

# May I show you the way?

- *First read the text and then do tasks 1 – 10.*

It was the year 1952. A terrible fog hung over London. It was grey and wet. Buses and cars had to drive slowly and carefully, with their lights on and their horns continually blowing. People hurried to their homes or waited in restaurants for the fog to lift.

But the fog became thicker and thicker, and at last all the traffic came to a standstill. Silence filled the streets of the city.

In the hall of a big hotel a French doctor was walking up and down, looking at his watch every minute or two. He had come to town in the morning and he had to be at an important conference in half an hour. The place of the meeting was quite a long way off, and he had no idea how to get there in time. No taxi, no bus, and the Underground railway would only take him to another foggy place where he would not find his way.

The French doctor went to the door of the hotel. He could hardly see the steps leading down to the street. Then, suddenly, he heard a voice beside him: "I suppose you want to go somewhere, sir. May I show you the way?" The doctor saw a young man smiling at him.

"Are you sure you can, in this fog?" the doctor asked.

"I hope so."

"Well, it's my only chance," thought the doctor, so he put on his coat and told the young man the address of the conference he wanted to go to. Then they went out into the fog.

It was a strange walk. The town seemed dead and deserted, and the two men, like a couple of ghosts, slowly walked along the empty streets. They did not speak a word. "How can I know where this will take me?" the doctor thought while he was following the young man. "I hope it is to my meeting, but it might be to the Thames as well."

In fact, there was no reason to be afraid. The young man walked on steadily, turned corners and crossed streets as if there was no fog at all, but broad daylight.

"Here we are," he said at last, stopping outside a big house. "Wonderful!" exclaimed the doctor. "Please, tell me just one thing: How on earth did you manage to find your way in this fog?"

"Well," replied the young man, "it was no trouble at all to me, sir. I am blind."

Now do tasks 1 – 10.

- In tasks 1 – 3, 5 – 7 and 9 – 10 tick the correct box (✓).
- In tasks 4 and 8 tick the correct box (✓) and give a reason (✎).

1) The weather in London was ...

- a)  bad.
- b)  windy.
- c)  fine.
- d)  sunny.

2) The weather was a problem for the French doctor because ...

- a)  he was in London for only one day.
- b)  he had important business to do.
- c)  he could not get a taxi to his hotel.
- d)  he had to wait in a restaurant.

3) The French doctor ...

- a)  thought about walking into the city.
- b)  was afraid he would miss his meeting.
- c)  wanted to go by Underground.
- d)  was waiting in silence.

4) “The London taxis were no help for the doctor.”

This statement is



a)  true, because the text says \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

b)  false, because the text says \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5) When the doctor was standing in the doorway ...

- a)  a young man asked for help.
- b)  a young man asked the way.
- c)  a young man explained the way to him.
- d)  a young man offered help.

6) The French doctor ...

- a)  agreed with the young man at once.
- b)  did not want any help from the young man.
- c)  explained where his meeting was.
- d)  was afraid of the young man.

7) On their walk ...

- a)  they did not meet anybody.
- b)  they met some ghosts.
- c)  they saw the Thames.
- d)  they talked a lot.

8) "From the moment they met, the doctor was optimistic that the young man would safely take him to the meeting."

This statement is ...



- a)  true, because the text says \_\_\_\_\_.
- b)  false, because the text says \_\_\_\_\_.

9) The young man ...

- a)  lost his way near a big house.
- b)  found the way easily.
- c)  stopped at corners very often.
- d)  had no idea where to go.

10) The young man ...

- a)  had special glasses.
- b)  had a GPS system to show the way.
- c)  had no problem with the fog.
- d)  was a tour guide.