

District Contest for English Learners

Listening Comprehension

It all happened in India. At a large dinner party the guests were discussing a typical behaviour of people when they were in some crisis. One of the guests, an officer, said: "A woman's reaction will differ from a man's behaviour. A typical woman's reaction in any crisis is to scream. A man has much more nerve control. And that is what counts."

One of the guests, an American naturalist, did not join the argument. He watched the other guests. Suddenly he saw that the hostess changed in the face and whispered something to a servant. The servant came back very soon and placed a bowl of milk on the veranda just outside the open doors.

The American naturalist understood everything. In India, milk in a bowl means only one thing. It is a bait or a snake. He realized that there must be a cobra under the table.

The American's first impulse was to jump back and warn the others. But he knew that would frighten the cobra and it would attack somebody. He then spoke quickly but loudly: "I want to know just what control everyone at the table has. I will count three hundred – that's five minutes – and not one of you must move. Those who move will pay fifty rupees. Ready? Go!" The twenty people sat like stone images while he was counting. When he was saying "two hundred and eighty", out of the corner of his eye, he saw the cobra crawling for the bowl of milk. In a minute it was on the veranda. The American made a huge jump and shut the glass doors. The guests began screaming, when they understood what had just happened.

After a few moments the host said; "You were right, Officer. A man has just shown us an example of perfect control."

"Just a minute," cried the American, turning to his hostess. "Mrs. White, how did you know that there was a cobra in the room?"

A little smile appeared on the woman's face as she answered: "I knew it because it was crawling across my foot."

Test on Listening Comprehension

1. Mark the sentences as False or True.

- 1) It all happened in America.
- 2) One of the guests, an American naturalist did not join in the argument.
- 3) Mrs. White jumped when she saw a snake.
- 4) The guests began screaming when they understood what had just happened.
- 5) The servant came back very soon and placed a bowl of milk in the middle of the room.

2. Choose the right variant

- 1) Suddenly he saw that the hostess changed in the face and whispered something...
 - a) to one of the guests
 - b) to the officer
 - c) to a servant
- 2) The American's first impulse was...
 - a) to jump back and warn the others
 - b) to cry for help
 - c) to run away
- 3) The twenty people sat like stone images...
 - a) when they saw a snake
 - b) while he was counting
 - c) when they were listening to an officer
- 4) The American made a huge jump and ...
 - a) killed the snake
 - b) ran away
 - c) shut the glass doors
- 5) The guests began screaming, when they ...
 - a) saw the American's jump
 - b) understood what had just happened
 - c) saw how American ran away

3. Complete the sentences

- 1) At a large dinner party the guests were discussing a typical behaviour of people when they were ...
- 2) Those who move will pay ...
- 3) When he was saying "two hundred and eighty", out of the corner of his eye, he saw the cobra crawling for ...
- 4) "Mrs. White, how did you know that there was..."
- 5) I knew it because it was crawling across ...

Lexical Grammar Test

1. Choose the right form of the verb to complete the sentences.

- 1) I (meet) a friend while I (do) shopping.
- 2) I (be) to many countries in my life.
- 3) When you (to return) in half an hour, I still (to get ready) for my exam.
- 4) The sick man couldn't walk and he (to carry) to the ambulance.
- 5) What a beautiful dress you (to wear)!
- 6) Does anybody know when Bill (to buy) this camera?

2. Put the articles where necessary.

- 1) Drink ... tea, it's getting cold. It's OK. I don't like ...hot tea.
- 2) ... sun was shining in ... sky, there was ...light wind blowing. It was ... real spring.
- 3) Where is ...fish? It's in ...fridge.
- 4) My friend is sick now and she is in ... hospital. I often go to ... hospital to visit her.
- 5) It is ... fine April morning and I like ... idea do going to ...British Museum on such ...day.
- 6) I love ... music, and I can play ... piano very well.

3. Fill in the gaps to complete the sentences with the phrasal verbs

- 1) That news was so unpleasant that we still can't ... it.
a) get on b) get away c) get over d) turn over
- 2) ... the pancake or it will get burnt.
a) turn up b) turn over c) get off d) turn around
- 3) I'm afraid we have ... of petrol.
a) turn on b) get off c) set up d) run out
- 4) The company got bankrupt and ... all property for sale.
a) get into b) set out c) rush at d) get over

4. Choose the right words to complete the sentences.

- 1) It's a great idea to (make/do) dinner for our parents.
- 2) When you play bowling you (throw/drop) the ball at some wooden objects.
- 3) –What's the matter? – Oh, I can't walk. I've hurt my (finger/toe) on a big stone at the side of the road.
- 4) Listen! You won't get any new books (if/unless) you read all the books you have.
- 5) My brother is a very handy man, he can (mend/repair)a TV set.

5. Express the same using passive constructions.

1. Parents often give their teenager children some pocket money.
2. We pushed our car to the side and repaired.
3. One shouldn't threaten little children.

6. Complete the sentences using the ideas in brackets.

1. Ask the teacher when (вы будете писать текст).
2. Ask him (когда он придет).
3. It will be a gloomy day tomorrow, (если погода не изменится).