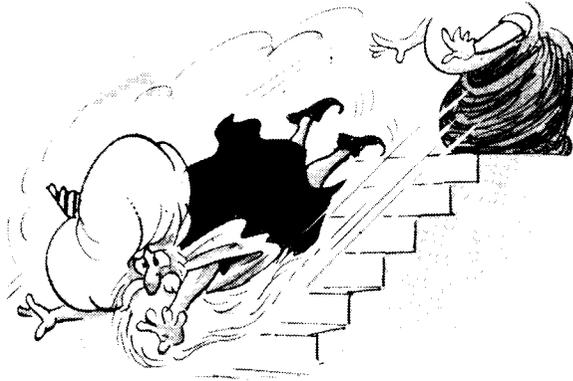
26

One day a lady saw a mouse running across her kitchen floor. She was very afraid of mice, so she ran out of the house, got in a bus and went down to the shops. There she bought a mouse-trap. The shopkeeper said to her, 'Put some cheese in it, and you will soon catch that mouse.'

The lady went home with her mouse-trap, but when she looked in her cupboard, she could not find any cheese in it. She did not want to go back to the shops, because it was very late, so she cut a picture of some cheese out of a magazine and put that in the trap.

Surprisingly, the picture of the cheese was quite successful! When the lady came down to the kitchen the next morning, there was a picture of a mouse in the trap beside the picture of the cheese!

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| What did the lady see at the beginning of this story? | What did he say to her? |
| Where did she see it? | What did the lady do then? |
| Why did she run out of the house? | Where did she look? |
| Where did she go? | What was she looking for? |
| How did she go there? | Did she find it? |
| What did she do when she got there? | Why didn't she go back to the shops? |
| Who spoke to her there? | What did she do then? |
| | What happened the next morning? |



When Nasreddin's first wife died, he married again. His second wife was much younger than he was and they often quarrelled. One evening when Nasreddin came home very late, his wife said to him, 'I cooked your dinner two hours ago. It is quite spoiled now.' She was so angry that she gave him a push, and as she was strong, and he was old and weak, he fell down the stairs.

One of Nasreddin's neighbours, who was always eager to know what was happening in everybody else's house, was listening, and when she heard the noise that Nasreddin made when he fell down the stairs, she came to his front door and knocked.

'What has happened?' she said.

'My coat fell down the stairs,' he answered.

'But a coat would not make so much noise!' the neighbour said.

'Of course it would,' answered Nasreddin, 'if I was inside it!'

What happened when

Nasreddin's first wife died?

What was his second wife like?

What did he and his second wife often do?

What did Nasreddin do one night?

What did his wife say?

How did she feel?

What did she do?

What happened then?

Why was she able to push him over?

Who was listening?

Why was she listening?

What did she do?

When did she do this?

What did she say?

What did Nasreddin answer?

What did the woman say then?

What was Nasreddin's answer?



One of Nasreddin's rich neighbours gave a big party one evening, but he forgot to invite him. Nasreddin waited and waited, but no invitation came, so at last, when the party had already begun, he took a piece of paper, folded it, put it in an envelope and took it to his neighbour's house.

'I have a very important letter for the host,' he said to the servants at the door. The servants took him into the big room where everybody was eating, Nasreddin gave the letter to his rich neighbour and at once sat down and began to fill his mouth with food.

The host looked at the envelope, but there was nothing on it, so he said, 'Are you sure that this letter is for me? There is no address on it.'

'Oh, yes,' said Nasreddin, 'and there is no writing inside it either—because it was prepared in a hurry.'

What happened one evening?

What did the man forget to do?

What did Nasreddin do at first?

What did he do then?

What did he say?

Whom did he say this to?

What did the servants do?

What was everybody doing?

What did Nasreddin do?

What did he do then?

What did the host do?

What was there on the envelope?

What did the host say to Nasreddin?

What did Nasreddin answer?



29

One evening there was a big dance at the hotel in our town. One of the guests at the dance was a man of about forty who thought he was so handsome that every girl who saw him would fall in love with him. At the beginning of one of the dances, he saw a pretty young woman who was standing beside an older lady at the edge of the dance-floor. He went up to the girl and asked her to dance. She had seen him dancing before, so she knew that he was a good dancer, and as she too liked dancing, she accepted.

After they had danced several dances together, the man led her into the garden and said, 'Do you tell your mother everything that you do?'

'Of course not,' she answered sweetly. 'She does not mind what I do now. But my *husband* always wants to know!'

- | | |
|--|--|
| What happened one evening in this story? | What did the man do? |
| Where was it? | What did the girl do? |
| How old was the man in the story? | Why did she do this? |
| What did he think? | What sort of a dancer was the man? |
| Whom did he see? | How did the girl know this? |
| When did he see her? | What did the man do near the end of the story? |
| Where was she when he saw her? | When did he do this? |
| Who was with her? | What did he say to the girl? |
| | What did she answer? |



30

John liked to wear his hair very long. Some of his friends thought that it looked like a girl's hair, but they never made jokes about it, because John was a big, strong young man, and he did not think jokes about his hair funny.

John always went to the barber's twice a month to have his hair cut and washed, and one day the barber said to him, 'Now why don't you let me cut most of this hair off and make your head tidy? Nobody would recognize you if I did that, I am sure.'

John said nothing for a few seconds, and then he said, 'Perhaps you are right—but I am sure that nobody would recognize *you* either if you did that to my hair.'

- | | |
|---|---|
| What did John like? | Why did he go there? |
| What did some of his friends think? | What did the barber say to him one day? |
| Why did they never make jokes about his hair? | Did John answer at once? |
| How often did John go to the barber's? | What did he say? |
| | Why would nobody recognize the barber? |



31

On Saturday mornings our cinema shows films for children. One such morning an old man took his grandchildren to the cinema. At the door there was a list of the prices of tickets, but he could not see any price for tickets for adults for Saturday mornings. The only price which was shown for that time was for children's tickets, so he asked the lady who was selling the tickets how much it was for adults.

'Adults!' she said. 'No, we don't have prices for tickets for adults for our Saturday morning films. Any adult who is brave enough to go in there to see films like that—and with all those children—can go in free!'

What happens on Saturday mornings in this story?

What happened one Saturday morning?

What was there at the door?

What could the old man not see?

What *could* he see?

What did he do then?

What did the lady answer?

Why could adults go in free?



32

A small talking dog was a big success when it came to our theatre. It told jokes, sang songs and did a lot of other funny things on the stage.

But while it was singing one of its songs, a bigger dog came into the theatre, stopped, listened for a few moments and then ran up and jumped on to the stage. The small talking dog tried to get away, but the bigger dog caught it by the skin of its neck and carried it off the stage. Just as the two animals were disappearing behind the curtains at the side of the stage, the small talking dog said, 'I am sorry about this, everybody! This is my mother. She doesn't want me to be an actor. She wants me to become a doctor.'

What kind of animal is this story about?

Why was it a big success?

Where was it a big success?

What did it do there?

Where did it do these things?

What happened then?

When did it happen?

What did the small dog do?

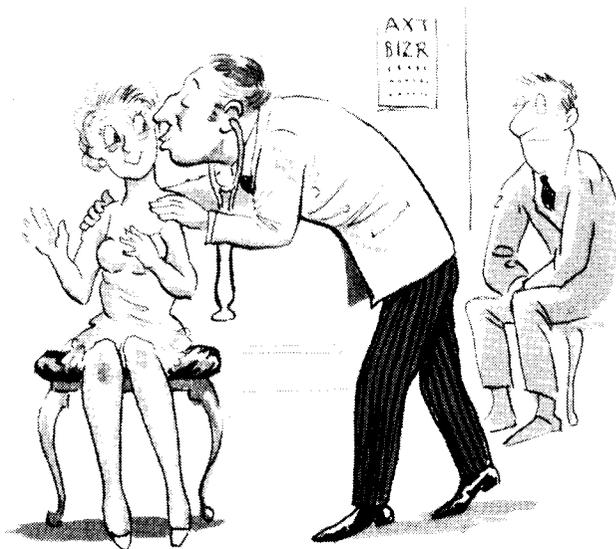
What did the bigger dog do?

What did the small dog say?

When did it say this?

Who was the bigger dog?

Why did she carry the smaller dog away?



33

Mrs Robinson always seemed to be ill and unhappy. She often had painful headaches, and medicines did not seem to make her any better, so at last her husband took her to a good doctor.

The doctor examined her carefully and asked her a lot of questions. Then he suddenly put his arms around her and gave her a big kiss. Mrs Robinson at once looked better and happier.

'You see?' said the doctor to her husband. 'That is all she needs. I suggest that she has the same thing every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday,' and he smiled.

'Well,' said Mr Robinson, 'I can bring her on Tuesdays and Thursdays, but not on Saturdays, because I always go sailing on that day.'

How was Mrs Robinson?

What did she often have?

What did medicines do for her?

What did her husband do?

What did the doctor do?

What did he then do suddenly?

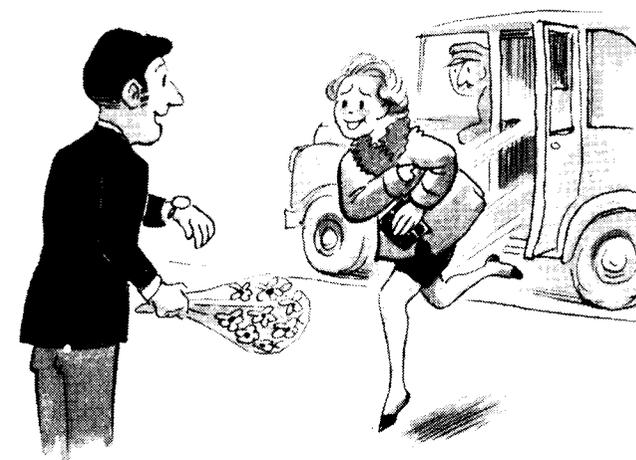
What happened to Mrs Robinson then?

What did the doctor say?

What did he suggest?

What did Mr Robinson answer?

What mistake did Mr Robinson make?



34

A pretty, well-dressed young lady stopped a taxi in a big square, and said to the driver, 'Do you see that young man at the other side of this square?'

'Yes,' said the taxi-driver. The young man was standing outside a restaurant and looking impatiently at his watch every few seconds.

'Take me over there,' said the young lady.

There were a lot of cars and buses and trucks in the square, so the taxi-driver asked, 'Are you afraid to cross the street?'

'Oh, no!' said the young lady. 'But I am three-quarters of an hour late. I said that I would meet that young man for lunch at one o'clock, and it is now a quarter to two. If I arrive in a taxi, it will at least seem as if I have *tried* not to be too late.'

What did the lady in this story look like?

What did she do at the beginning of the story?

Where did she do it?

What did she say?

Whom did she say it to?

What did he answer?

Whom did he see?

Where was this person?

What was he doing?

What did the young lady tell the driver to do then?

What did the driver say?

Why did he say this?

What did the lady answer?

Why did she want to arrive in a taxi?



35

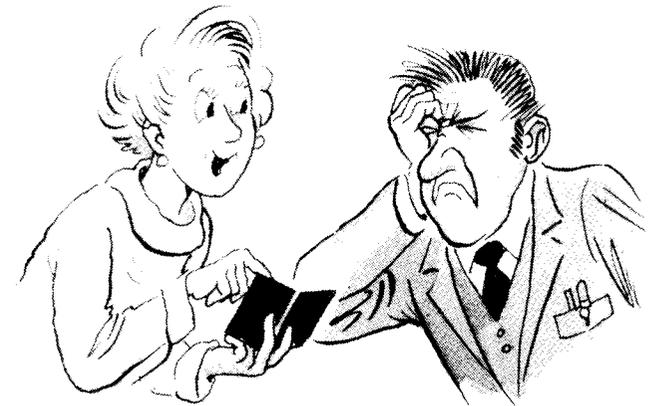
Mr Robinson worked in an office. Every morning he had breakfast with his wife at half-past seven, read his newspaper, drank a cup of coffee and then left his house at 8 o'clock to go to catch his train to town.

One morning he was still sitting comfortably at the breakfast table and reading his newspaper at five minutes past eight. He did not seem to be in a hurry and asked his wife for another cup of coffee.

'Another cup?' she asked. 'But aren't you going to the office today? Have you got a holiday?'

'The office?' he said and looked up from his newspaper very surprised. 'I thought that I *was* at the office!'

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Where did Mr Robinson work? | What time was it? |
| What did he do every morning? | Was he late? |
| At what time did he do it? | Was he in a hurry? |
| What did he do then? | What did he ask his wife for? |
| When did he leave his house? | What did she say? |
| Where did he go then? | What did he answer? |
| Why did he go there? | How did he feel? |
| What happened one morning? | |



36

Mr Black gave his wife money every Friday evening, but she always spent it before the next Wednesday, so that for the next three days she had none.

Every Tuesday evening Mr Black asked her, 'But what did you spend all that money on?' and she always answered, 'I don't know.'

One Friday Mr Black brought home an exercise book and a pencil and gave them to his wife with her money. 'Now look!' he said to her. 'When you get money from me, write it down on this page, and on the opposite page write down what happens to the money.'

When Mr Black came home the next Tuesday, his wife came to him and showed him the book. 'I have done what you told me,' she said happily. On one page she had written 'Friday, 28th June. I got £18 from John'; and on the opposite page, 'Tuesday, 2nd July. I have spent it all.'

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| What did Mr Black do every Friday evening? | What did he say to his wife? |
| What happened then? | What happened the next Tuesday? |
| What was the result? | What did his wife say? |
| What did Mr Black do every Tuesday evening? | What had she written in the book? |
| What did his wife answer? | What mistake had she made? |
| What did Mr Black do one Friday? | |

37



A letter to a magazine:

'Dear Sirs,

Last year I saw an article in your magazine (I think it was in your magazine, but I am not sure) which interested me very much, but I have forgotten what it was. I wrote the name of the article and the magazine in my notebook after I had read it, but I have lost the notebook. I have also lost the magazine which the article was in. Will you please send me another copy of the magazine, if it was your magazine? Thank you very much.

Yours faithfully,
David Williams.'

What did Mr Williams see last year?
Where did he see it?
Was he sure?
What did he think of the article?
What was the article?
What did Mr Williams do after he had read the article?

What happened then?
What else did he lose?
What was Mr Williams asking for in his letter?
What do you think the person who got Mr Williams's letter would do?

37

38



The lights were red, so my taxi had to stop. When they changed to green again, an old lady was slowly crossing the street in front of the taxi, so of course the driver waited. But as soon as the driver of the car behind saw the green light, he began to blow his horn.

My taxi-driver calmly opened his door, got out, pointed to the driver's seat which he had just left, and said to the man who was blowing the horn, 'Sir, you get into my taxi and drive over her. I always feel so uncomfortable when I drive over old ladies.'

What happened at the beginning of this story?
Why did the taxi stop?
What happened then?
Why did the driver wait?
What happened then?

Why did the other driver blow his horn?
What did the taxi-driver do then?
What did he say?

38



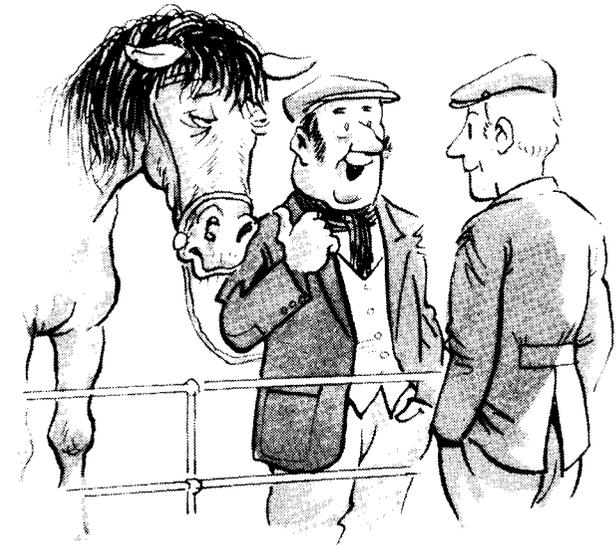
39

A man was mending a street lamp when he saw a pretty young woman and three children get into a car which was in the garden of a house near him. He saw that the car had a flat tyre and tried to warn the woman, but it was too late—she was already driving the car out of the garden and into the busy street. When she had got there, she stopped the car at the side of the street, got out and looked at the flat tyre. The children stayed in the car. Very soon another car stopped, and the driver offered to help her. The young woman accepted his offer, and the man changed the tyre for her.

When she had thanked him and he had gone, she drove the car back into the garden, got out with the children and went back to her work in the house—with clean hands.

What was the man doing at the beginning of this story?
 What did he see?
 Where was the car?
 What was the matter with the car?
 What did the man want to do?
 Why couldn't he do it?
 What did the lady do?
 What did she do when she got into the street?

What did the children do?
 What happened very soon?
 What did the other driver say?
 What did the young woman do?
 What did the man do then?
 What did the lady do after that?
 Why were her hands clean?
 Why had she driven the car out into the road?



40

A man wanted to sell his old horse, so he took him to the market. Because the horse was old, nobody wanted to buy him, but at last a young man stopped in front of him and said,

'How old is he?'

'He is twenty-one years old,' said the older man.

'How long have you had him?'

'I have had him for nearly nineteen years.'

'And what is his name?'

'I don't know. But I call him Tom.'

Where did the old man go?
 What did he take with him?
 Why?
 Why didn't anybody want to buy the horse?
 What happened at last?
 What did the young man say?
 What did the other man answer?

What did the young man say then?
 What was the other man's answer?
 What was the young man's next question?
 What did the other man answer?



41

A man heard that a certain government department wanted a clerk, so he wrote and asked for the position. But while he was waiting for an answer, a friend of his introduced him to the head of the department, who at once gave him the job.

Several months later, while the man was working in the department, he got a letter which had been sent on to him from his old address. This letter said:

'Dear Sir,

We are sorry to have to tell you that we cannot offer you work in this department because we do not think that you would be able to do the job successfully.

Yours faithfully,'

The man laughed, but when he looked at the letter more carefully, he saw that he had signed it himself!

What did the man hear at the beginning of this story?

What did he do?

What happened then?

How did he get the job?

What happened several months later?

What was the man doing at that time?

How did the letter get to him?

What did the letter say?

What did the man do?

Why did he do this?

What did he do then?

What did he see?

41



42

Tom was only seven years old, so when he went off to camp with a lot of other small boys one summer, his mother thought that he might be unhappy, and arranged for all his aunts and his grandmother and all his other relatives to write to him, so that he would get a letter every day while he was away from home.

Well, of course he did not write to anybody while he was at the camp. A few days after he came back home, his mother saw him looking at some papers and asked him what they were.

'Oh,' he said, 'they are the letters I got while I was at the camp. I did not have time to look at them while I was there.'

How old was Tom?

Where did he go?

When did he go there?

Whom did he go with?

What did his mother think?

What did she do?

What was the result?

What did Tom not do while he was away from home?

What did his mother see a few days after he came home?

What did she ask Tom?

What did Tom answer?

What mistake had Tom's mother made?

42



43

George had worked for the Bank of Ruritania for ten years and was still only a clerk. He was not satisfied with his position and wanted to find something better, but he also did not want to lose his position in the bank before he had got another one, so he prepared a letter about himself, with the words 'HELP! I AM A PRISONER OF THE BANK OF RURITANIA!' in big letters across the top, and sent it to several big companies, asking them for a job.

A few days later, one of these letters came into the hands of George's chief at the bank. Someone had given it to him at his club. The next morning, George's chief asked him to come into his room and said, 'George, I have some very good news for you. The Bank of Ruritania is setting you free!'

Where did George work?
 How long had he worked there?
 What was his position?
 What did he think about it?
 What did he want to do?
 What did he not want to happen?
 So what did he do?
 What did he put across the top of his letter?
 Where did he send it?
 Why did he send it?

What happened a few days later?
 How did George's chief get the letter?
 What happened the next morning?
 What did George's chief say to him?
 Do you think that George was pleased?
 Why?



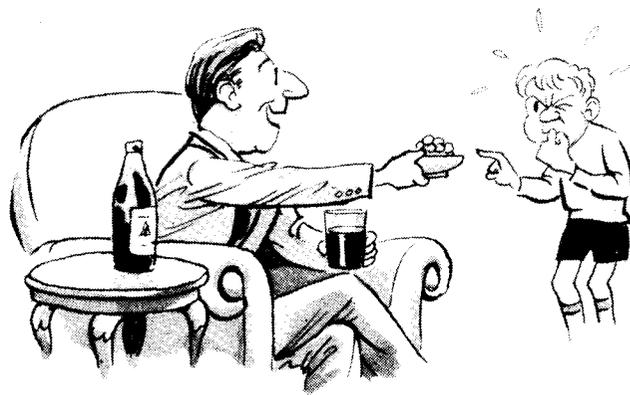
44

A beautiful and very successful actress was the star of a new musical show. Her home was in the country, but she did not want to have to go back there every night, so she rented an expensive flat in the centre of the city, bought some beautiful furniture and hired a man to paint the rooms in new colours.

It was very difficult to get tickets for her show, because everybody wanted to see it, so she decided to give the painter two of the best seats. She hoped that this would make him work better and more willingly for her. He took the tickets without saying anything, and she heard no more about them until the end of the month, when she got the painter's bill. At the bottom of it were the words: 'Four hours watching Miss Hall sing and dance: £3,' with this note: 'After 5 p.m. I get fifteen shillings an hour instead of ten shillings.'

What was the lady in this story?
 What work was she doing at this time?
 Where was her home?
 What kind of place did she rent?
 Why did she rent it?
 What did she do then?
 Why was it difficult to get seats for her show?
 What did she decide to do?

What did she hope?
 What did the painter do?
 What happened at the end of the month?
 How much did the painter get an hour before 5 p.m.?
 How much did he get after 5 p.m.?
 What mistake had the actress made?



45

Olives are about the same size as grapes, but they taste very different. Some are bitter, some are sour, and some are very salty. Men and women eat them with drinks before a meal, but children usually do not like them at all.

Mr Grey was drinking beer and eating olives when his small son Tommy came in. He saw that his father liked the olives very much, so he said, 'May I have one, Father?'

'Yes,' answered his father. 'Take one and try it.'

Tommy took one. He thought it tasted terrible.

He watched his father take another and eat it. He could see that he was enjoying it, so Tommy tried another olive—but that was just as terrible as the first.

'You are taking all the good ones,' he cried, 'and leaving the bad ones for me!'

How big are olives?
Do they taste the same as grapes?

What do they taste like?

Who eats them?

When do they eat them?

What do children usually think of them?

What was Mr Grey doing?

What happened then?

What did Tommy see?

What did he say?

What did Mr Grey answer?

What did Tommy do?

What did he think of the olive?

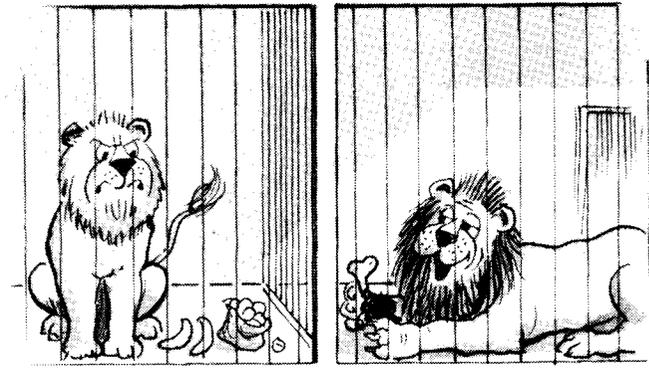
What did Tommy do then?

Why did he try another olive?

What did he think of that one?

What did he say then?

45



46

A young lion came to a small zoo in Europe. In the next cage was a tired, old lion, which did nothing except lie about and sleep. 'Lions ought not to behave like that!' the young lion said to himself, so he roared at all the visitors and tried to break the bars of the cage.

At three o'clock a man brought a big piece of meat and put it in the old lion's cage. Then he put a bag of nuts and two bananas in the young lion's cage.

The young lion was very surprised. 'I don't understand this,' he said to the old lion. 'I behave like a real lion, while you lie there and do nothing, and look what happens!'

'Well, you see,' said the old lion kindly, 'this is a small zoo. They haven't got enough money for two lions, so in their books you are here as a monkey.'

What happened to the young lion at the beginning of this story?

Where was the zoo?

What was there in the next cage?

What did the old lion do?

What did the young lion say to himself?

What did he do?

What happened at three o'clock?

What did the man do then?

How did the young lion feel?

What did he say?

What did the old lion answer?

46



47

Very few people were coming to eat at the White Rose Restaurant, and its owner did not know what to do. The food in his restaurant was cheap and good, but nobody seemed to want to eat there.

Then he did something that changed all that, and in a few weeks his restaurant was always full of men with their lady friends. Whenever a gentleman came in with a lady, a smiling waiter gave each of them a beautiful menu. The menus looked exactly the same on the outside, but there was an important difference inside. The menu that the waiter gave to the man gave the correct price for each dish and each bottle of wine, while the menu that he gave to the lady gave a much higher price! So when the man calmly ordered dish after dish and wine after wine, the lady thought he was much more generous than he really was!

What was happening at the White Rose Restaurant at the beginning of this story?
 What did its owner think?
 What was the food in his restaurant like?
 Why was the restaurant not successful?
 What happened then?
 What was the restaurant like in a few weeks?

What happened when a man and a woman came into the restaurant?
 What did the menus look like?
 How were they different?
 What did the man do?
 How did the lady feel?
 Why did she feel like this?



48

Until a few years ago, only boys could become students at the University of Ruritania. Then the University decided to allow girls in. But one of the lecturers, Dr Goller, was not at all pleased. He had not wanted to let girl students in.

Dr Goller always used to begin his lectures with the word, 'Gentlemen!' What would he do now? Well, when girl students came to his lectures for the first time, he continued to begin with the word, 'Gentlemen!' For him, the girls were just not there.

Then one day there was only one boy in his class among a lot of girls. For a moment, Dr Goller did not know what to do. Then he began, 'Sir!'

Finally a terrible day came when there were no boys in his class. He came into the room, looked at the sea of girls, said, 'Oh, nobody's here today!', turned and went out without giving his lecture.

What happened at the University of Ruritania until a few years ago?
 What happened then?
 What was Dr Goller?
 How did he feel?
 Why did he feel like this?
 How had Dr Goller begun his lectures before this time?

How did he begin them now?
 Why did he do this?
 What happened one day?
 What did Dr Goller do?
 What happened finally?
 What did Dr Goller do then?



49

During the last war, most of the men were fighting or working in factories, so it was very difficult to find men to do other work. The headmaster of a school wanted a gardener, but the only person he was able to get was an old retired farmer.

The old man worked so hard in the school garden that the headmaster became worried. He thought that the old man might get ill or die if he continued like that, so he suggested to him that he should work more slowly and rest more. But the old man continued to work as before. At last the headmaster went to the man's wife and asked her to speak to her husband.

'All right,' she answered, 'but I don't think it will do any good. You see, he has worked for himself all his life, never for anybody else, so he has just never learnt to work slowly.'

What happened during the last war?
 What was the result?
 What did the headmaster in this story want?
 Whom was he able to get?
 Why did the headmaster become worried?
 What did he think?

What did he do?
 What did the old man do then?
 What did the headmaster do at last?
 What did the old man's wife say?
 Why was the old man not able to work slowly?



50

An old lady who lived in a village went into town one Saturday, and after she had bought fruit and vegetables in the market for herself and for a friend who was ill, she went into a shop which sold glasses. She tried one pair of glasses, and then another pair and another, but none of them seemed to be right. The shopkeeper was a very patient man, and after some time he said to the old lady, 'Now, don't worry, madam. Everything will be all right in the end. It isn't easy to get just the right glasses, you know.'

'No, it isn't,' answered the old lady. 'And it is even more difficult when you are shopping for a friend.'

Where did the old lady in this story live?
 Where did she go?
 When did she go there?
 What did she do there first?
 Where did she do this?
 Whom did she buy things for?
 Where did she go then?

What did she do there?
 What was the matter with the glasses?
 What was the shopkeeper like?
 What did he say to the old lady?
 What did she answer?
 Why was it so difficult for her to choose the right glasses?



51

A rich man and his wife went into a shop to buy a bracelet. Neither of them was very young. They looked at a lot of beautiful bracelets, and after half an hour there were two which they liked very much, but they had not yet been able to choose between them. One of them was very expensive, and the other was quite a lot cheaper.

Of course, the shopkeeper wanted to sell them the more expensive one, because then he would get more money from them, so he said to the lady, 'Oh, go on. Spend his money. If you don't, he will only spend it on his second wife.'

For several seconds nobody said a word, and then the lady said angrily, 'I *am* his second wife!'

Who went into the shop in this story?

Why did they go in there?

How old were they?

What did they do in the shop?

What happened after half an hour?

What were the two bracelets like?

What did the shopkeeper want?

Why did he want this?

What did he say to the lady?

Did she answer at once?

What did she say?

How did she feel?

51



52

The air hostess was in the small kitchen at the back of the aeroplane preparing the trays for lunch when a little old lady came and spoke to her. 'Could you please tell me,' she asked, 'where the ladies' lavatory is in this aeroplane?'

'Yes, madam,' said the air hostess and smiled. 'It is right at the *other* end of the aeroplane—at the front.'

The little old lady went too far. She walked *all the way* to the front of the aeroplane, opened the door in front of her, and saw the captain of the aeroplane and the other officers. They were all busy at their work and did not see her. She went out again, shut the door and returned to the air hostess.

'Oh, didn't you find it, madam?' the girl asked her.

'Yes, I did,' said the little old lady. 'But there are four men in the ladies' lavatory watching television.'

What were the two women in this story?

Where was the air hostess at the beginning of the story?

What was she doing?

What happened while she was doing this?

What did the old lady say?

What did the air hostess say?

What did the old lady do then?

What mistake did she make?

What did she see?

What were the men doing?

What did the old lady do then?

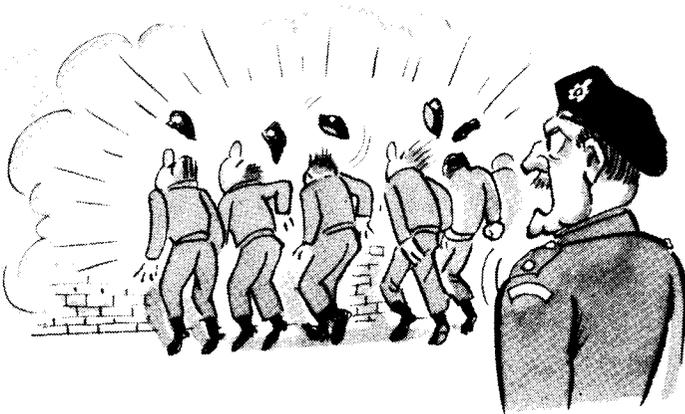
What did the air hostess say?

What did the old lady answer?

Who were the four men?

Why did the old lady think they were watching television?

52



53

The soldiers had been marching up and down in the square for an hour while their officer shouted orders, and they were all tired, hot and unhappy.

They were marching towards a big building, when they suddenly realized that the officer had not left himself enough time to give the order to turn round or to stop, so they were going to march straight into the wall. The soldiers smiled happily as each of those in the front line decided at the same time to walk straight ahead. There was a loud noise as they hit the wall one after another.

But before any of them had time to smile again, the officer shouted, 'If you men had been in a really straight line, I would have heard only one sound when you hit that wall!'

How did the soldiers feel at the beginning of this story?
 Why did they feel like that?
 What had the officer been doing?
 What did the soldiers suddenly realize?
 What were they doing when they realized this?
 What were they going to do?
 What did the soldiers do then?
 How did they feel?

What did some of them decide to do?
 Which of them decided to do this?
 What happened next?
 What did the officer hear?
 What did he shout?
 How quickly did he shout this?
 Were the soldiers in a straight line?
 How do you know?

53



54

Mrs Williams is very proud of her house because it is always clean and tidy. But one day, while she was sweeping the carpets, she saw a little mouse run across her dining-room floor! She had always told other people that mice are found only in dirty houses, so she was terribly ashamed when she saw a mouse in her own house. She quickly called her daughter and said to her, 'A terrible thing has happened! I saw a mouse in our dining-room a few minutes ago. We must catch it at once! Go down to the village shop and buy a mouse-trap—but, whatever you do, don't tell anybody what it is for!'

How does Mrs Williams feel about her house?
 Why?
 What happened one day?
 What was she doing when this happened?
 What had she always told other people before this time?
 How did she feel now?

Why did she feel like this?
 What did she do then?
 What did she say?
 What did she tell her daughter to do?
 What did she tell her not to do?
 Why?
 Why was Mrs Williams being silly when she said this?

54

APPENDIX

A 1500-word Vocabulary

Note: This vocabulary does not contain numerals, names of the days of the week, names of the months, or proper nouns and adjectives. Not all the cases of nouns and pronouns are given (e.g. *boy* stands for *boy—boy's—boys—boys'*; *I* stands for *I—me—my—mine*); nor are all parts of verbs given (e.g. *swim* stands for *swim—swims—swam—swum—swimming*). Comparatives and superlatives of adjectives and adverbs are also not given.

The abbreviation a. means adjective and/or adverb; conj. means conjunction; n. means noun; prep. means preposition; rel. means relative; and v. means verb.

(Three extra words, *menu*, *olive* and *twin*, have been added to my 1,500 word list. They are given *in italic* in the list. — L.A.H.)

a[n]	all	arrange[ment]	bandage
able/ability	allow[ance]	arrest	bank
about	almost	arrive[/al]	bar
above	alone	article	barber
abroad	along	artist[ic]	bargain
absent	already	as	bark
accept	also	ashamed	basin
accident	[al]though	ash[tray]	basket
account	always	ask	bath[room]
accuse	a.m.	asleep	bathe
ache	ambulance	at	battery
across	among	attack	battle
act[or/ress]	amuse[/ing]	audience	be
add	anchor	aunt	beach
address	and	autumn	beak
admit	angry	avoid	bean
adult	animal	awake	bear (n.)
advice/advise	ankle	away	bear (v.)
[aero]plane	answer	axe	beard
afford	ant		beautiful
afraid	anxious/iety	baby	because
after	any	back (a.)	become
afternoon	[dis] appear	back (n.)	bed[room]
again		bad (worse,	bee
against	appointment	worst)	beer
ago	arch[ed/way]	bag	before
[dis] agree	argue	bake	beg[gar]
aim	arithmetic	ball	begin[ning]
air[force/mail/	arm	balloon	behave
port]	army	banana	behind
algebra	around	band	

believe	brother	charcoal	corner
bell	brown	cheap	correct
belong	bruise	cheat	cost
below	brush	cheek	cotton[-wool]
belt	bucket	cheese	cough
bench	build[ing]	chemist	count (v.)
bend	bullet	chest	country
beside	bunch	chicken	course
besides	burn	child	cousin
between	burst	chimney	cover[ed]
bicycle	bus	chin	cow
big	bush	chocolate	crack[ed]
bill	business[man]	choose	crawl
bird	busy	Christmas	crop
birthday	but	church	cross (n.)
biscuit	butter[-dish]	cigarette[-tin]	cross (v.)
bite	butterfly	cinema	crowd[ed]
bitter	button	circle	cry
black	buy	circus	cup
blackboard	by	city	cupboard
blame		class[room]	cure
blanket	cabbage	clean	curious
blind	cage	clear	curtain
blood	cake	clerk	custom
blouse	call	clever	cut
blow	calm	cliff	cycle (v.)
blue	camera	climate	
boast	camp	climb	daddy
boat	can (n.)	clock	damage[d]
body (and	can (v.)	close (a.)	damp
-body, e.g. in	canal	close[d]	dance[-band]
anybody)	candle	cloth	danger[ous]
boil (v.)	cap	clothes	dare
bold	capital	cloud[y]	dark
bomb	captain	club	date
bone	car	coal[-mine]	daughter
book[-case]	card	coat	day/daily
boot	cardboard	cock	dead
born	care	coffee[-pot]	deaf
borrow	careful[/less]	cold	dear
both	carpet	collar	decide/decision
bottle	carriage	collect	deep
bottom	carry	college	deer
bowl (a.)	cart	colour	degree
box (n.)	case	column	delighted
boy	castle	comb	dentist
bracelet	cat	come	department
branch	catch	[un] comfortable	depend
brass	cause	[un] common	describe
brave	cave	company	desert (n.)
bread	ceiling	complain	desk
break	celebrate	composition	destroy
breakfast	cent	confess	dictionary
breathe	centimetre	confused	die
bribe	ceremony	congratulate	different
brick	certain	continue[/al]	difficult
bridge	chain	cook[ing]	dig
bright	chair	cool	dining[-room,-hall]
bring	chalk	copy	dinner
broadcast	chance	cork[screw]	dirty
broken	change	corn	disappointed

discover	escape	flood	goodbye
dish	even	floor	government
disturb	evening	flour	gram
ditch	ever (and <i>-ever</i> , e.g. in whoever)	flower	gramophone
dive	every[where]	fly (n.)	grand- (e.g. in <i>grandfather</i>)
divide	exact	fly (v.)	grape
do	examine[<i>/ation/</i> <i>er</i>]	fog[gy]	grass
doctor	except	fold	green
dog	excited	follow	greet
dollar	excuse	fond	grey
donkey	exercise	food	grill
door	expect	foolish	ground
double	expensive	foot[ball]	group
doubt[ful]	explain/ explanation	for	grow
down	explode	foreign[er]	growl
dozen	explore[r]	forest	guess
Dr	eye	forget	guest
draw[ing]	face[-powder]	forgive	guide[-book]
drawer	factory	fork	gun
dream	fade	forward[s]	hair
dress	fail	frame	half[penny]
drink	faint	free	hall
drive[r]	faithfully	freeze	hammer
drop (n.)	fall	freeze	hand
drop (v.)	false	frequency (a.)	handkerchief
drown	family	friend	hand
drum	famous	frighten[ed]	hand
drunk	fan	from	hand
dry	far	front	handsome
duck	farm[er]	fruit	hang
dull	fast	fry	happen
dumb	fat	full	happy
during	father	fun[ny]	hard
duster	feather	furniture	hardly
dust[y]	feed	further[est]	harvest[-time]
each	feel[ing]	future	hat
eager	fence	game	hate
ear[-ring]	few	garage	have
early	field	garden	he
earn	fierce	gas	head
earth	fight	gate	headmaster/ mistress
east[ern]	fill	gay	hear
Easter	film	general (a.)	heart
easy	finally	generous	heavy
eat	find	gentleman	help
edge	fine (a.)	geography	hen
egg	finger	geometry	here
cither	finish[ed]	get	hide (v.)
electric[ity]	fire[place]	girl	high
elephant	first	give	hill
else	fish[erman/ing- rod]	glad	hire (v.)
empty	flag	glass[es]	history
end	flat (a.)	glue	hit
enemy	float (n.)	go	hobby
engine	float	goal	hold
enjoy	float	goat	hole
enough	float	God	holiday
envelope	float	gold[-mine]	hollow
envy	float	good (better, best)	home[work]
equal	float		[dis] honest

honey	keep	lip	metre
hook	key	list	midday
hooray	kick	listen[er]	middle
hope[ful/less]	kill	litre	midnight
horn	kilo[gram]	little	milk[-bottle/ -jug]
horse[back/ man/shoe]	kilometre	live (v.)	millimetre
hospital	kind (a.)	living-room	mind
host[ess]	kind (n.)	[un] load	mine[r]
hot/heat[ing]	king	loaf	minister
hotel	kiss	local	minute[-hand]
hour[ly/-hand]	kitchen	[un] lock[ed]	mirror
house	kite	long (a.)	miss (v.)
how	knee[l]	look	Miss
hullo	how	loose	mistake
hungry	knock	lose (lost)	mix
hunt[er]	know	lot	model
hurry	ladder	loud	modern
hurt	lady	love	moment
husband	lake	low	money
hut	lamp	lucky	monkey
	land	luggage	month[ly]
	language	lump	moon
	large	lunch	more
	last (a. & n.)	lung	morning
	late	machine	mosque
	lately	mad	mosquito
	laugh	madam	most
	lavatory	magazine	mother
	lay	main	motor[-car/ -cycle]
	lazy	make	mountain
	lead[er]	man	mouse[-trap]
	(mislead)	manage[r]	moustache
	leaf	manners	mouth
	leak	many	move
	lean (v.)	map	Mr[s]
	learn	marbles	much
	least	market	mud[dy]
	leather	market[-place]	multiply
	leave	marry[<i>/iage/ied</i>]	mummy
	lecture[r]	mat	music
	left[-hand]	match[box]	must
	leg	mathematics	mysterious
	lend	matter	
	less	may (v.)	nail
	lesson	meal	name
	let	mean (v.)	narrow
	letter	measure	nasty
	library[<i>/ian</i>]	meat	navy
	lid	medicine	near
	lie (n. & v.)	meet[ing]	nearly
	lie (v.)	melt	neck
	lift	member	necklace
	light (a.)	mend	need
	light (n. & v.)	menu	needle
	like (a.)	merchant	neighbour
	like (v.)	merry	neither
	[un] likely	message[<i>/enger</i>]	nephew
	limit	metal	nest
	lion		
jam[-dish/jar]			
jar			
jealous			
jewellery			
job			
join			
joke			
journalist			
journey			
judge			
jug			
jump			
just			

net	packet	pool	race
never	page	poor	racket
new	pain[ful]	port	radio
news[paper]	paint[er]	porter	rail[ing/way]
next	pair	position	rain[y/coat]
nice	pan	[im] possible	rare
niece	paper	post[card/	rat
night[ly]	parcel	man/office]	rather
no	pardon	post (n.)	razor
nod	parent	pot	reach
noise (noisy)	park	potato	read
none	part	pound	ready[-made]
nor	party	pour	real
north[ern]	pass	powder	realize
nose	passenger	practise	reason
not	passport	praise	recent
notebook	past	pray	recite
notice[-board]	path	prefer	recognize
now	patient (a.)	prepare	red
nuisance	pay	present (a.)	refrigerator
number	pen	present (n.)	refuse (v.)
nurse	pencil[-box]	president	[ir] regular
nut	people	penny	relative (n.)
oar	perhaps	pretend	remember
obey[/dient]	permission	pretty	remind
occasional	person	prevent	rent
o'clock	persuade	price	repeat
of	petrol	prime minister	republic
off	photograph	prince[ss]	resign
offer	physics	prison[er]	responsible
office	piano	private	rest
officer	pick	prize	restaurant
often	picnic	probable	result
oh	picture	produce	retire
oil	piece	programme	return
old	pig	promise	ribbon
olive	pile	pronounce	rice
on	pillow	proof/prove	rich
once	pin	proud	rid
one (and <i>-one</i> ,	pink	public	ride
e.g. in anyone)	pipe	pull	right[-hand]
only	pity	pump	ring (n.)
open	place	punctual	ring (v.)
operation	plant	punish	ripe
opposite	plate	pupil	river
or	play[ground]	pure	road
orange	[un] pleasant	purple	roar
order	pleasant	purpose	rock
ordinary	please[d]	push	rod
ornament	plenty	put	roll
other	plough	puzzle[/ing]	roof
ought	p.m.	quarrel	room
out	pocket[-book]	quarter	root
outside	poem	queen	rope
oven	point (n.)	question[-mark]	rose
over[coat]	point (v.)	quick	rotten
owe	poisonous	quiet	rough
own[er]	police[man]	quite	round
pack[age]	polite	rabbit	row (v.)
	pond		rub
			rubber

rubbish	sharp	soldier	story
rude	shave[/ing- brush/-soap]	solid	stove
rug	she	some	straight
rule (n.)	shed	sometimes	strange[r]
ruler	sheep	son	straw
run	sheet	song[-book]	stream
rust[y]	shelf	soon	street
	shell	sore	stretch
sack	shine	sorry	strict
sad	ship	sound (n. & v.)	string
safe	shirt	soup	strong
sail	sailor	sour	student
salary	shoot	south[ern]	study
salt[y]	shop[keeper]	sow	stuff
same	shore	spade	stupid
sand[y]	short	spare	submarine
sandwich	shorts	speak	succeed[/ess [ful]]
[dis.] satisfied	shoulder	spell[ing]	such
sauce	shout	spend	suck
saucer	show	spill	sudden
sausage	shut	spit	sugar[-bow]
save	shy	splash	suggest[ion]
saw	sick	spoil	suit[case]
say	side	spoon[ful]	suit (v.)
scales	signal	sport	sum
scenery	signature	spread	summer[time]
school[-time]	sign[post]	spring[time]	sun[ny/burnt/ rise/set/shine]
scissors	silk	square	supper
scold	silly	squat	support
score	silver	stage	suppose
scout	since	stain	sure
scratch	sincere	stairs (staircase)	surprised[/ing e.g. in upstairs]
screw[driver]	sing[er]	(also <i>-stairs</i> ,	surround[ing[s]]
(unscrew)	single	e.g. in upstairs)	swallow (v.)
sea[-shell/side]	sink	stale	stand
season	sir	stamp	star
seat	sister	stair	start
second (n.)	sit	staircase	station
secret	size	staircase	stay
see	skin	staircase	steal
seed	skirt	staircase	steam[er/boat/ -engine/ship]
seem	sky	staircase	steel
seldom	sleep[y]	staircase	steep
-self/selves/ ([un]selfish)	slice	staircase	steer[ing-wheel]
sell	slide	staircase	step
send	slip[pery]	staircase	stick (n.)
sentence	slope[/ing]	staircase	stick[y]
separate	slow	staircase	sticking-plaster
serious	small	staircase	stiff
servant	smell	staircase	still
several	smile	staircase	sting
sew[ing]	smoke[/ing- carriage]	staircase	stocking
shade[/y]	smooth	staircase	stomach
shadow	snake	staircase	stone
shake	snow	staircase	stop
shall	so	staircase	store[-house/ keeper/room]
shallow	soap	staircase	tear (v.)
shape	sock	staircase	team
share	soft	staircase	telegram

telephone	tooth[paste]	violin	[un] willing
television	top	visit[or]	win
tell	torch	voice	wind[y]
temperature	total	volcano	window
temple	touch	volley-ball	wine
tennis	tough	voyage	wing
tent	towards		winter[time]
term	towel	wages	wipe
terrible	tower	waist[coat]	wire
test	town	wait	[un] wise
than	toy	waiter[/tress]	wish
thank[ful]	traffic	wake	with[out]
(thanks)	train (n.)	walk[ing-stick]	woman
that/those	trap	wall	wonder[ful]
that (conj.)	travel[ler]	want	wood[en/land/
the	tray	war	work]
theatre	treat	-wards (e.g. in	wool[en]
then	tree	backwards)	word
there	tremble	warm	work[er]
thermometer	trip	warn	world
they	trouble	wash[ing/	worm
thick	trousers	house]	worry[/ied/ing]
thief	truck	waste	worth
thin	true[/thful]	watch (n.)	wound
thing (also	trumpet	watch (v.)	wrap
-thing, e.g. in	trunk	water[-bottle/	wrist[watch]
nothing)	trust	fall/-jug/	write
think	try	-pipe]	wrong
thirsty	tune	wave	
this/these	tunnel	way	year[ly]
thorn[y]	turn[ing]	we	yellow
thread	twice	weak	yes
threaten	twin	wear	yesterday
throat	type[writer]	weather	yet
through	(typist)	wedding	you
throw	tyre	week[end/ly]	young
thumb		weigh	
thunder	ugly	welcome	zero
ticket	umbrella	well (a.)	zoo
tidy	uncle	west[ern]	
tie (n. and v.)	under	wet	
(untie)	understand	what	
tiger	university	wheel	
tight	unless	when[ever]	
till (prep.)	until	where (also	
time[table]	up[on]	-where, e.g. in	
tin[ned]	urgent	somewhere)	
tip	use	whether	
tired[/ing]	used to	which	
title	useful[/less]	while	
to	usually	whisper	
tobacco		whistle	
today	valley	white	
toe	value[/able]	who	
together	van	whole	
tomorrow	various	why	
tonne	vase	wide	
tongue	vegetable	widow[er]	
tonight	very	wife	
too	view	wild	
tool	village	will (v.)	