

UNIT 23

I. VOCABULARY

1. Fill the gaps in the text below with the suitable adjectives from the box.

approachable	grey	mid-fifties	charismatic	captivating	
round		favourite	slim	good	caring



Professor Knight

Not long ago, in preparation for our college reunion, we were asked to supply some information on our ... (a) professor. Honestly speaking, it was quite difficult, as we admired most of them for being knowledgeable and very ... (b) lecturers. One professor I will always remember is Professor Knight. He was tall and ... (c), in his ... (d) at the time and, although his hair was ... (e), his face looked young. Maybe those funny, ... (f) glasses he used to wear made him look younger... Anyway, he is what I would call a ... (g) professor, a person for whom teaching is his true vocation. He was able to relate to us, he was ... (h) and, due to his kind nature, very ... (i). He knew how to bring himself to our level and we all loved his ... (j.) and motivating lecture style.

2. Use an English – English dictionary to provide an appropriate definition for the following adjectives:

determined	= ...
mischievous	= ...
quick – tempered	= ...
reasonable	= ...
sensitive	= ...
talkative	= ...
wise	= ...



II. READING: Gapped text

3. You are going to read a fragment about the history of British letter boxes. Five sentences have been removed from the text. Match each of the A-F sentences with the gap (1-5) it fits. There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use.



Victorian Letter Boxes

Most houses in Britain have a letter box in the front door, usually a simple slot with a flap over it, through which the post is delivered each morning. (1 _____). Similar letter boxes were provided at post offices for people sending letters. (2 _____). It is probably the oldest British letter box still in existence. In 1840 Rowland Hill suggested the idea of roadside letter boxes for Britain. (3 _____). However there were no roadside letter boxes in the British Isles until 1852, when the first pillar boxes were erected at St Helier in Jersey at the recommendation of Anthony Trollope, who was working as a Surveyor's Clerk for the Post Office.

In 1856 Richard Redgrave of the Department of Science and Art designed an ornate pillar box for use in London and other large cities. An example of one of these boxes, which would have been painted bronze, is now at the Victoria and Albert Museum. (4 _____).

Green was adopted as the standard colour for the early Victorian boxes. The first boxes to be painted red were in London in July 1874, although it took 10 years before nearly all the boxes had been repainted.

In 1879 came the cylindrical design of pillar box, which apart from a few recent experiments has changed very little since. (5 _____). This oversight was corrected from 1887 when the words POST OFFICE were also placed either side of the aperture.

(Source: <http://www.wicks.org>)

A. The early boxes had no royal cipher and are known as 'anonymous' boxes.

B. A less ornate version was used in other towns and cities.

C. He recommended that the letter boxes be painted green.

D. The Post Office first encouraged people to provide these in 1849.

E. Letter boxes of this kind were already being used in countries such as France, Belgium and Germany.

F. One such letter box which was originally in the wall of the Wakefield Post Office has the date 1809 on it.

III. USE OF ENGLISH

4. Rephrase the following sentences using the Passive Voice, according to the model:

e.g. The researchers have used a structured questionnaire for their survey.
A structured questionnaire has been used for their survey.

a. Students loved Professor Davis for his character.
Professor Davis

b. The nuns collect money for charities twice a year.
Money

c. They will establish a new Internet connection when the storm is over.
A new Internet connection

d. A young Romanian researcher is conducting an important study on sleep.
An important study on sleep

e. The fire brigade had accomplished their mission before the police arrived.
The mission

5. Rewrite the following active sentences using two passive forms, according to the model:

e.g. *Jane has recently sent a letter to Carol.*
Carol has been recently sent a letter by Jane.
A letter has been recently sent to Carol by Jane.

a. Tom gave Alice some beautiful roses.
Alice

Some beautiful roses

b. A mysterious old man sent the animal charity a large amount of money.
The animal charity

A large amount of money

c. The guide showed us the sights of Cambridge.
We

The sights of Cambridge

d. They will pay the waiters \$ 80 every week.
The waiters.....

\$ 80

e. Professor Davis had taught the students Quantum Physics.
The students

Quantum Physics

