

8.5 Reading for pleasure

The Silent Brothers

- 1 Complete the sentences with words from the box. Check any new words in your dictionary.

marry quarrel silent will

- a When two people are in love, they sometimes _____.
- b When someone dies, they leave their money to someone in their _____.
- c You can't hear anything when everything is _____.
- d When people are very angry with each other, they often _____.
- 2 Look at this picture. Do you think the two men like each other?



- 3 Read an extract from *The Silent Brothers*, one of the stories in *Stories from the Five Towns* by English author Arnold Bennett. It is about two brothers, John and Robert. They live in the same house but they have not said a single word to each other for ten years. Then their friend, Mr Liversage, brings a letter from their sister Mary, who died three months before.

You are both very stupid, John and Robert, and I've often said so. Nobody understands why you quarrelled like that about Annie Emery. Your life is difficult, but you've also been very unkind to Annie. She's waited ten years already. So, John, if you marry Annie Emery, I shall give all my money to you. And Robert, if you marry her, I shall give it all to you. And you must be married in twelve months' time. And if neither of you marry her, then I give all my money to Miss Annie Emery, businesswoman, of Duck Bank, Bursley.

Mary Ann Bott, widow

'There. That's all,' Liversage finished.

'Let me see,' said John. Liversage gave him the will and he looked at it carefully.

Robert walked around the table and looked at the paper in his brother's hand.

- 4 Complete the phrases with the names of characters from the story.

Annie John Liversage Mary Robert

- a _____ had a lot of money.
- b _____ and _____ were in love with Annie.
- c _____ is a businesswoman.
- d _____ asks _____ not to say anything.
- e _____ thinks the brothers are stupid.
- f _____ knew about the will before the brothers read it.

- 5a What happens next? Read the sentences and match them to the pictures. Then put them in the right order.

- 1 'Mr Hessian!' she cried. ____
- 2 'There. That's all.' ____
- 3 'I don't want the money, dear,' said Annie. 'They can keep their twelve thousand pounds.' ____



- b Answer the questions.

- 1 Will Annie marry one of the two brothers? Why (not)?
- 2 Who do you think will get Mary's money?
- 3 Will the two brothers start speaking to each other again?

All three men were silent for a few minutes. Each was afraid to speak, and even afraid to look at the others.

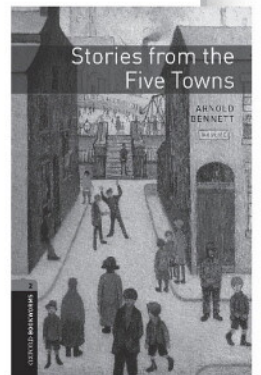
'Well, I must go,' said Liversage, standing up.

'I say,' said Robert. 'You won't say anything about this to Annie, will you?'

'I will say nothing,' agreed Liversage. (But it was wrong of him to say this, because Annie already knew.)

The two brothers sat and thought for a long time.

Ten years before, when Annie was a woman of twenty-three, without family, she started a business for herself, which was a bookshop. John was in love with her, but so was Robert. And the two men quarrelled.



Review: Units 7 and 8

Grammar

1 Make the sentences negative.

- I went on holiday with my friends.
I didn't go on holiday with my friends.
- The train left at half past six.

- They took a taxi to the airport.

- We had an Indian meal last night.

- Sally got lost in Berlin.

- You sent me an email yesterday.

- I read this book last week.

- Sandro and Max flew to Mumbai.

2 Choose the correct word/phrase to complete the conversation.

- A Where ¹*did you decide* / *you decided* to go on holiday?
B To India. I bought the plane ticket last week.
- A ²*You bought* / *Did you buy* it online?
B Yes, I ³*did buy it* / *did*. It was cheaper and I
⁴*didn't have to* / *shouldn't* go to the British Airways office - it's always busy.
- A How ⁵*did* / *were* you pay for it?
B With my credit card. Now there's just one thing to do - I ⁶*have to* / *should* get a new passport. How long does it take to get one?
- A I don't know. You ⁷*should* / *shouldn't* phone the passport office.
B I can do that now. The boss isn't here.
A Well, do it quickly. You ⁸*shouldn't* / *don't have to* use the office phone.

Vocabulary

3 Complete the words in the text.

Newspaper and magazine articles ¹t e l l us how to be healthy, but some of their ideas are expensive. You don't have to go to the ²g _____ to get fit - you can exercise for free. You can do ³y _____ at home or ⁴j _____ in the park. Cycling is good for you, too - ⁵b _____ a bike from a friend if you don't have one.

Doing physical ⁶j _____ round the house is also a great way to use calories.

Do you know that you can even save money when you exercise? For example, stop taking the ⁷b _____ to work, get up early and go on ⁸f _____. You can take ⁹f _____ and vegetables to work for lunch and not spend money on expensive sandwiches. And don't forget to ¹⁰d _____ lots of water - it's free!

4 Complete the information with the verbs in the box. You can use some verbs more than once.

go have meet stay take visit

Do you want to ¹ *have* fun and learn to salsa? Try a dance holiday in Cuba. You ² _____ in a hotel in Havana and have dance lessons every day. It doesn't ³ _____ a long time to learn your first dance. In the afternoon, there's time to ⁴ _____ sightseeing. You can ⁵ _____ on an island tour, ⁶ _____ a museum or an art gallery - or just ⁷ _____ a taxi to the beach. In the evening you ⁸ _____ dinner with the other students and we take you to a salsa club where you ⁹ _____ local people and dance all night.

Speaking

5 Complete the conversation with the phrases in the boxes.

I agree I don't know I think yes, but ~~your opinion~~

- A What's ¹ *your opinion* of the new teacher?
B ² _____ she gives the children too much homework.
A ³ _____ about that. Schoolwork is important.
B ⁴ _____ my children don't have any time to do sport. I want them to do well at school and be healthy.
A ⁵ _____ with you. Maybe we can do some sport at the weekend.