

Dever de Casa



INGLÊS

Text I

THE CASE OF THE BROKEN CHAIR

Some time ago I discovered that one of the chairs in front of the hall had a broken leg. I didn't foresee any great difficulty in getting it mended, as there are a whole lot of antique shops in the Pimlico Road which is three minutes walk from my flat, so I set forth one morning carrying the chair with me. I went into the first shop confidently expecting a friendly reception, with a kindly man saying, "What a charming chair, yes that's quite a simple job, when would you want it back?"

I was quite wrong. The man I approached wouldn't look at it. I wasn't too concerned; after all, it was only the first try and there are many more shops on both sides of the road.

The reaction at the second shop, though slightly politer, was just the same, and at the third and fourth — so I decided that my approach must be wrong.

I entered the fifth shop with some confidence because I had concocted a plan. I place the chair gently on the floor so as not so disturb the damaged leg and said "Would you like to buy a chair?" The rather fierce proprietor looked it over carefully and said, "Yes, no a bad little chair, how much do you want for it?", "£ 20.", I said. "OK" he said, "I'll give you £ 20." "It's got a slightly broken leg", I said. "Yes, I saw that, it's nothing, don't worry about it."

Everything was going to plan and I was getting excited. "What will you do with it?", I asked. "Oh, it will be very sale saleable once the repair is done, I like the bit of old green velvet on the top, I

shall leave that, yes, very saleable." "I'll buy it.", I said. "What d'ye mean" You've just sold it to me.", he said. "Yes, I know but I've changed my mind; as a matter of fact it is just what I'm looking for — I've got a pair to it at home, I'll give you 27 quid for it." "You must be crazy!", he said. Then suddenly the penny dropped and he smiled and said, "I know what you want, you want me to mend your chair." "You're plumb right", I said.

"And what would you have done if I had walked in and said: 'Would you mend this chair for me?'

"I wouldn't have done it.", he said, "We don't do repairs, not enough money in it and too much of

a nuisance, but I'll mend this for you, shall we say a fiver?" He was very nice man and thought the whole episode rather funny.

- According to the text, the writer didn't think it would be difficult to have the chair mended because:
- (A) there was a car for him to take the chair.
- (B) there was only one broken leg in the chair.
- (c) there were many antique shops nearby.
- (D) there were specialized repairers nearby.
- (E) he had a car to take the chair.
- In the text, the word **mended** means:
- (A) altered. (D) repaired.
- (B) decorated. (E) regretted.
- (C) recommended.
- According to the text, the writer took the chair:
- (A) by bus because the chair was heavy.
- (B) by taxi because he didn't want to damage it.
- (c) in his car because he really wanted to sell it.
- (D) on foot because the shops were nearby.
- (E) by car because he wanted to go to the first shop.
- According to the text, the man in the first shop:
- (A) disgusted with the chair.
- (B) happy with the chair.
- (c) indifferent to the chair.
- (D) interested in the chair.
- (E) concerned about the chair.
- In the text, the word **concocted** means:
- (A) copied. (D) read.

(E)

- (B) dreamt. acknowledged.
- (C) made.
- According to the text, the man at the fifth shop:

- (A) admired the plan.
- (B) found the plan funny.
- (c) found the plan ridiculous.
- (D) ignored the plan.
- (E) did not understand the plan.

The only idea which is **not** in the text is that:

- (A) antique shops in Pimlico Road don't do furniture mending.
- (B) Pimlico Road is within walking distance from the writer's flat.
- (c) there was a pair of chairs similar to the writer's at the shop.
- (D) the writer decided to mend the chair because he had a pair.
- (E) the man at the second shop behaved very similar to the one at the first shop.

In the sentence: "... antique shops in the Pimlico Road which is three minutes walk from my flat...", the relative pronoun **which cannot** be omitted, like in:

- (A) Is this the article which you are looking for?
- (B) A grammar rule that has no exceptions is very rare.
- (c) Knock at the door which you find open.
- (D) I didn't know that it rained so often around here.
- (E) Psychology tests show that women are as intelligent as men.

Which word <u>doesn't</u> belong to the group?

- (A) knuckle snail (D)
- (B) breast (E) jaw
- (C) womb

Would you mend this chair for me?". Choose the alternative which can replace the underlined word, keeping the politeness and meaning:

- (A) can; (D) ought to;
- (B) should; (E) will.
- (C) could;

The questions 31 to 34 refer to text II:

Text II

THINKING OUTSIDE THE (MUSIC) BOX

Technology moves at broadband speeds, but the music industry's transformation to the digital era has been trickling along in a pace suitable to that modem you tossed out when you got your high-speed connection. Apple's iTunes Music Store — which has sold more than 350 million downloads at a buck a pop — has been wildly successful. But because digitalized music can be distributed, paid for and listened to in so many ways, there's room for other business models that could potentially grow the whole industry. Apple CEO Steve Jobs professes to be cautious about this issue — "We're not religious on this, but there's no evidence people want (other models)," he says — but others have been brainstorming different ways to move legal digital music forward. Now we're finally seeing some of the schemes come to market.

For instance, Real Networks has just come out with Rhapsody 25, which adds two twists to its existing subscription service. The first is that instead of being able to stream unlimited tunes from the million-song catalog, you are limited to 25 every month. Before you complain, listen to the second difference — it's free. You don't even need to register a credit card to get it. This enables users to test-drive a bunch of songs of their choice in their entirety before deciding whether to spring for the CD (as opposed to listening to those frustrating 30-second samples the industry allows digital music stores to offer). Also, you can e-mail a playlist of your own weird favorites and your friends can hear your mix, at least until the musical speedometer hits the quarter-century mark (at which point Rhapsody hopes you upgrade to the paid service).

(Source: Newsweek, May 30, 2005)

- Considering the extract: "Technology ... connection." (paragraph 1), what is the idea implied by the author?
- (A) Music industry copes with technology improvements.
- (B) Music industry has been having some problems to cope with digitalization.
- (c) Music industry's digitalization's had a real advance recently.
- (D) Technology and digitalization can be considered synonyms.
- (E) Technology moves as fast as music industry's digitalization.

The relative pronoun "which" (par. 2) refers to:

- (A) real Networks. (D) subscription service.
- (B) Rhapsody 25. (E) networks.
- (C) two twists.

- Choose the **best** summary for one of the **twists** offered by Rhapsody 25 and their benefits, in paragraph 2:
- (A) The number of monthly tunes is limited.
- (B) There is a fee for the subscription.
- (c) It's not possible to download songs.
- (D) Other people can listen to the songs you may choose.
- (E) E-mailing one's favorite songs may be feasible.
- The expression for <u>instance</u> could be substituted for:
- (A) however. (D) as long as.
- (B) as well as. (E) for example.
- (C) therefore.

Read Text III and answer questios 35 and 36:

Text III

BEWARE OF FALLING ICE

The Chinese ask river gods for protection against floods. Each year tens of millions of Indian Hindus make pilgrimages to the Ganges to seek spiritual cleansing. In impoverished villages from Nepal to Bangladesh, waterways are the lifeblood of society, relied on for everything from drinking water to industry to burial. The veneration that Asians hold for rivers was on Chu Duo's mind as he $fiddled\ with\ his\ instruments-a\ bevy\ of\ thermometers,\ barometers,$ solar-radiation meters, rainfall gauges — in a small, flat field near Lhasa's Jokhang Temple, Tibet's holiest Buddhist monastery. For the past five years, Chu, a 36-year-old meteorologist at the Tibet Institute of Plateau Atmospheric and Environmental Sciences in Lhasa, has been trying to measure changes in the local climate. He found that temperatures have risen more than 1 degree Celsius since the 1960s, while rainfall has increased. The results aren't out of line with what climate scientists have been finding for other parts of the world. But for the three fifths of the world's people who live in Asia, the prognosis is especially dire.

The 2.5 million-square-kilometer Tibetan Plateau, which stretches from Kazakhstan in the northwest to India in the south, is the main source of Asia's big rivers — the Yangtze, Yellow, Mekong, Indus and Ganges. For hundreds of thousands of years, more than 46,000 glaciers on the plateau have provided a steady flow of water to the lowlands. Each winter the glaciers have grown as snow has piled onto them. In May and June they begin to retreat as some of the ice and snow melt. Until recently, they've strayed pretty much the same size. But during the last several decades, glaciologists have recorded more melting in the summer than gets replaced in the winter.

Based on the passage, the author is:

(A) sarcastic. (D) alarmed.

(B) slanderous. (E) protective.

(C) shocked.

The word <u>dire</u>, at the end of the text, could be substituted for:

(A) terrific. (D) normal.

(B) fantastic. (E) problem.

(C) awful.

In the sentence: "The veneration that Asians hold for rivers was on Chu Duo's mind as he fiddled with is instruments ...", 'as' conveys the idea of:

(A) cause. (D) time.

(B) concession. (E) result.

(C) comparison

All the sentences below are *correct*, *except one*:

- (A) All children's books are new.
- (B) We all went to Lisa's and John's wedding anniversary last month.
- (c) My neighbor's sons are younger than mine.
- (D) Have you been to Jake's recently?
- (E) Lucas's party was amazing last Saturday.

Why don't you have a lemon ? You're too

thirsty, it's free and it's too hot in here.

(A) lollipop (D) popsicle

(B) jelly (E) pudding

(C) jam

Read the passage and choose the *incorrect* alternative concerning *number reference*:

It's easy to understand the business case for MTV Networks' world tour. It reaches 87.6 million

homes in America, but outside the United States, it's in more than 331 million homes, in 164 countries and territories, broadcast in 18 languages. Despite MTV Networks' huge global presence already, the U.S. arm accounts for fully 80 percent of overall revenue of \$5.2 billion. So the real upside is clearly abroad. MTV Networks International is growing 20 percent a year, outpacing MTV's overall brisk pace. Freston would like to see it double to 40 percent.

- (A) 18 refers to the number of languages MTV is broadcast all over the world.
- (B) 40 percent refers to the desirable MTV development.
- (c) 87.6 *million* refers to the range of houses which MTV Networks reach worldwide.
- (D) 80 percent refers to the amount of money earned by MTV in the American territory.
- (E) *\$5.2 billion* refers to the worldwide amount of money made by MTV.