BLOGS

Passage-Based Questions on English for CLAT UG [Part 9]

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Passage 1 (P.1)

The station clock clicked past midnight with a sound that felt louder than it should have been, each second echoing across the near-empty platform like a quiet warning. The last train of the night idled at Platform Seven, its metal body humming softly, its doors open, its lights glowing like a line of watchful eyes in the dark. Most of the city had already gone to sleep behind closed windows and dimmed streetlamps, but here, in this narrow pocket of fluorescent light, time seemed to hesitate, as if unsure whether to move forward or hold its breath. Rhea stood near the far end of the platform, her phone pressed to her ear, listening to a silence that stretched on the other side of the call.

The message she had received an hour earlier was brief and unsettling: If you want answers, come alone. It hadn’t said answers to what, but she knew. The missing files. The anonymous threats that had started as vague warnings and slowly sharpened into something more personal. The name that kept appearing in places it shouldn’t — on emails she never sent, on documents she never opened, on screens that went dark the moment she tried to look closer. A man in a long coat paced near the vending machines, stopping every few steps to glance at the digital departures board, even though it showed only one line of information — the train she was about to board.

His reflection shimmered faintly in the glass, stretching and shrinking with every movement. Somewhere behind her, footsteps echoed, then stopped. Rhea didn’t turn around. She focused instead on the flicker of the train’s interior lights, counting each blink like a heartbeat, telling herself that if she could keep count, she could keep control. A cold breeze slid through the platform as a distant train roared past on another track, unseen but felt in the vibration under her feet.

When the announcement finally came, it was distorted, as if the station itself was reluctant to speak, the words breaking apart before they reached her ears. The doors began to close with a soft, mechanical sigh. Rhea stepped forward, unsure whether she was walking toward clarity or deeper into a trap she could no longer avoid. As the train pulled away, the platform blurred into a ribbon of light and shadow. She pressed her forehead lightly against the glass and looked back one last time. The man in the long coat was no longer on the platform — but she hadn't seen him board either.

1. What is the tone of the passage ?

a) Nostalgic and reflective
b) Tense and suspenseful
c) Light-hearted and humorous
d) Calm and ordinary

2. What can be inferred about the "missing files" mentioned in the passage?

a) They are connected to the anonymous threats she received
b) They are personal documents Rhea misplaced
c) They belong to the man in the long coat
d) They are part of a public investigation

3. The phrase "the station itself was reluctant to speak" suggests that?

a) The announcement system was broken
b) The station was empty
c) The moment felt heavy with uncertainty and tension
d) The train was delayed

4. Which detail most strongly hints that Rhea is being watched?

a) The glowing lights of the train
b) The station clock ticking
c) The distorted announcement
d) The pacing man in the long coat

5. The final line of the passage implies that?

a) The man in the long coat disappeared mysteriously

b) Rhea imagined seeing the man

c) The train malfunctioned

d) The platform lights went out

Passage 2 (P.2)

The house at the end of Willow Lane had been empty for as long as anyone could remember. Its paint had faded into a dull, uneven grey, and vines climbed up its walls as if trying to claim it for the earth itself. Its windows reflected the street like dark mirrors, returning every passerby's glance with a quiet, unblinking stare. Even in daylight, the place seemed to absorb light rather than reflect it. Neighbors spoke of it in lowered voices, as if the walls themselves might be listening, as if sound had a way of lingering inside those rooms long after it was made.

When Aarav received a letter addressed in handwriting he didn't recognize, he knew it could only have come from that house. There was no return address, no stamp, no sign of how it had arrived at his door. Inside was a single sentence, written with careful, deliberate strokes: You left something behind. He tried to laugh it off, folding the paper and slipping it into his pocket, but the words followed him through the day, echoing in the pauses between conversations and the gaps in his thoughts, resurfacing whenever he found himself alone.

That evening, the streetlights flickered on one by one as Aarav stood at the rusted gate, pushing it open with a sound that seemed to tear the silence in two. The yard was overgrown, the path barely visible beneath fallen leaves and cracked stone. Inside, the air was cold, carrying the faint smell of dust, old paper, and something else he couldn't quite place. A narrow hallway stretched ahead, lined with doors that looked identical, each one closed, each one waiting, as though they were holding their breath along with him.

His footsteps sounded too loud in the stillness, and he paused more than once, listening for something — anything — that would prove he wasn't alone. At the far end of the hall, a light flickered on, casting a long, thin shadow that crept slowly toward him. Aarav hadn't touched a switch.

6. The phrase "dark mirrors" in the first paragraph is used to show that the windows?

a) Are physically broken

b) Reflect people in a way that feels unsettling

c) Are covered in dirt

d) Show what is happening inside

7. What is the main purpose of the letter in the story?

a) To invite Aarav into the house

b) To warn Aarav about danger

c) To threaten the neighbors

d) To explain the house's history

8. Which detail most strongly contributes to the sense of unease inside the house?

a) The smell of dust and old paper

b) The rusted gate

c) The handwriting on the letter

d) The identical closed doors

9. The final statement as given in the passage suggests that?

a) Aarav turned on the light without realizing it

b) The house has automatic lighting

c) Someone or something else is inside the house

d) The electricity just returned

10. The author's tone throughout the passage can best be described as?

a) Curious

b) Descriptive

c) Mysterious

d) Joyful

Passage 3 (P.3)

The phone buzzed on Maya's bedside table at exactly 2:17 a.m. The sound cut through the silence like a thin blade, sharp and sudden. The screen lit up the room with a pale, cold glow, pulling her out of a restless half-sleep. The message was from an unknown number, and it contained only four words: I can see you. She sat up, her heart racing, the blanket slipping from her shoulders as she listened to the quiet hum of the ceiling fan and the distant sound of traffic drifting up from the street below. The curtains were drawn tight, the door locked, and the apartment floor above her

empty – or at least, that's what the building manager had told her.

She told herself it had to be a prank, the kind of thoughtless joke people played online, something meant to scare for a moment and then disappear. Still, she reached for her phone again, checking the time, the signal bars, the list of recent calls. Nothing looked out of place, and that somehow made it worse. Her reflection stared back at her from the dark screen, eyes wide, face pale in the dim light of the bedside lamp she had forgotten to turn off. Then her laptop, closed and untouched on her desk across the room, chimed softly. The sound was small, almost polite, but it echoed in the quiet like a door being opened somewhere it shouldn't be. A new notification blinked across its screen, illuminating the wall behind it with a faint, shifting glow.

11. The author uses the specific time "2:17 a.m." mainly to?

a) Show Maya's daily routine
b) Indicate a technical error
c) Highlight a time difference
d) Create a sense of precision and tension

12. What does Maya's reaction to the message reveal about her?

a) She is easily amused
b) She is cautious and alert
c) She is indifferent
d) She is overconfident

13. The phrase "the kind of thoughtless joke people played online" suggests that Maya is trying to?

a) Blame her friends
b) Prepare to report the message
c) Calm herself by offering a rational explanation
d) Delete the message

14. Which detail most strongly suggests that the situation is escalating?

a) The laptop ringing on its own
b) The ceiling fan humming
c) The traffic outside
d) The curtains being drawn

15. The passage ends by?

a) Increasing the sense of threat

b) Resolving the mystery

c) Reducing the tension

d) Explaining the message

Answers

1. B – The empty platform, mysterious message, and unknown man build a constant feeling of danger and uncertainty.
2. A – The files are mentioned alongside the anonymous warnings, showing they are part of the same situation.
3. C – The station “reluctant to speak” reflects the uneasy, fearful mood rather than a technical problem.
4. D – His pacing and constant glances make him feel like a silent observer, increasing Rhea’s sense of being watched.
5. A – He vanishes without Rhea seeing him leave or board, suggesting something strange.
6. B – Calling them “dark mirrors” makes the reflections feel eerie rather than normal or broken.
7. A – The message pulls him directly toward the house and tempts him to find out what he “left behind.”
8. D – The repeating doors suggest unknown choices and hidden threats, heightening the fear inside.
9. C – The light turning on without Aarav touching anything strongly hints at another presence.
10. C – The entire passage focuses on unknown sources, strange messages, and unexplained events.
11. D – The exact time makes the moment feel real and sharp, increasing the sense of threat.
12. B – She checks her surroundings and her phone instead of ignoring the message.
13. C – She tries to explain it away as a prank to reduce her fear.
14. A – A second device reacting without being touched makes the situation feel more dangerous.
15. A – The glowing laptop suggests the mystery is deepening rather than being resolved.