



ATTINGAL EDUCATIONAL DISTRICT
STANDARD X
ENGLISH - WS-11
THE BEST INVESTMENT I EVER MADE

Read the following passage from the story 'The Best Investment I Ever Made' and answer the questions that follow.

'Excuse me, Doctor, I wonder if I might introduce myself. 'He spoke almost breathlessly, offering me the visiting card he held in his hand and studying my face to see if the name meant anything to me. Then, as it plainly did not, he went on with the same awkwardness. 'If you could spare a few minutes.. my wife and I would like to have a word with you.' A moment later I was occupying the vacant chair beside them. Haltingly he told me that this had been their first visit to America. It was not entirely a holiday trip. They had been making a tour of the New England states, inspecting many of the summer recreational camps for young people there. Afterwards, they had visited settlement houses in New York and other cities to study the methods employed in dealing with cases of backward, maladjusted and delinquent youth. There was in his voice and manner, indeed in his whole personality, a genuine enthusiasm that was disarming. I found myself liking him instinctively. Questioning him further, I learnt that he and his wife had been active for the past 15 years in the field of youth welfare. He was by profession, a solicitor, but in addition to his practice at the courts found time to act as director of a charitable organization devoted to the care of boys and girls, mostly from city slums, who had fallen under the ban of law.

1. 'He spoke almost breathlessly'. Who spoke breathlessly and why?
2. He **went on** with the same awkwardness. Identify the meaning of the word given in bold from the options given below.
 - o Started the journey
 - o Continued
 - o Talked
 - o None of the above
3. 'Excuse me, Doctor, I wonder if I might introduce myself. Whose words are these?
4. State whether the statement is true or false.

Mr. John and his wife were making a tour of the New England states as part of a holiday trip.

5. Why did the couple visit the settlement houses in New York?
6. How long had Mr. John and his wife been working in the field of youth welfare?
7. Identify the word from the passage which means 'making someone begin to like you.'
8. Narrator started liking Mr. John all of a sudden. Why?
9. Identify the **adverbial phrase** in the following sentence.
He spoke almost breathlessly.
10. Identify the **prepositional phrase** in the following sentence.
She wanted to go to the movies.
11. The English Club of your school organized a seminar on the topic 'Drug abuse a major menace to the society'. Prepare a **report** of the seminar. (You may make use of the following hints.)

- A title
- Describe the details of the seminar. (inauguration, felicitation, role of the moderator, key points in the presentation, vote of thanks)
- Questions and responses of the participants
- Overall opinion of the seminar

Report the following conversation.

12. Mr. John : Can I have a word with you?
A.J. Cronin : Yes. Please take your seat.