

## Part II Text A

### Comprehension

#### Text Organization

Scenes	Paragraphs	Characters	Events
One	Paras. 1–2	Sue, Johnsy	Sue's roommate Johnsy caught pneumonia.
Two	Paras. 3–8	<u>The doctor, Sue</u>	<u>The doctor told Sue that Johnsy needed a strong will to live on.</u>



Three	Paras. 9-17	<u>Johnsy, Sue</u>	<u>Johnsy decided that she would die when the last ivy leaf fell.</u>
Four	Paras. 18-21	<u>Behrman, Sue</u>	<u>Sue told Behrman about Johnsy's fancy.</u>
Five	Paras. 22-33	<u>Sue, Johnsy</u>	<u>As Johnsy was encouraged by the last leaf that wouldn't give in to the weather, her will to live returned.</u>
Six	Paras. 34-37	<u>The doctor, Sue</u>	<u>The doctor told Sue that Johnsy would recover, but Behrman had caught pneumonia himself and his case was hopeless.</u>
Seven	Paras. 38-39	<u>Sue, Johnsy</u>	<u>Sue told Johnsy that Behrman had died of pneumonia after he had painted the lone leaf on the wall in the cold and rain.</u>

### The Symbolic Meaning of "The Last Leaf"

1. There were almost a hundred.
2. There were five left.
3. She thought herself as light and fragile as a leaf. When the last leaf went, she would die too.
4. It was the last on the vine. Still dark green near its stem, but with its edges colored yellow, it hung bravely from a branch some twenty feet above the ground. (Para. 25)  
The day wore away, and even through the twilight they could see the lone ivy leaf clinging to its stem against the wall. (Para. 27)
5. The last leaf had to fight against cold beating rain and the fierce north wind. Johnsy had to fight against pneumonia and her lack of will to live.
6. She learned that it was a sin to want to die.
7. She learned that he had given his life so that she could live.

### Interpreting Difficult Sentences

1. A      2. B      3. A      4. B      5. B

### Language Sense Enhancement

But, Lo! After the 1) beating rain and fierce wind that had 2) endured through the night, there yet 3) stood out against the brick wall one ivy leaf. It was the last on the vine. Still dark green near its stem, but with its 4) edges colored yellow, it hung 5) bravely from



a branch some twenty feet above the ground.

"It is the last one," said Johnsy. "I thought it would 6) surely fall during the night. I heard the wind. It will fall today, and I shall die at the same time."

The day 7) wore away, and even through the 8) twilight they could see the 9) lone ivy leaf 10) clinging to its stem against the wall. And then, with the coming of the night the north wind was again 11) loosed.

When it was light enough Johnsy, the merciless, 12) commanded that the shade be raised.

The ivy leaf was still there.

## Language Focus

### I. Basic Practice

1.

- 1) In response to my request to see the patient, the nurse said in a whisper over the phone, "Could you wait until she wakes up?"
- 2) Ben is very sensitive and emotionally fragile. Don't be too harsh on him.
- 3) Living in an age of information explosion, we must rely on our own experience and judgment to tell fact from fancy.
- 4) He is tired of listening to her nonsense, but he knows she just can't help it.
- 5) After hearing the story of the helpless girl, everyone of my class wanted to do something for her.
- 6) It's hard for any person to endure such acute pain.
- 7) People in this village are faced with an acute shortage of drinking water.
- 8) Many people fear that the murderer is still stalking the town looking for the next victim.
- 9) True, the football team is weakened after several players sustained injuries. But it is absolutely wrong to mock at their attempt to enter the World Cup Finals.
- 10) Subtract from your monthly pay your income tax payments, and what is left is your take-home pay.
- 11) The two neighboring countries will make a joint effort to clean the river.
- 12) On bright spring days, you can see lovely birds fluttering among the bushes.
- 13) Whenever I feel low, I will whistle a merry tune to cheer myself up.
- 14) The people we minge with help shape us into what we are.
- 15) That is all I know about banking. For the rest, you must ask an expert.
- 16) The wind scattered the pile of leaves in all directions.





2.

- 1) To this day, the old woman still clings to her belief that her lost child will come back some day.
- 2) "Change into a dark suit when you go to the funeral," Miss Grant told her class, "so that your dress will be in tune with the occasion."
- 3) He was a soldier. In his army uniform he still looks the part.
- 4) Despite the bad weather, the fighter planes accomplished their mission.
- 5) The typhoon destroyed everything in its way, knocking down houses and pulling up trees.
- 6) This material is strong and does not wear away easily.
- 7) Keep an eye on the patient. Don't let her sit up.
- 8) Up till last week, I had never even heard of that actress. Now I am seeing her everywhere!
- 9) Keep away from the garden. The owner will turn loose his dog on you if you enter.
- 10) To everyone's disappointment, we missed the football game because the train, which was scheduled to arrive at 4:00 pm, was late by six hours.

3.

- 1) My hometown stands out now as the biggest tourist attraction along the Yangtze River, but if you look backward just a few decades, it was a dreary, out-of-the-way village nobody would like to set foot in a second time.
- 2) It is regarded by many environmentalists as a sin to waste natural resources.
- 3) Despite the same last name, the two Adams scarcely have anything to do with each other.

4.

- 1) Exercising to excess increases the risk of heart attack.
- 2) Laughter in the workplace is great, as long as it's not done to excess.
- 3) Mark Twain once said that he never smoked to excess, only one cigar at a time.
- 4) My days on the seaside stand out among all my childhood memories.
- 5) Confidence is what makes him stand out from the crowd of applicants waiting to be interviewed.
- 6) Dressed in bright colors, she stood out in the dreary square of the town.



## II. Word Formation

- 1) Grandma regained her health after spending a month in the countryside.
- 2) Mary is undecided about whether to stay on in her present post or to find a new job.
- 3) Developing countries are often undersupplied with trained doctors and nurses.
- 4) Henry got injured in the car accident and was disabled for the rest of his life.
- 5) They have been demanding the release of three of their soldiers from prison as a precondition for further talks.
- 6) We have succeeded because we had the foresight to invest in new technology.
- 7) I had difficulty understanding him because he mispronounced a lot of words.
- 8) The development of the IT industry will enrich the nation just as the oil industry did in the past.

## III. Usage

- 1) Last month he went to Paris on business.
- 2) The train to Beijing will go at 2:25 p.m.
- 3) I thought of complaining about the bad service but decided to let it go.
- 4) Together we will go exploring in the mountains.
- 5) Let's go and have a drink in the bar.
- 6) The store is going to close up soon.
- 7) His hair went white in a couple of years.
- 8) The evening went quickly.

## Comprehensive Exercises

### I. Cloze

As an artist, Behrman 1) was regarded as a failure by everyone except himself, even though he 2) looked the part. For forty years, he had been talking about his coming 3) masterpiece, but his canvas remained 4) blank and he lived by serving as a model to poor young artists. 5) Despite being fierce-looking, he was kind at heart, and always acted as guard dog to the two young girls, Sue and Johnsy, who lived in the studio above his room.

One day in November, Sue came into the old man's room, and told him Johnsy had fallen 6) victim to pneumonia. The doctor said that her chance of getting well was slim, and if she had lost her will to 7) cling to life, there was little that science could 8) accomplish. But Johnsy spent her days in bed, looking out of the window and counting





the leaves on an ivy vine outside. She said that she would die when the plant became 9) bare.

When Behrman 10) heard of Johnsy's fancy, he 11) mocked at her softness in 12) contempt. "What silly 13) nonsense!" he declared.

That night, in icy cold, the old man went out with a lantern and a ladder, and painted a leaf on the wall. It looked exactly like the last leave Johnsy saw the day before, which she thought 14) had endured through the night despite fierce wind and 15) persistent rain. Behrman's act of kindness saved Johnsy's life. And in so doing, he had painted his masterpiece.

## II. Translation

Old Mrs. Shen has lived alone in a one-room apartment in Shanghai ever since her husband died of pneumonia. Suffering from an acute pain in her back, she could scarcely walk around in her room. When pupils in a nearby school heard of her condition, they decided to do something for the helpless, fragile old woman. Each day before school started, one of them would bring breakfast to her, help her sit up and eat, and pull up the window shades. When school was over, another pupil would come to buy her supper, clean her room, and pull down the shades. Their joint effort lasted several months, during which the pupils endured all kinds of harsh weather. Sometimes they got caught in the rain and were wet through. With good care, Mrs. Shen finally recovered. She was very grateful and prepared some gifts for the pupils. But the pupils refused the gifts and told the old lady that they really enjoyed helping people in need.

