

READING PART 1 MULTIPLE CHOICE (1)

You are going to read an extract from a novel. For questions 31-36, choose the best answer (A, B , C or D).

At five minutes to eleven in the morning, he was at the station as agreed, a false beard and spectacles hiding his identity. If you had asked him he would have said that he was a Scottish businessman. As a matter of fact, he looked more like a motor-car coming through a haystack.

5 The platform was crowded. Friends of the company had come to see the company off. Henry looked on discreetly from behind a porter, whose fat belly formed an ideal screen. In spite of himself, he was impressed. He recognized celebrities. The fat man in the brown suit was Walter Jelliffe, the comedian and star of the company. He stared keenly at him through **10** the spectacles. Others famous folk were scattered about. He saw Alice talking to a man with a face like a hatchet, and smiling, too, as if she enjoyed it. Behind the furry attachment he wore on his face, Henry's teeth grated with annoyance.

In the weeks that followed, as he followed 'The Girl From Brighton' **15** company from town to town, it would be difficult to say whether Henry was happy or unhappy. On the one hand, to realize that Alice was so near and yet so inaccessible was a constant source of misery; yet, on the other, he could not but admit that he was having a whale of a time, drifting round the country like this.

20 He was made for this sort of life, he considered. Fate had placed him in a London office, but what he really enjoyed was this unfettered travel. Some gipsy strain in him rendered even the obvious discomforts of theatrical touring agreeable. He liked catching trains; he liked invading strange hotels; above all, he revelled in the artistic pleasure of watching **25** unsuspecting fellow-men as if they were mere ants.

That was really the best part of the whole thing. It was all very well for Alice to talk about creeping and spying, but, if you considered objectively, there was nothing degrading about it at all. It was an art. It took brains and a genius for disguise to make a man a successful creeper and **30** spyer. You couldn't simply say to yourself, 'I will creep.' If you attempted to do it in your own person, you would be detected instantly. You had to be an adept at masking your personality. You had to be one man at Bristol and another quite different man at Hull.

QUESTIONS

- 31** According to the writer, Henry's disguise made him seem:
- A** like a professional businessman from Scotland.
 - B** not very smart.
 - C** uncomfortable and nervous.
 - D** convincing and in control.
- 32** At the station, Henry hid himself by:
- A** pretending to have a big stomach.
 - B** staring through his glasses.
 - C** using a worker in the station as cover.
 - D** disguising himself as a celebrity.
- 33** In the first and second paragraphs, the writer suggests that Henry was:
- A** enjoying the fact that he had to travel from place to place.
 - B** unhappy with his situation, but resigned to doing his job.
 - C** unsure as to why he had to wear such ridiculous disguises.
 - D** bored most of the time.

- 34** How did Henry feel when he saw Alice talking to a man at Hull?
- A** Offended because she didn't say anything to him.
 - B** Worried in case she recognized him.
 - C** Irritated and somewhat jealous because he had feelings for Alice.
 - D** Tired because he had to follow her everywhere.
- 35** The writer considers that the art of disguise is:
- A** being able to adopt a different personality whatever the circumstances.
 - B** being friendly and sociable with the people he's spying on
 - C** being able to drink whisky without losing control.
 - D** Hiding behind fat people.
- 36** What does '*it*' refer to in line 28?
- A** Staying in strange hotels.
 - B** Spying on people and following them.
 - C** Being exposed
 - D** Enjoying travelling.

ANSWERS AND ANALYSIS

There is always a reason for every answer.

In most cases, there is a line, phrase, expression or word which points you to the answer.

Let's call them *POINTERS*.

Look at the answers below and see which pointers from the text confirm the correct answer.

31 B *he looked more like a motor-car coming through a haystack.*

32 C *behind a porter, whose fat belly formed an ideal screen.*

33 A *He was made for this sort of life what he really enjoyed was this unfettered travel.*

34 C *Henry's teeth grated with annoyance.*

35 A *You had to be one man at Bristol and another quite different man at Hull.*

36 B It's best to read the previous lines or even the whole paragraph to understand the context.

The text in bold shows you where the answer is

At five minutes to eleven in the morning, he was at the station as agreed, a false beard and spectacles hiding his identity. If you had asked him he would have said that he was a Scottish businessman. As a matter of fact, he looked more like a **(31) motor-car coming through a haystack.**

The platform was crowded. Friends of the company had come to see the company off. Henry looked on discreetly from behind a porter, whose **(32) fat belly formed an ideal screen.** In spite of himself, he was impressed. He recognized celebrities. The fat man in the brown suit was Walter Jelliffe, the comedian and star of the company. He stared keenly at him through the spectacles. Others famous folk were scattered about. He saw Alice talking to a man with a face like a hatchet, and smiling, too, as if she enjoyed it. Behind the furry attachment he wore on his face, **(33) Henry's teeth grated with annoyance.**

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(34) He was made for this sort of life, he considered. Fate had placed him in a London office, but **(34) what he really enjoyed was this unfettered travel.** Some gipsy strain in him rendered even the obvious discomforts of theatrical touring agreeable. He liked catching trains; he liked invading strange hotels; above all, he revelled in the artistic pleasure of watching unsuspecting fellow-men as if they were mere ants.

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