

secret treaty concluded between England, France, and Austria, when the pretensions of Prussia and Russia, acting in concert, seemed to threaten a renewal of the attack. The results of the Congress  
 65 were stated clearly at the bottom of page 67 and at the top of page 68, but before Lymie got halfway through them, a coat that he recognized as his father's was hung on the hook next to his chair. Lymie closed the book and said, "I didn't think you  
 70 were coming."

Time is probably no more unkind to sporting characters than it is to other people, but physical decay unsustained by respectability is somehow more noticeable. Mr. Peters' hair was turning gray and his  
 75 scalp showed through on top. He had lost weight also; he no longer filled out his clothes the way he used to. His color was poor, and the flower had disappeared from his buttonhole. In its place was an American Legion button.

80 Apparently he himself was not aware that there had been any change. He straightened his tie self-consciously and when Irma handed him a menu, he gestured with it so that the two women at the next table would notice the diamond ring on the fourth  
 85 finger of his right hand. Both of these things, and also the fact that his hands showed signs of the manicurist, one can blame on the young man who had his picture taken with a derby hat on the back of his head, and also sitting with a girl in the curve of  
 90 the moon. The young man had never for one second deserted Mr. Peters. He was always there, tugging at Mr. Peters' elbow, making him do things that were not becoming in a man of forty-five.

1

Over the course of the passage, the primary focus shifts from

- A) Lymie's inner thoughts to observations made by the other characters.
- B) an exchange between strangers to a satisfying personal relationship.
- C) the physical setting of the scene to the different characters' personality traits.
- D) Lymie's experience reading a book to descriptions of people in the restaurant.

2

The main purpose of the first paragraph is to

- A) introduce the passage's main character by showing his nightly habits.
- B) indicate the date the passage takes place by presenting period details.
- C) convey the passage's setting by describing a place and an object.
- D) foreshadow an event that is described in detail later in the passage.

3

It can reasonably be inferred that Irma, the waitress, thinks Lymie is "through eating" (line 37) because

- A) he has begun reading his book.
- B) his plate is empty.
- C) he is no longer holding his fork.
- D) he has asked her to clear the table.

4

Lymie's primary impression of the "party of four" (line 42) is that they

- A) are noisy and distracting.
- B) are a refreshing change from the other customers.
- C) resemble characters from his history book.
- D) represent glamour and youth.

5

Which choice provides the best evidence for the answer to the previous question?

- A) Lines 45-47 ("The women . . . down")
- B) Lines 47-52 ("One . . . was")
- C) Lines 55-59 ("But . . . them")
- D) Line 69 ("Lymie . . . book")

6

The narrator indicates that Lymie finally closes the history book because

- A) his father has joined him at the table.
- B) the people at the other table are too disruptive.
- C) he has finished the chapter about the Congress.
- D) he is preparing to leave the restaurant.

7

The primary impression created by the narrator's description of Mr. Peters in lines 74-79 is that he is

- A) healthy and fit.
- B) angry and menacing.
- C) nervous and hesitant.
- D) aging and shriveled.

8

The main idea of the last paragraph is that Mr. Peters

- A) neglects to spend any time with his family members.
- B) behaves as if he is a younger version of himself.
- C) is very conscious of symbols of wealth and power.
- D) is preoccupied with the knowledge that he is growing old.

9

Which choice best supports the conclusion that Mr. Peters wants to attract attention?

- A) Lines 80-81 (“Apparently . . . change”)
- B) Lines 81-85 (“He straightened . . . hand”)
- C) Lines 90-91 (“The young . . . Mr. Peters”)
- D) Lines 91-93 (“He was . . . forty-five”)

10

As used in line 93, “becoming” most nearly means

- A) emerging.
- B) fitting.
- C) developing.
- D) happening.