

# Predicting the likely development of the passage

Master the reading strategy!



## When do we need to predict the likely development of the passage?

- when the writer does not indicate directly in the passage what happens afterwards

## How do we predict the development?

- by paying attention to small details which give us hints about the most possible consequence

## Let's have a closer look!

(Joe and Mary are taking the MTR, on the way to Disneyland.)

Joe: Sigh... It's raining outside. What if it's not a passing shower?

Mary: Well, let's stay indoors if it's going to pass soon. But if it's likely to persist for a while, we might want to leave since there really isn't much to do indoors while the outdoor rides close temporarily.

(Joe and Mary get off the train, arriving at Disneyland Resort station.)

Joe: Oh no! Look at those dark clouds...and just now I heard people saying that the observatory is going to hoist the amber rainstorm signal. The downpour is likely to last a couple of hours. What should we do now?

What would Mary probably say to Joe next?

- A. 'Let's wait and see.' (She would not wait long for the rain to pass when the rain seems to persist.)
- B. 'Let's visit the museum then.' (She's not yet in the park and might go elsewhere indoors.)
- C. 'Let's visit the souvenir shop first.' (She's not yet in the park. Even if she is, she will not stay indoors to wait long for the rain to pass.)
- D. 'Let's go hiking instead.' (She stays indoors when there is rain.)

## Let's practise!

It was all my fault! Today, I wore my elder sister's ring for fun. After fooling around with it for a while, I failed to take it off. In the hope of removing the ring, I reached the kitchen table for a bottle of oil, yet accidentally slipped the bottle out of my hand and spilt the oil all over the floor. The loud noise drew my sister's attention.

'What's wrong?' my sister yelled as she walked into the kitchen, 'Are you all right?'

By the time I screamed 'Watch out!', she was only half an inch away from the spill...

What might have happened at the end of the story?

- A. The writer's sister set the kitchen on fire.
- B. The writer slipped in the kitchen.
- C. The writer flung the ring off her finger before her sister saw it.
- D. The writer's sister slipped over in the kitchen.