

ENSPT 2010

Comprehension

My father's bedroom was as plain and unpretentious as an in the house. It was infancy little better than a broad passage, eleven meters wide and fifteen meters long. A door and window faced on no a fly screened veranda. Until 1928 he used to sleep regularly on a hard from bed on this veranda, but then after he sought refuge from the cold in his room and later surrendered himself to the luxury of a spring mattress. The furniture was plain, consisting of a three-quarter bed, wash-stand, wardrobe, cupboard and chairs. There were numerous photographs on the walls, mostly of members of the family in their youth and of grandchildren. Crude little sketches made of various grand children in their early years of infancy were thumb-tacked on to the walls. My father was a careful and fastidious person. He would neatly fold his clothes before putting them away and there was no disorder.

In this room he kept a tin of biscuits and a tin of peppermints. These he used very sparingly himself on occasion but really they were there in a lure for his grandchildren. These small folk were to be found there with their grandfather at all times, both parties obviously enjoying the exchange of credentials. Though their parents felt differently, no matter how unorthodox their entertainment. As he lay on his bed reading, they could pile their toys on his boots on top of him, or clamber all over him. His beard never failed to intrigue them and he had to answer endless questions. We have sometimes arrived on the scene to find them shining his touch into his mouth, the fond patient good naturedly submitting to their attentions.

There can be no doubt that my father derived great joy from the presence of little children. They seemed to denote to him the wild, unspoiled, basic human animal from which we have drifted on our devious ways of life, often with any distinct credit to our simple origins. They seemed to rest his mind tonic. The younger they were, the more fuss he made of them. And at the same time they were also a protection to him when very talkative visitors arrived; for, by drawing attention to the children he usually succeeded in diverting the conversation.

Questions:

- 1) Which homonym had the writer in mind when he chooses to use word "plain" in this passage?
 - a) Pain
 - b) pen
 - c) plane
 - d) pane
- 2) Which plural term can best associate itself with the singularity of "furniture" in the passage?
 - a) Furnitures
 - b) furniturs
 - c) furniture
 - d) furniture
- 3) The expression "sought refuge from the cold in his room" means:
 - a) Danger
 - b) hostility
 - c) shame
 - d) shelter
- 4) The components of his furniture consisted of:
 - a) Baby-cot
 - b) photographs
 - c) chairs
 - d) pots
- 5) From the family members' photograph thumb-tacked on the wall, we draw the impression that the father was:

- a) Simple and plain family b) harsh c) lover of his family d) hated his family
- 6) What thing in father's house consisted of the knick-knack that gives him pleasure?
 a) Years of infancy c) family in their youth
 b) Keen family sense d) photograph
- 7) Write the word that is used in that can best replace "comfort" without altering its contextual meaning:
 a) At b) times c) think d) solace
- 8) "He had to answer" "endless question" which word from the list has the same contextual meaning as "endless"
 a) Intrigue b) attention c) interminable d) short-lined
- 9) Which word from the passage shows that he kept biscuits and peppermints to attract his fastidiousness?
 a) Large b) attention c) interminable d) short lived

Complete the following with suitable expressions: a) many b) many c) of
 d) much of e) some f) some of g) one of h) all i) half j) there

- 10) How _____ of you have understood my explanation?
- 11) _____ us have, sir, but I think one or two of us would like to hear it
- 12) Have you finished reading that passage? I haven't had time to read _____ of it
- 13) Nasty accident that. Yes Bill lost _____ of his fingers, so he's only got one finger left on one hand
- 14) _____ your res is flat. Oh! So it is. But I think it will take us for as the next service station.
- 15) I don't like going to the cinema. How unusual _____ people enjoy films.
- In catch of the following sentences out are given two possible verb forms in bracket, choose the one that you think makes better sense.
- 16) When they pulled me out of the streams they _____ me some dry clothes.
 a) Gave b) was reading
- 17) When he saw the joke he _____ into laughter.
 a) Burst b) was bursting
- 18) I _____ a book when I felt a snake slide over my feet.
 a) Read b) was reading
- 19) When my friend finally left I _____ to bed at once.
 a) Went b) was going