1B)

A. “Stolen laptop found by tree in local park.”

The headline above is clearly trying to tell us that someone have found a stolen laptop alongside a tree in the local park, but the headline is also stating that the stolen laptop was found in the local park by a tree.

B. “Sisters meet again after twelve years in checkout queue”

This headline states that two sisters have stood in checkout queue for twelve years and after that they have met again. What the journalist was probably trying to say, is that two sisters have been away from each other for twelve years and met each other by a coincidence in a checkout queue.

D. “Two ferries collide, one dies”

Here it is obvious that the paper wants to tell us a story about two ferries that collided and that one person died, but it doesn’t say anything about people in the headline so it might as well be one of the ferries that died.

F. “Kindergarten kids make healthy snacks”

Without any thought this looks like it is a headline for an article about how tasty and healthy it is to eat kindergarten kids, but it is most likely about some kindergarten kids who are making healthy snacks.

Headline D. “Two ferries collide, one dies” is really dumb because it says that a ferry died in a crash with another ferry and that cannot happen since ferries don’t live. What it is probably supposed to say is that a person died in a crash between two ferries. Too no longer be ambiguous I would recommend rewriting the sentence to something like this: “Two ferries collided, one person died.” The headline can also say something like, “Two ferries collide one man (or woman) dies.

2D)

A Lovely Day

I fell on my back. He had pushed me so hard that it felt like every bone in my body broke. The searing pain flooded through my body as I tried to stumble to my feet. Half way up, I felt two hands touching my shoulders and again, I was pushed to the ground. This time I didn’t try to rise up. I just lay down on my back, stared up in the face of Jerry as he stood over me and looked down on my face. The sunlight didn’t hit my face, because of the face that was looking down on my, but I could see it was a lovely day with no sign of any rain coming. “I want the money as soon as school is over today or I am going to punch your face as flat as the coins you are going to bring me. You understand?” The words felt like they were coming from a distance. “You understand?” Jerry repeated, but all I managed was a small “ngh.” He obviously took it as a “yes” because he didn’t ask again.

The ringing of the bell was long gone as I dragged my up beaten body into the classroom. The teacher just looked at me and nodded as I tumbled down on my chair. Teachers were used to me getting a bit late, but they never asked why, not that I wanted them to either. The class ended eventually and my best, and only, friend came up to me. “What are you going to do later, I am going to see a movie and wondered if you wanted to join me? I just got my monthly fee and feel like I have to spend it.” The thought of seeing a movie later was so tempting, but I knew I had to get money for Jerry or else I would not have anything to see a movie with. “Sorry, but I have to get money for Jerry, otherwise else he is going to punch the shit out of me.” I could see the smile in Peter’s face fade away as I told him this. He was so nice and friendly that I knew he would understand, and he already knew about my situation with Jerry. “You know how the situation is here in New York, nearly all jobs are taken and you have to look long for someone who pays you the first day,” I said. At the same time we could hear the school bell ringing in for second class.

I could still sense the pain in my chest and back even though it was now two hours after, and it didn’t look like I had broken anything after all. Half way through a very boring part about some old Viking, that “found” America before the rest Europe, I looked out of the window and saw the sun still shining on the blue sky. It was a way too lovely day for my guts to get kicked in, I thought. The break came and Peter walked up to me with the biggest smile I had seen in my life. “If you borrow my money, you don’t need to get a job, and you can go watch a film with me. I don’t need it, and I was just going to spend it all on candy anyways.” I couldn’t talk. My brain was just so happy by this new, not scared of getting hurt, situation that it had melted to sauce. A smile spread across my face as my brain finally managed take up its normal role as chief of my body.

I had the money from Peter in my pocket as I walked out of the school that day. The sun was shining in the sky as I saw Jerry standing by the gate out from the school area. He had a grim smile on his face like he knew that he would get a nice present in just a few seconds, but I could picture his face when he was denied just that. All he did was to open his hand against me as I walked up to him and just as I had thought, he was not happy when I dropped the money in his hand. I didn’t wait to see what he said, but continued to walk to the place where Peter had told me to wait for him. In the Just as I was standing there, I saw a cloud passing over the sun and letting down a dark shadow. I stood a long time and thought about this because Peter never came. “He must have forgotten it”, I said to myself and walked home, but the weird thing was that I didn’t see Peter for a week, and when he got back he wouldn’t tell me what had happened. But he never gave me money anymore and I could see the marks of what could have been a black eye.