

68 Persistent

I crossed the street to avoid meeting him, but he saw me and came running towards me. It was no use pretending that I had not seen him, so I waved to him. I never

5 enjoy meeting Bert Dykes. He never has anything to do. No matter how busy you are, he always insists on coming with you. I had to think of a way of preventing him from following me around all morning.

10 'Hullo, Bert,' I said. 'Fancy meeting you here!'

'Hullo, Elizabeth,' Bert answered. 'I was just wondering how to spend the morning—until I saw you. You're not

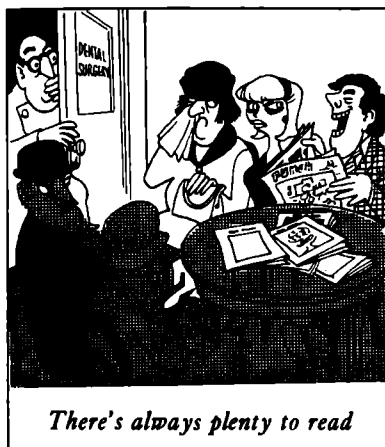
15 busy doing anything, are you?'

'No, not at all,' I answered. 'I'm going to ...'

'Would you mind my coming with you?' he asked, before I had finished speaking.

20 'Not at all,' I lied, 'but I'm going to the dentist.'

'Then I'll come with you,' he answered. 'There's always plenty to read in the waiting room!'



Comprehension and Précis

Answer these questions *in not more than 70 words*.

1. Did Elizabeth try to avoid meeting Bert Dykes or not? Was she able to do so or not? (*Even though*)
2. Did he always insist on accompanying her or not? What did she have to do? (*As*)
3. Where did she tell him she was going? Why did he say he would come with her? (*When*)

Composition

Rewrite the sentences below using the joining words in brackets:

1. There was a dentist nearby. She knew him well. Elizabeth decided to go there. She would explain what had happened. (*As ... whom ... in order to*)
2. Bert was in the waiting room. Elizabeth spoke to the dentist. He told her to leave at once through another door. (*While ... and*)
3. Elizabeth left. The dentist went into the waiting room. 'Do you want to have your teeth examined?' he asked Bert. (*After ... and asked Bert if ...*)

Letter-writing

Write four sentences beginning with each of the following:

You must be very annoyed with me for ...

I have just heard that ...

I really hate to complain, but ...

Some time ago, I ...

Key Structures

I crossed the street to avoid meeting him.

Compare KS 51 and 110.

a Study these sentences carefully. Pay close attention to the words in italics:

I always *avoid travelling* during rush-hour.

He *enjoys playing* football.

He completely *denies taking* it.

Fancy meeting you here!

It's no use crying about it.

It's not worth worrying about.

I can't stand people shouting and pushing.

Can't you see *I'm busy writing*?

Would you mind opening the window?

I don't mind waiting.

b Compare these sentences:

Would you mind opening the window?

Would you mind my opening the window?

Fancy writing a letter like that!

Fancy her writing a letter like that!

c See, Hear and Smell. Study these sentences:

I saw him coming.

He *heard me opening* the door.

I can *smell something burning.*

d Go and Come. Study these sentences:

Let's go dancing.

I went shopping this morning.

Come swimming with me tomorrow.

Exercises

A. Underline all the verbs in the passage that end in *-ing*.

B. Give the correct form of the verbs in brackets. Do not refer to the passage until you finish the exercise:

I crossed the street to avoid (meet) him, but he saw me and came (run) towards me.

It was no use (pretend) that I had not seen him, so I waved to him. I never enjoy

(meet) Bert Dykes. No matter how busy you are, he always insists on (come) with you.

I had to think of a way of (prevent) him from (follow) me around all morning.

'Hullo, Bert,' I said. 'Fancy (meet) you here!'

'Hullo, Elizabeth,' Bert answered. 'I was just wondering how to spend the morning —until I saw you. You're not busy (do) anything, are you?'

'No, not at all,' I answered. 'I'm going to . . .'

'Would you mind my (come) with you?' he asked, before I had finished (speak).

C. Write sentences beginning with each of the following:

1. It's no use . . .

2. Let's go . . .

3. Forgive my . . .

4. Do you deny . . .

5. He came . . .

6. I'm busy . . .

7. I always enjoy . . .

8. Would you mind . . .