

Please study and answer the following comprehension and advertisement questions in your language book:

Comprehension skills:

About the text: The Landlady is a short story by the famous author Roald Dahl. It was written and first published in 1959.

THE LANDLADY

1. Billy Weaver had travelled down from London on the slow afternoon train, with a change at Reading on the way, and by the time he got to Bath*, it was about nine o'clock in the evening, and the moon was coming up out of a clear starry sky over the houses opposite the station entrance. But the air was deadly cold and the wind was like a flat blade of ice on his cheeks.

2. "Excuse me," he said, "but is there a fairly cheap hotel not too far away from here?" "Try The Bell and Dragon," the porter answered, pointing down the road. "They might take you in. It's about a quarter of a mile along on the other side."

3. Billy thanked him and picked up his suitcase and set out to walk the quarter mile to The Bell and Dragon. He had never been to Bath before. He didn't know anyone who lived there. But Mr. Greenslade at the head office in London had told him it was a splendid town. "Find your own lodgings," he had said, "and then go along and report to the branch manager as soon as you've got yourself settled."

4. Billy was seventeen years old. He was wearing a new navy-blue overcoat, a new brown trilby hat, and a new brown suit, and he was feeling fine. He walked briskly down the street. He was trying to do everything briskly these days. Briskness, he had decided, was the one common characteristic of all successful businessmen. The big shots up at the head office were absolutely fantastically brisk all the time. They were amazing.

5. There were no shops on this wide street that he was walking along, only a line of tall houses on each side, all of them identical. Suddenly, in a downstairs window that was brilliantly illuminated by a street lamp not six yards away, Billy caught sight of a printed notice propped up against the glass in one of the upper panes. It said BED AND BREAKFAST. There was a vase of yellow chrysanthemums, tall and beautiful, standing just underneath the notice.

6. He stopped walking. He moved a bit closer. Green curtains (some sort of velvety material) were hanging down on either side of the window. The chrysanthemums looked wonderful beside them. He went right up and peered through the glass into the room, and the first thing he saw was a bright fire burning in the hearth. On the carpet in front of the fire, a pretty little dachshund was curled up asleep with its nose tucked into its belly. The room itself, so far as he could see in the half darkness, was filled with pleasant furniture. There was a baby grand piano and a big sofa and several plump armchairs, and in one corner he spotted a large parrot in a cage. Animals were usually a good sign in a place like this, Billy told himself; and all in all, it looked to him as though it would be a pretty decent house to stay in.

Certainly it would be more comfortable than The Bell and Dragon.

7. After dithering about like this in the cold for two or three minutes, Billy decided that he would walk on and take a look at The Bell and Dragon before making up his mind. He turned to go.

8. And now a queer thing happened to him. He was in the act of stepping back and turning away from the window when all at once his eye was caught and held in the most peculiar manner by the small notice that was there. BED AND BREAKFAST, it said. BED AND BREAKFAST, BED AND BREAKFAST, BED AND BREAKFAST. Each word was like a large black eye staring at him through the glass, holding him, compelling him, forcing him to stay where he was and not to walk away from that house, and the next thing he knew, he was actually moving across from the window to the front door of the house, climbing the steps that led up to it, and reaching for the bell.

9. He pressed the bell. Far away in a back room he heard it ringing, and then at once – it must have been at once because he hadn't even had time to take his finger from the bell button – the door swung open and a woman was standing there.

10. She was about forty-five or fifty years old, and the moment she saw him, she gave him a warm, welcoming smile. "Please come in," she said pleasantly. She stepped aside, holding the door wide open, and Billy found himself automatically starting forward. The compulsion or, more accurately, the desire to follow after her into that house was extraordinarily strong. "I saw the notice in the window," he said, holding himself back. "Yes, I know." "I was wondering about a room." "It's all ready for you, my dear," she said. She had a round pink face and very gentle blue eyes. "I was on my way to The Bell and Dragon," Billy told her. "But the notice in your window just happened to catch my eye." "My dear boy," she said, "why don't you come in out of the cold?"

11. She seemed terribly nice. She looked exactly like the mother of one's best school friend welcoming one into the house to stay for the Christmas holidays. He noticed that she had small, white, quickly moving hands and red finger nails. Billy took off his hat and stepped over the threshold.

1.1 Refer to the title of the short story (The Landlady):

1.1.1 Explain what a landlady is.

(1)

1.1.2. What is the masculine form of landlady?

(1)

1.1.3 Identify and explain the figure of speech found in the last sentence of paragraph

(3)

2.1 Refer to paragraph 3. Write down only the correct LETTER next to the corresponding question number.

2.1.1 Billy was ...

A - starting a new job.

B - moving to a new post with the same company.

C - running away from his old job.

D - starting a new branch for his company.

(1)

2.1.2. The Head Office had ...

A - expected him to find his own accommodation.

B - suggested some alternative accommodation.

C - not been able to find accommodation.

D - arranged a place for him to stay.

(1)

3.1 Refer to paragraph 4.

3.1.1 What do you think Billy means by "big shots"?

(1)

3.1.2 What does the word "brisk" mean in the context of this paragraph?

(1)

3.1.3 Write down only the correct LETTER next to the corresponding question number.
The important people at the Head Office ...

A - intimidated Billy.

B - admired Billy.

C - inspired Billy.

D - bored Billy.

(1)

4.1 Refer to paragraph 5.

4.1.1 What is the abbreviation for "Bed and Breakfast"?

(1)

5.1 Refer to paragraph 6.

5.1.1 Why do you think Billy thought the place "a pretty decent place to stay"?

(2)

6.1 Refer to paragraph 8.

6.1.1 Provide a synonym for "queer".

(1)

6.1.2 Which words in this paragraph tell the reader that Billy is being made to do something?

(3)

6.1.3 Which actions are carried out by Billy as if commanded by some invisible force?

(3)

6.1.4 Quote a phrase from this paragraph which is ominous (threatening).

(1)

7.1 Refer to paragraphs 10 and 11.

7.1.1 Write down TWO adjectives which give the reader a positive feeling for the landlady

(2)

7.1.2 Can you find any description that gives the reader a negative feeling about her?

(2)

7.1.3 Make a list of THREE things that seemed to indicate that Billy was expected in the house. Refer to paragraphs 9 and 10.

(3)

7.1.4 What reason can you think of for this?

(2)

GRAND TOTAL FOR COMPREHENSION: 30

Advertisement skills:

**BOTTOMLESS
RIBS & CALAMARI**

THURSDAYS 109.95

Enjoy the Cheesiest with
BUFFALO WINGS

**Eat as many Ribs &
Calamari as you like!**

Steak Ranches
A taste for life

Questions:

1. What company is being advertised? (1)
2. What is the slogan for this company? (1)
3. What type of restaurant is this? (1)
4. What is being advertised? (1)
5. What day is the special available? (1)
6. How much does it cost? (1)
7. What food can be replaced and what can it be replaced with? (1)
8. How much food does the advertisement say you can have? (1)
9. What food can be seen other than the two items being advertised? (1)
10. What does "Bottomless" mean in this context? (1)

GRAND TOTAL FOR ADVERTISEMENT: 10

Memo

- 1.1 The learners are going back to school after the lockdown because of corona virus (2)
- 1.2 The learners are screened ,their temperatures are taken, they are being sanitised ,they are practising social distancing (any two answers) (2)
- 1.3 The girl is scared of OCD instead of corona virus (2)
- 1.4 Obsessive compulsive disorder (1)
- 1.5 Anxious, fearful ,scared, worried (anyone of these answers) (1)
- 1.6 Beep(**thermometer**) pffft (**sanitizer**) (1)