

READING MATERIALS: THE ADVENTURES OF DETECTIVE JOHN – PARTS I–IV

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Editor's Note: The passages below comprise the first four of twelve instalments about Detective John. Four more instalments will be published in the September issue of 'The English Teacher' and the last four in December. Ann Ward, one of the British teachers currently teaching in Malaysian lower secondary schools, wrote the series in order to meet the need for simpler reading materials for her students. The passages are intended to exemplify one or more teaching points from the LSES, with the accompanying exercises providing plenty of language practice. The language structures are limited and the vocabulary level low, but Ann has written an exciting series which we hope you will be able to try out in your own classrooms. Most of all, we hope the series will inspire you to write your own reading materials!

THE ADVENTURES OF DETECTIVE JOHN: PART I

Detective John always drives a red car. He usually drives fast because he is in a hurry. He often catches criminals. He is a good detective. He sometimes flies to foreign countries to follow dangerous men who are wanted by the police.

Five years ago John was an ordinary policemen. He usually rode a bicycle. He sometimes caught criminals but he usually directed the traffic. He never flew to foreign countries. He always stayed in the same town.

Imagine that you are Detective John. Answer the questions:

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| Do you always drive a red car? | Yes, I always drive a red car. |
| Do you usually drive fast? | Yes, |
| Do you often catch criminals? | Yes, |
| Do you sometimes fly to foreign countries? | Yes, |

Now talk about what happened five years ago:

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| Did you usually ride a bicycle? | Yes, I usually rode a bicycle. |
| Did you sometimes catch criminals? | Yes, |
| Did you usually direct the traffic? | Yes, |
| Did you ever fly to foreign countries? | No, I never |
| Did you always stay in the same town? | Yes, |

Answer the questions:

1. What is John's job now?
2. What was his job five years ago?
3. What does he drive now?
4. What colour is his car?
5. Did he drive a car five years ago?
6. What did he usually ride five years ago?
7. Does he usually drive fast or slowly?

8. Does he often catch criminals?
9. Did he catch criminals five years ago?
10. Did he fly to foreign countries five years ago?

Change to the past tense:

1. He usually rides a bicycle.
2. He sometimes catches criminals.
3. He usually directs the traffic.
4. He never flies to foreign countries.
5. He always stays in the same town.

Scrambled words:

ALLUUY5 CVEETTID RYRUH OCLIMPANE RAFTFCI

THE ADVENTURES OF DETECTIVE JOHN: PART 2

Detective John has an office. He usually starts work at half past eight. He has a large desk and a telephone in his office.

One day the telephone rang. Detective John answered it. It was his chief. His chief asked him to go to see Gloria Sunshine, the beautiful film star.

John drove to Gloria's house in his red car. He drove very fast. Gloria's house was large and beautiful. It had a swimming pool and a large garden.

Answer the questions:

1. Who has an office?
2. Who starts work at half past eight?
3. Who answered the telephone?
4. Who asked John to go and see Gloria Sunshine?
5. Who is a film star?
6. Who drove to Gloria's house?
7. Who has a large and beautiful house?
8. Who has a red car?



Dialogue:

A: Whose car is that?

B: Which one?

A: The red one.

B: It's John's.

Change: Whose house is that?

Put in the pronouns:

Example: This is John's office. This is his office.

1. This is Gloria's house.
2. This is John's telephone.
3. This is Gloria's swimming pool.
4. This is John's car.

Arrange these words to make a sentence:

His the office in telephone answered John.

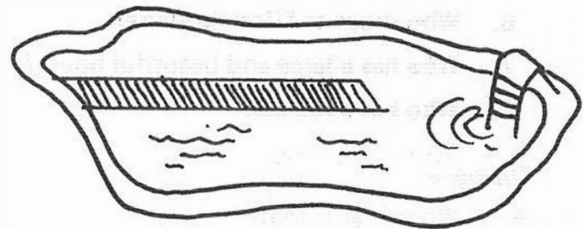
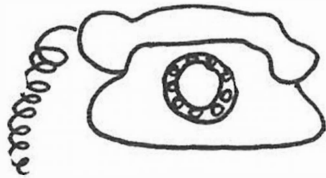
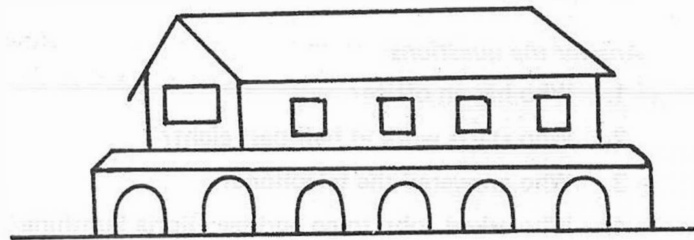
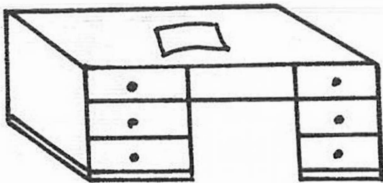
Answer the questions:

1. What time does Detective John usually start work?
2. Is John's desk large or small?
3. What did John's chief ask him to do?
4. What is Gloria's job?
5. Where did John drive to?
6. Did he drive slowly?
7. What was Gloria's house like?
8. Did Gloria's house have a swimming pool?
9. Did Gloria's house have a garden?
10. Was the garden large or small?

Change to the past tense:

1. One day the telephone *rings*.
2. John *answers* it.
3. It *is* his chief.
4. His chief *asks* him to go and see Gloria.
5. Detective John *drives* to Gloria's house.

Whose are these things?



THE ADVENTURES OF DETECTIVE JOHN: PART 3

When John arrived at Gloria's house, Gloria said, 'Please help me! Someone has stolen my jewels!'

'Please sit down!' said John, 'and tell me all about it.'

Detective John took out his notebook and began to ask Gloria some questions.

'When did you last see the jewels?'

'Last night. I came home from a party and put my diamond necklace in my jewel case.'

'Where do you usually keep your jewel case?'

'In a small room next to the bedroom.'

'And what time did you wake up?'

'At ten o'clock this morning.'

'Do you usually wake up at ten o'clock?'

'No. I usually wake up at eight o'clock but last night I was very tired. Besides, my maid did not wake me up.'

'Does your maid always wake you up?'

'Yes. But this morning she did not come.'

'Ah,' said John to himself. 'Perhaps the maid has stolen the jewels.'

Answer the questions:

1. Where did John arrive?
2. Where did Gloria come home from?
3. Where did Gloria put her diamond necklace?
4. Where does Gloria usually keep her jewel case?

Change to the past tense:

1. Detective John *arrives* at the house.
2. Gloria *says*, 'Please help me!'
3. John *takes* out his notebook.
4. He *begins* to ask Gloria some questions.
5. I *come* home from a party.
6. She *puts* her diamond necklace in her jewel case.
7. I *am* very tired.
8. The maid *does not come*.

Answer the questions:

1. Who said, 'Please help me!'?
2. What did Detective John take out?
3. What did Gloria put in her jewel case?
4. What does she usually keep in the small room?
5. What time did Gloria wake up?
6. What time does Gloria usually wake up?
7. Did Gloria's maid wake her up?
8. Does Gloria's maid usually wake her up?
9. Did Gloria's maid come?
10. What did John say to himself?

Complete the words:

1. P _ _ _ _ _ Y
2. D _ _ _ _ _ D N _ _ _ _ _ E
3. J _ _ _ L C _ _ E
4. B _ _ _ _ _ M
5. M _ _ D

THE ADVENTURES OF DETECTIVE JOHN: PART 4

Detective John left Gloria's house and went to look for the maid. Two days later he came back.

Gloria : Have you found my jewels?

John : No. I'm afraid I haven't found them yet, but I have heard about your maid.

- Gloria : Where is she?
 John : She has left the country.
 Gloria : Have you seen her?
 John : No. Nobody has seen her for three days. We think she has gone to Paris.
 Gloria : What about the jewels?
 John : We think she has taken them with her. A man saw her at the airport with a green case.
 Gloria : Has she sold the jewels?
 John : No. She hasn't sold them yet. She will meet Mr. X in Paris next Saturday.
 Gloria : What will you do?
 John : I will go to Paris tomorrow. I will follow the maid and catch her with Mr. X.

Fill in the gaps:

John found Gloria's jewels yet, but he heard about her maid. The maid left the country and she has the jewels with her.

Put in the pronouns:

Example: These are *Gloria's* jewels. These are *her* jewels.

1. She is *Gloria's* maid.
2. This is *Mr. X's* car.
3. This is *John's* notebook.
4. This is *Gloria's* house.

Change to the past tense:

1. Detective John *leaves* Gloria's house.
2. He *goes* to look for the maid.
3. He *comes* back.
4. A man *sees* her at the airport.

Dialogue:

- A : Have you found my jewels?
 B : No. I'm afraid I haven't found them yet.

Substitute: done your homework/cleaned the blackboard, read that book, etc.

Answer the questions:

1. Who did John go to look for?
2. When did he come back?
3. Has John found the jewels?
4. Who has left the country?
5. Where has the maid gone?
6. Where did the man see the maid?
7. Who will the maid meet in Paris?
8. When will she meet him?
9. Who will go to Paris tomorrow?
10. Who will follow the maid?

Crossword:

1. John looked for the
2. A man saw the maid at the
3. Gloria's maid has gone to
4. She was carrying a green

