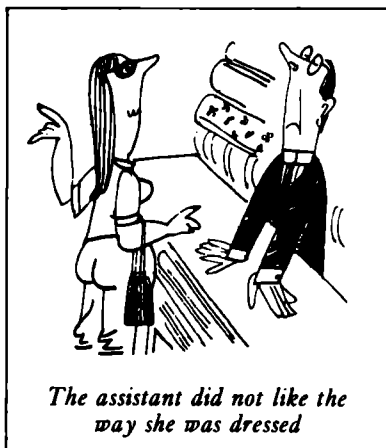


57 Can I Help You Madam?

- A woman in blue jeans stood at the window of an expensive shop. Though she hesitated for a moment, she finally went in and asked to see a dress that was in the window.
- 5 The assistant who served her did not like the way she was dressed. Glancing at her scornfully, he told her that the dress was sold. The woman walked out of the shop angrily and decided to punish the assistant next day.
- 10 She returned to the shop the following morning dressed in a fur coat, with a handbag in one hand and a long umbrella in the other. After seeking out the rude assistant she asked for the same dress.
- 15 Not realizing who she was, the assistant was eager to serve her this time. With great difficulty, he climbed into the shop window to get the dress. As soon as she saw it, the woman said she did not like it. She enjoyed herself making the assistant bring almost everything in the window
- 20 before finally buying the dress she had first asked for.



Comprehension and Précis

Answer these questions in not more than 80 words.

1. Did the woman in blue jeans hesitate for a moment or not? Did she enter an expensive shop or not? What did she ask to see? (*Though . . . and*)
2. What did an assistant tell her? When did the woman return? Was she dressed in a fur coat or not? (*On being told by*)
3. What was the assistant eager to do this time?
4. What did she make him bring her? What did the woman finally buy? (*After making*)

Composition

Write two or three sentences using the ideas given below:

A shop-owner wanted to see how polite his assistants were—dressed as a tramp—went into his shop—asked to see a suit—was thrown out.

Letter-writing

Learn the following opening phrases by heart:

What a surprise it was to . . .

Forgive me for not writing earlier, but . . .

Exercise

Write two short paragraphs (of not more than two sentences each) completing the above phrases.

Key Structures

At, In, Off and With. Compare KS 29 and 87.

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

Phrases with *at*:

He lives *at* 27 *West Street*.

A large crowd was waiting *at the bus-stop*.

I'll see you *at the station*.

On the way home, we stopped *at a small village called Puddleton*.

Someone is *at the door*.

Phrases with *in*:

There were a lot of people *in the street*.

I would like to live *in a warm country*.

He lives *in Berlin*.

Let's go for a walk *in the park*.

Where's Tom? He's *in his room*.

Phrases with *off*:

The lid came *off* easily.

Take your coat *off*.

The pencil rolled *off* the table.

Now study these phrases with *in* and *with*:

Can you see that woman *in the blue coat*?

He was dressed *in a black suit*.

That man *with long hair* is supposed to be a poet.

The police are looking for a man *with a scar* on his face.

The woman *with the brown handbag* and long umbrella is a famous novelist.

Exercises

A. Study the use in the passage of the following words: *in, at, out of, to, with* and *into*.

B. Supply the missing words in the following sentences. Do not refer to the passage until you finish the exercise.

1. A woman . . . blue jeans stood . . . the window of an expensive shop. Though she hesitated for a moment, she finally went . . . and asked to see a dress that was . . . the window.
2. Glancing . . . her scornfully, he told her that the dress was sold. The woman walked . . . the shop angrily.
3. She returned . . . the shop the following morning dressed . . . a fur coat, . . . a handbag . . . one hand and a long umbrella . . . the other.
4. . . great difficulty, he climbed . . . the shop window.
5. She enjoyed herself making the assistant bring almost everything . . . the window.

Special Difficulties

Make and Let

Study these examples:

She enjoyed herself making the assistant *bring* almost everything in the window.

(l. 19)

I can't make him *change* his mind.

The teacher made the boy *write* the exercise again.

Don't let him *persuade* you.

Let me *try*.

Don't let the children *touch* anything in this room please.

Exercise

Complete these sentences:

1. Don't let him . . .
2. Why don't you make him . . .
3. No one can make me . . .
4. Will your parents let you . . .
5. Let's . . .