

summertime. The sun felt particularly hot on my skin and the top of my head. The Monsoon rain was yet to come.

I was nine and I knew perfectly well that dead people cannot feel anything.

In my grandfather's study, I sat and watched his secretary of twenty 50 years trying to write a letter, on behalf of my grandfather, literally to ask the King to grant him permission to die. Incredible as it may sound, she explained to me, this was the custom for noblemen and high-ranking government officials. The one-page letter seemed to take her forever to do. My child's mind wondered: . . .if the King doesn't grant the permission, would Grandpa 55 then come alive again? But the letter was finally written and delivered.

The permission came in the form of a group of people from the Palace carrying, among other things, a Koj, a pagoda-shaped object about the height and size of an average Thai. I learned that the top can be opened and, through an awkward process of forcing, the deceased's body put in the Koj in 60 a sitting position, knees bent against arms, arms against ribs and two palms of hands against each other in a praying gesture. Use of the Koj is regarded as an honour, like the medals or titles people receive when they have done good deeds for their countries. The more important the deceased, the more decorative the Koj bestowed in their honour. 65

My good-humoured grandfather would have none of the unpleasantness of the Koj. He specially wrote, as part of his will and testament, that his body was not be put in one. He had told us that, "Living, I have served my Kings and country to my utmost ability standing up, sitting down and kneeling: when I die, I should like to be allowed to lie flat on my 70 back to my own utmost comfort." The Koj, in grandpa's opinion, though an honour, is nothing but 'a coffin in disguise-several sizes too small at that'. In

compliance with his wish, his body was put in a regular coffin, which was then placed behind the Koj at the temple while the religious rites were being conducted.

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There would be one hundred days of religious rites before the cremation. I watched the adults-relatives, friends and servants-scurrying about, arranging flowers, preparing food for the monks as well as the guests. There were books to be printed in honour of the deceased and perfumed handkerchiefs to be folded in flower-form and tied with black ribbons, both to be given as remembrances of the cremation.

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As I grew older I came to notice that my own people are very fastidious about two things: eating and dying. Those are undoubtedly characteristics a nation can only enjoy on a full stomach, the full stomach which derives from living on rich soil and from the blessing of favourable weather. The southwest Monsoon, which emerges from the womb of the Indian Ocean as a ferocious and angry child and then bullies its way across first landfall as a delinquent juvenile and young adult, finally arrives in Thailand more or less mellow and middle-aged, bringing just the right amount of rain for planting; even when floods result, the visit is short and the soil seems even more fertile.

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### 3

The hundred days passed and it was time for the cremation. The Monsoon was poised. Although there were few white clouds in the sky and the sun was shining innocently bright, you could hear the low rumbling sound unique to the onset of the Monsoon, like a fanfare reminding us of this majestic visitation. Though it starts gently, the rumble quickly becomes more intense and frequent, seeming to vibrate the very walls of your shelter, be it simple or grand. The Monsoon exercises no discrimination; it spares no one.

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Thais refer to major problems that arise in their lives as 'monsoons'-an intense version of 'rainy days' in English.

The rain was still gentle when the King's sister started the royal fire for 100 the cremation. A uniformed man carried an extremely large umbrella to shield the Princess from the rain, so large it reminded me of a Bo tree. Afterwards everyone else walked to the crematorium with a small bouquet of artificial flowers made of fragrant wood shavings in one hand, and their umbrella in the other, to place their bouquet in the fire as the last token of respect to the 105 deceased.

There seemed to be hundreds and hundreds of people who came. The large grounds of the royal temple seemed over-crowded, and I had never seen so many umbrellas in my nine years of life. Like the mushrooms that Popped up everywhere during the Monsoon in the grounds of our country 110 house, some umbrellas were large, some were small, some were shaped in ways that seemed to give better protection than others to their users. Some were elaborate silk umbrellas with bamboo handles. The long, uneven umbrella-line stretching towards the crematorium resembled the mushrooms that grew on a jack-fruit log at the back of my grandmother's garden. 115

It was time to walk to the crematorium and put my bouquet in the fire. I opened my grandfather's umbrella. It was the same one I used to shield him from the sun when they were wheeling him to the 'Heart-stopped Building'. The same old one that he had used over the years when he carried me with one hand and held it in the other, somehow successfully shielding us both 120 from the rain and the sun.

Today, I shall carry it myself, alone.

The Umbrella

เรื่องสั้นของ ศุภาศิริ สุพรรณภักช ได้รับรางวัลที่ 2 ในการเข้าประกวดเรื่องสั้น  
ภาษาอังกฤษนานาชาติของ UNESCO และ P.E.N. International ค.ศ. 1993

*Exercise 1 Decide if the following statements are TRUE or FALSE based on the  
sequence of ideas in the selection.*

- \_\_\_1. They removed the deceased from the “Heart-stopped Building” to a temple  
for religious rites.
- \_\_\_2. There would be one hundred days of religious rites after the cremation.
- \_\_\_3. The grandfather asked the King to grant him permission to die before he  
passed away.
- \_\_\_4. People attending the cremation were given books printed in honour of the  
deceased.
- \_\_\_ 5. After the King's sister started the royal fire for the cremation, everyone else  
walked to the crematorium and put their bouquet in the fire.

*Comprehension question*

*Exercise 2 Choose the best answer for the following question.*

1. The first impression the author had with the umbrella took place when he saw  
\_\_\_\_\_
1. his grandfather used one to shield him from the rain and the sun
  2. an extremely large umbrella that shield the Princess from the rain
  3. a woman held it over a patient who had died being wheeled into the ‘Heart-  
stopped Building’
  4. hundreds and hundreds of umbrellas held by people who walked to the  
crematorium
2. The author’s grandfather was compared to a ‘Bo Tree’ because \_\_\_\_\_
1. he was strong and healthy
  2. he had been a religious man

3. he took care of his people very well
  4. he had served his Kings and country
3. The author opened the umbrella to shield his grandfather from the sunlight on the way to the 'Heart-stopped Building' because \_\_\_\_\_
1. it was very sunny that day
  2. he knew perfectly well that dead people can feel nothing
  3. it was a tradition frequently practised nowadays
  4. he loved and cared for him
5. A Koj is \_\_\_\_\_
1. the King's permission to die
  2. the height and size of an average Thai
  3. A large amount of money
  4. A pagoda-shaped object for a deceased's body
5. People who receive the Koj are those \_\_\_\_\_
1. who have done good deeds for their country
  2. who have earned medals or titles
  3. high rank officials and officers
  5. None is correct
6. 'Fastidious' (line 82) means \_\_\_\_\_.
- |                |              |
|----------------|--------------|
| 1. quick       | 2. fussy     |
| 3. sympathetic | 4. luxurious |
7. The author's grandfather was a \_\_\_\_\_ man.
- |            |                    |
|------------|--------------------|
| 1. kind    | 2. good-humoured   |
| 3. dutiful | 4. All are correct |
8. In Thai 'monsoons' refer to \_\_\_\_\_.
- |               |                            |
|---------------|----------------------------|
| 1. sunny days | 2. the rumble of a fanfare |
| 3. hard times | 4. no discrimination       |

9. What was the weather like on the cremation day?

- 1. There were few clouds.
- 2. The sun was shining.
- 3. It rained.
- 4. All are correct.

10. According to the author, the umbrellas were like the mushrooms because of all the following reasons except \_\_\_\_\_

- 1. their unexpected appearance
- 2. their similar shapes
- 3. their various sizes
- 4. their growing on a jackfruit log

### Vocabulary

*Exercise 3 Match each term with its meaning at the right.*

- |                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| _____ 1. fanfare      | a. be similar  |
| _____ 2. resemble     | b. . run quickly and hurriedly   |
| _____ 3. ferocious    | c. ready to move at any moment   |
| 4. bestowed           | d. a short, loud tune played on<br>trumpets to announce a special<br>event |
| _____ 5. will         | e. extremely unusual   |
| _____ 6. gesture      | f. sign  |
| _____ 7. taken        | g. fierce and violent  |
| _____ 8. incredible   | h. movement of a hand or head to give<br>information                       |
| _____ 9. poised       | i. given   |
| _____ 10. s c u r r y | j. a legal document  |

## Passage 10

### Lives down the tube?

*The Advent of television  
has brought along numerous  
benefits and also drawbacks.  
Atiya Achakulwisut delves into  
the impact of television  
upon the young mind.*

It has been said that for young children, television is an early window onto the world through which they will learn and understand more about life. That is an optimistic supposition. Looking through the other end of the picture tube, a number of repercussions are to be found.

As modern day parents find themselves more and more caught up in a hectic schedule of work and outside activities, children tend to seek comfort in watching television to the extent that it becomes a routine.

Up to the age of 18, children spend more hours in front of a TV set than engaged in any other single activity except sleeping.

One question frequently asked is whether television is detrimental to children's eyesight. Professor Payom Ingkatanuwat, a former head of the Child Psychiatry section at Chulalongkorn Hospital, is of the view that it has the potential to be so, saying: children's eyesight. Professor Payom Ingkatanuwat, a former head of the Child Psychiatry section at Chulalongkorn Hospital, is of the view that it has the potential to be so, saying:

'Companies that produce TV sets confirm that radioactivity released from a TV is not up to a level that would harm viewers including children. But

I fear for the accumulating effects. I think the common problem of nearsightedness among children has something to do with television.”

An optician, however, said that any sustained and concentrated use of the eyes on small figures or small movements could cause eyestrain.

“Television may impair children’s eyesight where conditions for viewing are not good. Too much or too little light, too much or too little distance are factors involved.” 20

Eye specialists say that children who look up at the tube and view it in a dark room, maximises the glare and therefore risk eyestrain.

The physical effects are easily defined and prevented. Harder are the emotional ones. We have to accept that childhood is a period of learning, absorbing and changing. At this stage a child learns and changes more than he will do in other phases of life. What children see from TV will be recorded in their memory and will contribute in the formation of habits, values and attitudes which will stay with them for the rest of their life. Research conducted by Dr. Seri Wongmontha pointed out that the favourite children’s programmed is the soap opera, after new time. 25 30

“I can say that no series on the air now is suitable for children.” Prasai Ruchaiboon, a famous book translator whose pseudonym is ‘Nida’ said: “They are all escapist melodramas, loose plots and faulty casting.” 35

Despite their second-rate quality, series have strong influence on youngsters, especially teenagers. An actors’ hair-style or clothes always becomes a new trend for youngsters.

Prasai also said that children may regard errors in their preferred series, such as the actors or actresses’ wrong pronunciation of the ‘r’ and ‘l’ sounds and crude manners, as acceptable. 40

Cartoon can't be ignored either. Most programmes that are considered for children comprise of Japanese cartoons on Saturday and Sunday morning.

"My brother is a cartoon addict. He won't go anywhere in this world when it is time for cartoons. I think the programmes make him more aggressive, verbally and in actions," a university student complained. The violence shown, though not blatantly in cartoons is dangerous for the development of a child's attitudes. 45

'At least they are familiarised with aggression. At worse, they follow it,' says Prof Payom. The cartoons entail a number of problems. Fascinated by heroes, children fall victim to companies who wreak havoc by initiating a scheme inviting children to collect cartoon stickers enclosed with sweets. An album is sold, separately. When all stickers are collected the filled-in album can be exchanged for toys. 50 55

It is not only the loss of money but the children's health that is also destroyed by the amount of sweets, mainly consisting of sugar.

"I notice that reading habits among children has shockingly dwindle because they are spoiled by the routine watching," said Assoc Prof Sunee Sinthudeja of Faculty of Education, Chulalongkorn University. 60

She explained that the watching process is far simpler than that of reading. When children are accustomed to watching, the result is boredom with the textbook..

The decline in reading is a startling fact because it means that children are deprived of a source of knowledge, aesthetics, and imagination that a book provides. The instant pleasure of TV watching will render in the shallowness of future society. 65

"We have a myriad of superficial programmes because it is easy both for producers and viewers," said Kannikar Thammakesorn, Managing Director of Phasorn.Production Co.,Ltd.

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"Children will lack the ability to take in anything in-depth. They will take into account the appearance, not the core, and find it very hard to analyse or break a problem," said Kannikar.

Now comes the most terrific harm a television can do to children. The arrival of TV in a house marks the decline of family life. 'Vanishing is the feeling of wholeness among members of a family. The more time they spend watching television means less time they spend in talking with each other. They do not have a chance to tell what they have done during the day,' said Professor Payom.

If the human relationship of family life which is the fundamental institution of society is destroyed, it is hard therefore to expect warm relationships or co-operation in higher and more complicated stratum of society.

For the time being, programmes intended for young viewers are normally shown between 5-6.30 p.m. on weekdays. It is true that some are really good. However "The timing is a hindrance itself." Said Prasai. "At that time, most or all children are still stuck in traffic jams or are too tired from their day at school."

Another programme seemingly intended for children is the traditional drama series aired in the evening.

"I agree with the attempt to introduce such folk lores or legends to audiences but what about choosing more appropriate stories and refining them. Existing ones are so tawdry and valueless in every aspect," complained

Prasai, who also suggested that literature and classical dance are long absent from the screen.

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“Children’s programs should be treated as a special programs for special viewers. Producers are willing to make whatever programs that are profitable. It is up to the policy makers if they see the importance of such programs and strive for their existence,” said Kannikar.

24 hours television is the subject of current debate. If the project is realised, competition will certainly be intensified. Each channel will have to air programs that attract the largest audiences so that they can sell time to advertisers and thus cover their costs. The prospect of a good children’s program seems more and more hopeless.

Is television an early window onto the world? With its potential for forming a new generation’s habits, attitudes and values which will stay with them for the rest of their life, perhaps greater consideration should be given to this life-forming habit.

Television and children, as the writing on the side of a TV set package always warns, is something we have to ‘handle with care.’

110

Bangkok Post August 30, 1991 sec. 3 p.25

*Exercise 1 Select the word or expression that most satisfactorily completes each statement.*

1. \_\_\_\_\_A is an unpleasant aspect of something that makes it less acceptable or less desirable.

1. backfire

2. withdrawal

3. feedback

4. drawback

2. Because of the lowering of water level, some dominant species in the bog country must \_\_\_\_\_ for their existence..
1. strike
  2. strive
  3. stand
  4. stoop
3. Parents complained that some video games were violent and harmful.
1. satisfactory
  2. faithfully
  3. blatantly
  4. successfully
4. Malee's advisor suggested that she take some reading courses such as EN 201 and EN 202.
1. fundamental
  2. final
  3. flexible
  4. faulty
5. 'How to save water' is a (n) topic in Bangkok.
1. incredible
  2. rare
  3. creative
  4. current
6. Somchai resigned from his post because his actions had been-to the company.
1. helpful
  2. detrimental
  3. dreadful
  4. impeccable
7. The principal did not realize how awfully \_\_\_\_\_ his students were until the final exam drew near.
1. potential
  2. involved
  3. competitive
  4. decisive
8. His father's bankruptcy in 1980 had enormous \_\_\_\_\_ on his business and his family.
1. demonstration
  2. repercussions
  3. transition
  4. commitment

9. The \_\_\_\_\_ of her interest in her job prevented her from being promoted to a higher position

- |                |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. aspect      | 2. circumstance |
| 3. shallowness | 4. trend        |

10. A younger generation of Irish people is looking forward to the \_\_\_\_\_ of peace.

- |              |                |
|--------------|----------------|
| 1. prospect  | 2. perspective |
| 3. principle | 4. pace        |

*Exercise 2 Write (T) for the statements the TV reviewers probably agree with.*

*Write (F) for the ones they probably do not agree with.*

- \_\_\_1. Television can be a double-edged sword for children.
- \_\_\_2. In general, producers are willing to make whatever programs that are profitable.
- \_\_\_3. Research pointed out that the favorite adults' program is the soap opera, after news time.
- \_\_\_4. Proper light and distance are important conditions for viewing television.
- \_\_\_5. The actors or actresses' wrong pronunciation of the 'r' and 'l' sounds are acceptable for most viewers.
- \_\_\_6. Children may follow the aggressive model shown in cartoons.
- \_\_\_7. The more time children spend watching television means less time they spend in sleeping.
- \_\_\_8. School is the fundamental institution of society.
- \_\_\_9. The prospect for a good children's program seems doubtful.
- \_\_\_10. We should give more consideration to television programs and their impact on children.

*Exercise 3 Choose the best answer for the following questions.*

1. What is the article about?
  1. How to live with your children.
  2. How television affects young children.
  3. The disadvantages of television.
  4. The prospects of a good children's program.
2. For young children, television is like \_\_\_\_\_.
  1. a big box filled with light and sound
  2. an early window onto the world
  3. the world full of optimistic supposition
  4. the fun world on earth
3. Parents nowadays count on television as \_\_\_\_\_
  1. a baby sister
  2. something to occupy their children's time
  3. an entertaining accessory at home
  4. All are correct
4. 'The picture tube' (lines 3-4) refers to \_\_\_\_\_
  1. the world
  2. the broadcast
  3. television
  4. work
5. Television effects children \_\_\_\_\_
  1. days and nights
  2. slightly on weekends
  3. especially
  4. physically and emotionally
6. Which of the following is a physical effect from television?
  1. Children identify themselves with the televised characteristics.
  2. Television may impair children's eyesight.
  3. Children form habits and values from what they see from TV.

4. The violence shown in cartoons is dangerous for the development of a child's attitude.
7. Which statement represents the emotional impact of the television on the young mind?
1. Children are-familiarized with aggression.
  2. Children spent their saved money buying cartoon stickers.
  3. Cartoon stickers enclosed with sweets destroy children's health.
  4. None is correct.
8. The teacher notices that \_\_\_\_\_
1. children are bored with the text book
  2. reading habits among children have declined
  3. children prefer the instant pleasure of TV watching to reading books
  4. All are correct
9. The most terrific harm a television can do to children is to \_\_\_\_\_
1. weaken their ability to analyze a problem
  2. destroy the ability to take in anything in-depth
  3. produce a decline of family life
  4. cause the misinterpretation of symbol in the soap opera
10. The author concludes that \_\_\_\_\_.
1. children's programs should be treated as a special program for special viewers
  2. television as well as children should be handled with care
  3. the arrival of TV in a house destroys the human relationship of family life
  4. the instant pleasure of TV watching will render the future society shallow

## Passage 11

### THE BISHOP OF ROME

*from The Shoes of the Fisherman*

*by Morris L. West*

**ON THE NIGHT** of his coronation Kiril Lakota dressed himself in the black cassock and the platter hat of a Roman priest and walked alone out of the Angelic Gate to survey his new bishopric. The guards at the gate hardly glanced at him, being accustomed to the daily procession of Monsignori<sup>1</sup> in And out of the Vatican\*. He smiled to himself and hid his scarred face behind a handkerchief as he hurried down the Borgo Angelico<sup>3</sup> toward the Castle of Sant' Angelo. 5

It was a few minutes after ten. The air was still warm and dusty, and streets were alive with traffic and the passage of pedestrians. He strode out freely, filling his lungs with the new air of freedom, excited as a schoolboy who had just broken bounds.. . . 10

[He walked for a time in the narrow lanes and alleys of the city]

A moment later he broke out into a narrow square at whose angle there was a bar with tables set on the sidewalk. One of the tables was occupied by a family group munching sweet pastries and chattering in harsh Roman dialect; the other was free, so he sat down and ordered an espresso. The service was perfunctory, and the other guests ignored him. Rome was full of clerics, and one more or less made no matter. 15

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<sup>1</sup> priests

<sup>2</sup> the place of the Pope

<sup>3</sup> a street

As he sipped the bitter coffee, a wizened fellow with broken shoes sidled up to sell him a newspaper. He fumbled in his cassock for change, then remembered with a start that he had forgotten to bring any money. He could not even pay for his drink, for a moment he felt humiliated and embarrassed, then he saw the humor of the situation and decided to make the best of it. He signaled the bartender and explained his situation, turning out his pockets as evidence of good faith. The fellow made a surly mouth and turned away, muttering an imprecation on priests who sucked the blood of the poor.

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Kiril caught at his sleeve and drew him back. “No, no! You misunderstand me. I want to pay and I shall pay.”

The news vendor and the family waited silently for the beginning of a Roman comedy.

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“Beh!”<sup>4</sup> The barman made a sweeping gesture of contempt. “So you want to pay! But when and with what? How do I know who you are or where you are from?”

“If you like,” said Kiril with a smile, “I’ll leave you my name and address.”

35

“So, I’m to go trotting all over Rome to pick up fifty lire?”<sup>5</sup>

“I’ll send it to you or bring it myself.”

“Meantime, who’s out of pocket? Me! You think I have so much that I can buy coffee for every priest in Rome?”

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<sup>4</sup>sound of disgust

<sup>5</sup> Italian money

They had their laugh then, and they were satisfied. The father of the family fished in his pocket and tossed a few coins expansively on the table. "Here! Let me pay for it, Padre.<sup>6</sup> And for the paper, too."

"Thank you....I'm grateful. But I would like to repay you."

"Nothing; Padre, nothing!" Pater familias<sup>7</sup> waved a tolerant hand. "And 45 you must forgive Giorgio, here, He's having a bad time with his wife."

Giorgio grunted unhappily and shoved the coins into his pocket. "My mother wanted me to be a priest. Maybe she was right at that."

"Priests have their problems, too," said Kiril mildly. "Even the Pope has a few, I'm told." 50

"The Pope! Now there's a funny one." This from the paper vendor, who being a seller of news, claimed the right to comment upon it as well. "They've really cooked us beautifully this time. A Russian in the Vatican! Now there's a story for you!" He spread the paper on the table and pointed dramatically to the portrait of the Pontiff,<sup>8</sup> which covered nearly half the front page. "Now tell 55 me if he isn't an odd one to foist on us Romans. Look at that face and the....". He broke off and stared at the bearded visage of the newcomer. His voice dropped to a whisper. "Dio!<sup>9</sup> You look just like him."

The others craned over his shoulder, staring at the portrait.

"It's queer," said Giorgio, "Very queer. You're almost his double." 60

"I am the Pope," he told them, and they gaped at him as if he were a ghost.

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<sup>6</sup> title of a priest, "father"

<sup>7</sup> Latin: the father of the family

<sup>8</sup> the Pope

<sup>9</sup> My God.

"I don't believe it," said Giorgio. "You look like him. Sure! But you're sitting here, without a lire in your pocket, drinking coffee, and it's not very good coffee at that."

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"It's better than I get in the Vatican."

Then seeing their confusion and their trouble, he asked for a pencil and wrote their names and their addresses on the back of a bare check. "I'll tell what I'll do. I'll send each of you a letter and ask you to come to lunch with me in the Vatican. I'll pay you back the money then, too."

70

"You wouldn't joke with us, Padre." Asked the news vendor anxiously.

"No. I wouldn't joke with you. You'll hear from me."

He stood up, folded the newspaper, and shoved it into the pocket of his cassock. Then he laid his hands on the old man's head and murmured a benediction. "There now. Tell the world you've had a blessing from the Pope." He made the Sign of the Cross over the little group. "And all of you, tell your friends that you have seen me and that I didn't have enough money for coffee."

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They watched him, stupefied, and he strode away, a dark, gaunt figure, but oddly triumphant from his first encounter with his people.

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### *Exercise 1*

#### **Vocabulary Exercises**

A. *Select the word or expression **that** most satisfactorily completes each statement.*

1. The new generation did not have a chance to see King Phumiphol's \_\_\_\_\_

- |             |               |
|-------------|---------------|
| 1. birthday | 2. coronation |
| 3. palace   | 4. colony     |

2. The Government intends to make a of labor conditions.

- |         |           |
|---------|-----------|
| 1. move | 2. strike |
|---------|-----------|

3. survey  
4. punishment
3. I am to this place and don't want to go any where else.  
1. confused  
2. confronted  
3. attended  
4. accustomed
4. Drivers must stop their cars at the crosswalk for the c\_r\_o\_t\_s .  
1. compliment  
2. engine  
3. pedestrians  
4. rules
5. From her angry he knew that something was strong.  
1. nail  
2. visage  
3. f a c e t  
4. image
6. The \_\_\_ dog trotted around the field, looking everywhere for something to eat.  
1. fat  
2. happy  
3. gaunt  
4. lazy
7. Don't try to carry many things at the same time, or you will them all.  
1. fumble  
2. fold  
3. drink  
4. clean
8. Please don't so loud because I can not concentrate on my work.  
1. move  
2. sleep  
3. agree  
4. chatter
9. The bad manner of the waiter our host, and he apologized for the bad service.  
1. pleased  
2. humiliated  
3. encouraged  
4. stimulated
10. He along without looking behind.  
1. acted  
2. smiled  
3. strode  
4. talked

B. In each of the following questions there are two sentences. Place a word in the blank which is formed from the same root as the italicized word (s).

1. This table is full of dust. It is \_\_\_\_\_.
2. There is no *sign* that we can enter the room. S \_\_\_\_\_ us to walk in.
3. She *vends* fruit in the street. She is a fruit \_\_\_\_\_.
4. I was very confused by those signs. In m \_\_\_\_\_ I took the wrong road.
5. The parade *proceeded* from the Royal Palace. The \_\_\_\_\_ moved toward the Royal Garden.
6. Aphai *tends* a bar. He is a bar \_\_\_\_\_.
7. The *drama* of her life unfolded in court \_\_\_\_\_.

## Exercise 2

### Comprehension Questions

Select the word or expression that most satisfactory completes each statement, or answer each question, according to the passage.

1. Kiril Lakota walked out of the Angelic Gate on the night of his coronation because he wanted to \_\_\_\_\_.
  1. meet his friends
  2. return to his house
  3. see his family
  4. see his bishopric
2. When the Pope walked out of the Angelic Gate, the guards hardly glanced at him because \_\_\_\_\_.
  1. he was not an important man
  2. they did not think that he might do so
  3. it was too dark to see him clearly
  4. it is an ordinary thing for priests to pass through
3. "priests vwho sucked the blood of the poor." (lines 26-27) means \_\_\_\_\_.
  1. priests who persuaded the poor to donate their blood

2. priests who sucked the blood liked vampires
  3. priests who lived on the donations from poor people
  4. priests who were very poor and sold their blood for a living
4. When Kiril Lakota wanted to buy a newspaper he discovered that he\_\_\_\_\_.
1. had no money
  2. had already left the Vatican
  3. wanted to pay for his coffee
  4. wanted to buy lunch for his guests
5. Giorgio didn't believe that Kiril was the Pope because \_\_\_\_\_
1. he was drinking bad coffee
  2. he hadn't any money
  3. he was sitting in a small, dirty bar
  4. All are correct.
6. The Pope was treated rudely by \_\_\_\_\_
1. the father of the family
  2. the guards
  3. Giorgio
  4. Giorgio's wife
7. The Pope's coffee was paid for by \_\_\_\_\_
1. the father of the family
  2. Giorgio's mother
  3. the news seller
  4. the bartender
8. Where did Kiril put his newspaper?
1. on the table
  2. under his arm
  3. on the chair
  4. in his pocket
9. "Murmured a benediction" means \_\_\_\_\_.
1. sang a song
  2. expressed an idea
  3. chanted some nonsense
  4. whispered a prayer
10. The "old man" whom Kiril blessed was the\_\_\_\_\_.
1. news vendor
  2. bartender
  3. officer
  4. father of the family

11. Who discovered that Kiril was a Pope?
1. the bartender
  2. the news vendor
  3. the father of the family
  4. the guards at the gate
12. We learn from the passage that the present bishop of Rome was a/an-
1. Russian
  2. Roman
  3. English
  4. Italian
13. Kiril explained his situation to the bartender but he didn't believe him and thought that Kiril\_\_\_\_\_
1. was a Pope
  - \* 2. wanted the espresso free
  3. was trying to trick him
  4. would pay him later
14. When the Pope walked back to the Vatican, the people in the story were filled with \_\_\_\_\_.
1. fear
  2. contempt
  3. envy
  4. surprise
15. The Pope returned to the Vatican\_\_\_\_\_
1. sadly
  2. angrily
  3. pensively
  4. triumphantly
16. The Pope met with the people for the first time and it was a-
1. failure
  2. success
  3. tragedy
  4. history