

8 The Best and the Worst

Joe Sanders has the most beautiful garden in our town. Nearly everybody enters for 'The Nicest Garden Competition' each year, but Joe wins every time. Bill Frith's garden is larger than Joe's. Bill works harder than Joe and grows more flowers and vegetables, but Joe's garden is more interesting. He has made neat paths and has built a wooden bridge over a pool. I like gardens too, but I do not like hard work. Every year I enter for the garden competition too, and I always win a little prize for the worst garden in the town!



Comprehension Précis and Composition

Answer these questions *in not more than 45 words*.

1. Who has the best garden in town?
2. What does he win each year?
3. Who else has a fine garden?
4. Is Joe's better or not?
5. Is the writer's garden beautiful, or is it terrible?
6. What does he always win a prize for?

Key Structures

The best and the worst

I want to tell you something about three girls in our class. The girls' names are Mary, Jane and Betty. Read these sentences carefully:

Mary is tall, but Jane is taller. Jane is taller than Mary. Betty is very tall. She is the tallest girl in the class.

Jane's handwriting is bad, but Mary's is worse. Betty's handwriting is very bad. It is the worst handwriting I have ever seen.

The three girls collect photos of film stars. Mary hasn't many photos, but Jane has more. Jane has more photos than Mary. Betty has very many. She has the most.

Mary's collection of photos is not very good. Jane's is better. Betty's collection is the best.

Last week the three girls bought expensive dresses. Betty's dress was more expensive than Jane's. Mary's was more expensive than Betty's. Mary's dress was the most expensive.

Exercises

A. How do they compare?

These questions are about Mary, Jane and Betty. Answer each question with a complete sentence:

1. How does Mary's handwriting compare with Jane's?
2. How does Betty's handwriting compare with Mary's and Jane's?
3. How does Betty's dress compare with Jane's?
4. How does Mary's dress compare with Jane's and Betty's?

B. In the passage 'The Best and the Worst' there are seven comparisons. Can you find them?

C. Give the correct form of the words in brackets and make other necessary changes. Do not refer to the passage until you finish the exercise:

Joe Sanders has the (beautiful) garden in our town. Nearly everybody enters for 'The (Nice) Garden Competition' each year, but Joe wins every time. Bill Frith's garden is (large) Joe's. Bill works (hard) Joe and grows (many) flowers and vegetables, but Joe's garden is (interesting). He has made neat paths and has built a wooden bridge over a pool. I like gardens too, but I do not like hard work. Every year I enter for the garden competition too, and I always win a little prize for the (bad) garden in the town!

D. Put in *of* or *in*:

1. Which is the longest river . . . the world?
2. This is the finest picture . . . them all.
3. This radio is the most expensive . . . all the ones in the shop.
4. He is the best boxer . . . our town.

Special Difficulties

a Everyone, everybody, everything. Everybody enters for 'The Nicest Garden Competition'. (ll. 2-3)

Read these sentences:

Everything is ready.

Everybody has come.

Everyone likes ice-cream.

Exercise

Choose the correct verbs in the following sentences:

1. Everybody (believe) (believes) he will win.
2. I heard a noise and went downstairs. I found that everything (were) (was) in order.
3. Everyone (try) (tries) to earn more and work less.

b Enter. Everybody enters for the competition. (ll. 2-3)

Read these sentences:

Everyone stood up when he entered the room.

Did you enter for this examination?

The lights went out just as we entered the cinema.

How many people have entered for the race?

Exercise

Put in the word *for* where necessary:

1. He is very ill. No one is allowed to enter . . . his room.
2. Will you enter . . . this week's crossword competition?
3. Many athletes have entered . . . the Olympic Games this year.
4. No one saw the thief when he entered . . . the building.
5. I have entered . . . the examination but I don't want to take it.



8 The Best and the Worst

Comprehension Precis and Composition

- 1 Joe Sanders has the best garden in the town.
- 2 He wins "The Nicest Garden Competition" every year.
- 3 Bill Frith also has a fine garden.
- 4 Joe's garden is better than that of Bill. Unlike Bill, he made his garden interesting through the construction of a bridge and many paths.
- 5 The writer's garden is terrible. As he does not like to make an effort.
- 6 He always wins a prize for the worst garden in the town.

Key Structures

- 1 Mary's handwriting is worse than that of Jane's.
- 2 Betty's handwriting is the worst of the three girls.
- 3 Betty's dress is more costly than Jane's.
- 4 Jane Mary's dress is the most expensive one in comparison to both Jane's and Betty's.

B There are comparisons about girls' height, collection of photos, handwriting of the girls and cost of the dresses bought by them.

C. the most beautiful

The Nicest

larger than

harder than

grows many

more interesting'

worst

1. in ✓

2. of ✓

3. of ✓

4. ~~of~~ in ✓

Put in of or in:

Special Difficulties

Exercise

a. Every

1. believes ✓

2. was ✓

3. tries ✓

6 Enter. ✓

1. enter his room ✓

2. enter ~~for~~

3. entered for ✓

4. entered the building ✓

5. entered for ✓