

The Date
by
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Cornelia is getting ready for her date with her new boyfriend, Al.

Cornelia puts on her new, star-shaped earrings. She puts on her tight-fitting new green silk dress.

Cornelia sees herself in the mirror. She hopes that Al will like what he sees as much as she does. (You can tell that Cornelia thinks that she is “hot stuff.”)

Things start “poppin’” when I’m around,” she said to herself with a smile. Her silky hair glistened and sparkled in the light.

“I hope that this one doesn’t turn out to be a flake like the last one,” she continued thinking.

“This Summer Field perfume costs \$80 per oz. I’m glad that I made that boyfriend take back the one oz. Bottle and buy me the three oz. bottle before I dumped him,” she thought.

Al is getting ready for his date with Cornelia, too.

He is in his one room apartment in the Peach Tree Apartment Complex. The apartment doesn’t have much, but it does have an exercise room with machines and two tons of weights.

His apartment is on the run-down side of town, next to the soup factory.

“I hope that things don’t turn sour, like they did on my date last week,” Al said to himself.

Al put on some cherry-blossom cologne. This will aid me in making a good impression,” he thought.

Al admired his big muscles. “The better to squeeze you with, My Dear,” he thought some more.

At the same time, Barry Straw was getting out of jail.

(He had been in jail this time for three years.) This was his second time in jail. The first time he stole \$125.00 from a flower shop. The second time he

robbed a gas station for \$87.75, but they caught the robbery on tape and the police picked him up in three days.).

“You cops can stick your noses in rotten fertilizer,” he told the guards.

The guard told Barry to “keep his nose clean”, but Barry was planning his next robbery and didn’t listen to him.

“I’ll rob a restaurant tonight, and I’ll rob a bank tomorrow morning when they open, “ he planned.

What restaurant do you think that he will rob? The one where Al and Cornelia are going, of course. ☺

Al picked Cornelia up at her home at the corner of Oil Street and Popper Lane. He was ten minutes early because he wanted to make a good impression.

Cornelia was ten minutes late because she wanted to let Al know that she was the best thing since flour tortillas. “They appreciate me more if I make them wait,” she thought.

Al opened the door of his bright yellow convertible to help Cornelia in.

“This streak of lightning has 8,000 horses,” bragged Al. “we’ll be there in a blue streak.”

“Go slow so the wind doesn’t mess up my silky hair,” said Cornelia.

They arrived at the restaurant, the Steam Room, just as Barry was making his getaway. Who do you think Barry will take for a hostage?

Barry pointed his .45 caliber Salad Shooter brand “Saturday Night Special” at Al.

He got the revolver at the Same as Cash pawn shop for only \$45.00.

“Git out of the car, and leave it running, I’m gonna use this car for my getaway,” yelled Barry. “Leave the girl in the car ‘cause she’s comin’ with me.”

Al didn’t want bullets to go through his big muscles, so he got out of the car.

“Make any funny moves and I’ll pop you one,”
Barry told Cornelia.

“I just earned \$500 plus a \$35 bottle of booze, for
five minute’s work,” bragged Barry. “That’s over
\$30,000 an hour. I bet your pretty boyfriend can’t do
that good [sic]. He’s a loser.”

“Ha,” said Cornelia, “you will get ten years when
you’re caught. That will be a half of a half of a half
of a half of a cent per hour for the jail time. You’re
the loser.”

Objective 1:

Context Clues.

In this selection, the words “Hot Stuff”
means --

- A. Overheated and sweaty
- B. Attractive and sexy
- C. Just out of the oven
- D. Not given

In this selection, the words “8,000 horses”
means --

- A. It takes a lot of horses to tow the car
- B. He parks the car in a stable
- C. The car is powerful and fast
- D. Not given

Prefixes/Suffixes.

In this passage, the word “poppin” means --

- A. Making popcorn
- B. Opening champagne
- C. Creating excitement
- D. Not given

Specialized/Technical Terms.

In this selection, “Saturday Night Special”
means --

- A. A cheap handgun
- B. A sale at the discount store
- C. A special date
- D. Not given

Objective 2:

Fact/Details.

How many rooms did Al’s apartment have?

- A. One
- B. Two
- C. Three
- D. Not given

Sequential Order.

What happened right after Al arrived at Oil
Street and Popper Lane?

- A. He was mad that he had to wait for ten
minutes
- B. Nothing, he had to wait for 20 minutes
- C. His date was right on time
- D. Not given

Follow Written Directions:

If you followed the directions of the passage,
you would --

- A. Always make your date wait
- B. Always rob restaurants at night
- C. Wait until morning to rob banks
- D. Not given

Describe the setting of the story.

The story takes place in --

- A. A cave
- B. A farm town
- C. A city
- D. Not given

Objective 3:

Main Idea.

What is the main idea of this selection?

- A. Unexpected things can happen on well-planned dates
- B. Getting ready for a date is more fun than having the date
- C. You can't trust jailbirds
- D. Not given

Stated Main Idea.

The selection clearly says that the main idea is

- A. Pawn shops are the best place to buy cheap guns
- B. Go slow in a convertible if you want to keep your hair nice
- C. Get all you can from your boyfriend before you dump him
- D. Not given

Paraphrased Main Idea.

Another way to describe the main idea is --

- A. Al's date became a hostage
- B. Al's date went wrong
- C. Al and Cornelia were made for each other
- D. Not given

Implied Main Idea.

- A. Muscle men like glamorous gals
- B. Crime pays, but not well
- C. Criminals are losers
- D. Not given

Best Summary.

Which of the following is the best summary of the passage?

- A. A first date turns into a crisis because of a robbery
- B. A stuck-up girl likes a muscle-bound guy
- C. A yellow convertible goes fast
- D. Not given

Objective 4:

Identify Causes of Event or Actions.

Going on a first date causes Cornelia to dress up because

- A. She is tired of looters
- B. She just dumped her last boyfriend
- C. She wants to look gorgeous
- D. Not given

Predict Future Outcomes.

Which of the following is likely to happen?

- A. Al will go home alone
- B. Cornelia will kiss Barry "good night"
- C. Al will call the police
- D. Not given

Objective 5:

Use Graphics Sources for Information.

This chart shows that --

Robbery	Site	Take
First	Flower Shop	\$125.00
Second	Gas Station	\$87.75
Third	Restaurant	\$535.00

- A. Practice pays off
- B. Restaurants are the best place to rob
- C. Robbers never know what they will be able to steal
- D. Not given

Math problems stated in this selection shows that --

- A. Crime pays
- B. Crime does not pay
- C. Dumping boyfriends is profitable
- D. Not given

How much did Cornelia's old boyfriend pay for her perfume?

- A. \$60
- B. \$120
- C. \$180
- D. Not given

Barry's total take for three robberies includes --

- A. \$747.75 in cash and merchandise
- B. \$712.75, not counting the booze and the car
- C. A Saturday Night Special and a bottle of booze
- D. Not given

What was the difference between the value of the *Saturday Night Special* and the bottle of booze?

- A. \$10.00
- B. \$35.00
- C. \$45.00
- D. Not given

Drawing Logical Conclusions.

If someone followed the ideas steps practices stated this passage they would --

Without cheap guns people would probably need--

- A. Tanks for fighting wars
- B. Knives for robbing restaurants
- C. Money for more expensive guns
- D. Not given

Understand the Feelings and Emotions of the Characters.

The main character, Al, probably felt --

- A. Happy, then scared
- B. Strong, then weak
- C. Lucky, then unlucky
- D. Not given

The main character, Cornelia, probably felt --

- A. Scared, then happy
- B. Hot, then Cool
- C. Silly, then smart
- D. Not given

