

Comprehension Passage

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Practice Problems with Solution

Read the passage carefully and choose the best answer to each question out of the four alternatives.

As my train was not due to leave for another hour, I had plenty of time to spare. After buying some magazines to read on the journey, I made my way to the luggage office to collect the heavy suitcase I had left there three days before. There were only a few people waiting and I took out my wallet to find the receipt for my case. The receipt did not seem to be where I had left it. I emptied the contents of the wallet and the railway tickets, money, scraps of paper and photographs tumbled out of it; but no matter how hard I searched, the receipt was nowhere to be found.

I explained the situation sorrowfully to the assistant. The man looked at me suspiciously as if to say he had heard this type of story many times and asked me to describe the case. I told him that it was an old brown looking object no different from the many suitcases I could see on the shelves. The assistant then gave me a form and told me to make a list of the contents of the case. If they were correct, he said, I could take the case away. I tried to remember all the articles I had hurriedly packed and wrote them down.

After I had done this, I went to look among the shelves. There were hundreds of cases there and for one dreadful moment, it occurred to me that if someone had picked the receipt up, he could easily have claimed the case already. Fortunately, this had not happened, for after a while, I found the case lying on its side, high up in the corner. After examining the articles inside, the assistant gave me the case.

I took out my wallet to pay him. I pulled out a ten shilling note and out slipped my "lost" receipt with it! I could not help blushing. The assistant nodded his head knowingly, as if to say that he had often seen this happen too!!

Question 1: The writer had plenty of time to spare because _____

A: he had arrived three days before

B: he had arrived an hour earlier

C: he had to collect his baggage

D: he needed to buy magazines

Question 2: The writer needed the receipt _____

A: to claim his suitcase

B: to pay at the luggage office

C: to prove that he had paid at the luggage office

D: to prove that he had put the suitcase in the luggage office

Question 3: The writer felt foolish because _____

A: he could not find his receipt

B: he hadn't really lost his receipt at all

C: he had to fill in a form

D: the assistant eyed him suspiciously

Question 4: There weren't _____ people waiting at the luggage office

A: very much

B: a great deal of

C: lots of

D: very many

Question 5: "wrote them down" means _____

A: copied them

B: signed them

C: made a note of them

D: pointed at them

Question 6: The writer found the receipt _____

A: on the high shelf near the cases

B: among the contents of his suitcase

C: nestled with the money in his wallet

D: trapped between the photographs in his wallet

Question 7: The writer took out his wallet for the first time to _____

A: buy some magazines

B: look for the receipt

C: fill out the form given by the assistant

D: pay the assistant

Question 8: The assistant asked the writer to make a list of the contents to _____

A: ascertain his ownership of the case

B: test his memory

C: charge him extra money

D: embarrass the writer

Question 9: "I explained the situation sorrowfully to the assistant" means
A: the writer found the situation tragic
B: he explained the situation to the assistant who was very sorrowful
C: with great distress, the writer explained his unfortunate situation to the assistant
D: the assistant found the situation tragic

Question 10: In this passage, "situation" means ____
A: place
B: event
C: condition
D: position

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Answers and Solutions

1:- B

Solution: It was because he had arrived an hour earlier.

2:- A

Solution: Receipt was required to prove the ownership of the suitcase and to claim it from the luggage office

3:- B

Solution: He felt foolish because he had to go through all the procedure while he had not really lost the receipt at all.

4:- D

Solution: "very many" means a lot of.

5:- C

Solution: He noted a list of the items in the suitcase in the form given by the assistant.

6:- C

Solution: The receipt was stuck inside a ten shilling note in his wallet.

7:- B

Solution: In the passage, there is no mention of the writer taking the wallet for buying the magazines. So the first time he took out the wallet was to look for the receipt, as per the passage.

8:- A

Solution: The list was to ascertain the ownership of the suitcase.

9:- C

Solution: He explained his situation to the assistant with great distress.

10:- C

Solution: In the passage, “situation” means “condition”

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