



# **Grade 7**

## **Self-study pack**

**4<sup>th</sup> March 2020**

**Please use this workbook to study at home during the school cancellations. You can print it and write the answers on the paper, or complete the work in your notebook.**

## On the Road - Reading

*Read the following text about Sharon Brown, a lorry driver. Then answer the questions.*

### Introducing Sharon Brown

Sharon Brown always had an unusual ambition – she wanted to be a lorry driver.

Now, Sharon leads the life of which she has always dreamed. Once or twice a week she drives an LGV (Large Goods Vehicle) across long distances, delivering large loads to distant places.



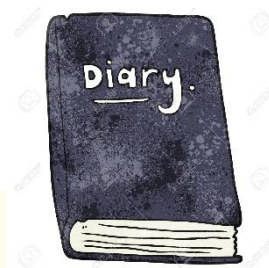
After years of trying to discourage her, Sharon's friends and family finally gave in, realising how determined she was.

Training for lorry drivers can start only at the age of 21, so Sharon took a course in electrical engineering first and then worked for a haulage company until she was able to start the LGV training. Later on, she took a test that allowed her to drive articulated lorries. She passed all her tests first time.

Nowadays, she's away from home for three to five days at a time, travelling all over Europe.

**On the next two pages are extracts from a diary Sharon kept on a journey to Spain, transporting a load of tennis balls for the Spanish Open tennis championship. She wrote a few lines at most of her stopping points.**

## Sharon's Diary



### Monday

#### 05.00 Nottingham Lorry Depot, England

Just picked up lorry. Glad to see that I'll be driving the new Charger, with all the latest equipment. Checked load. 20 crates of tennis balls bound for Barcelona, Spain.

#### 09.15 Dover Ferry Port, England

A really bad start – motorway was painfully slow, but got here in the end. Then STUPID ME – got stuck behind lorry with orange warning plates carrying a full load of a highly dangerous chemical. Had to wait hours for it to be checked, but I was through border control in minutes and allowed on board the ferry.

#### 10.15 On ferry

Met Carl and Eddie. Carl reminded me about our time on the training course years ago – how I'd said then that the idea of working on the move had been my ambition since childhood. Good to see friends and talk about old times.

#### 14.00 Laon, France

Have stopped for lunch at truck stop. At last, fantastic food! Chocolate mousse was heaven. Long stretch ahead of me, want to cover at least 300 km before next stop.

#### 19.00 Limas Lorry Park, France

Just checked the tachograph – don't want to break any laws about how long I spend at the wheel. Have done over 700 km since getting off the ferry and been at the wheel for 7 hours. Time to stop for the night.

20.30 Made soup in microwave – yuck! Phoned home and chatted to kids. All OK. Lorry park very full and getting into bay took a bit of work. Reminded me about the course and how hard some of the training seemed then. Reversing the lorry was like trying to thread a needle with gloves on – now I can do it with my eyes closed! Tuned into some local TV stations on my portable but couldn't understand much, so listened to some French music instead and read my book. Now ready to turn in for the night in my cosy cab. Spain tomorrow.

### Tuesday

#### 07.00 E15 Motorway Services, France

Great to be on the move again. Feel like the king of the road, towering 2 metres above the rest of the traffic, with hundreds of miles of empty road ahead and behind me. French motorways great – no traffic. Free as a bird, as long as I get these tennis balls to Barcelona. Days like this remind me why I always wanted to become a lorry driver.



#### **09.00     Somewhere on the E15 Motorway, France**

Had to make an unexpected stop as several drivers were flashing their lights at me. Discovered that my right indicator was on the blink. Checked the bulb, fuse and wires. Seems to be all right now.

#### **12.00     Le Boulou (15 km from Spanish border)**

Good place for lunch. Will stop here another time. Have just had the best steak and chips since the one I cooked for the kids last Sunday.

#### **17.00     Gerona, Spain**

Border control very friendly and let me through without fuss. Hot, sticky weather gave way to a tremendous storm. Had to slow right down – one lorry in front skidded. Parked and sat in cab, safe, dry and comfy, for an hour, watching the fantastic forks of lightning hit the ground all around, the lorry shaking with each clap of thunder. What an experience. Won't delay any longer now, as want to get to Barcelona before dark.

#### **21.00     Barcelona, Spain**

Got to Barcelona in the dark – really hard to find your way in a strange place at night, but found it in the end. Unloaded the tennis balls. Exhausted at end of a long day but took the chance to have a quick look round a new city – love seeing new places. Tomorrow start journey home with a full load of oranges. Tonight Spanish food, music and a good night's rest.

## On the Road – Comprehension questions

1. What was Sharon's ambition?

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2. Why did Sharon's friends and family eventually stop trying to discourage her?

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3. In the second paragraph, why are the words *Large Goods Vehicle* in brackets?

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4. Look at the diary entry for Monday at 20.30.

How does Sharon's description make her cab seem like home?

Give **two** ways.

1. 

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2. 

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5. Fill the gaps in the table to show Sharon's journey.

| Day     | Time  | Place        | Event                 |
|---------|-------|--------------|-----------------------|
| Monday  | 05.00 | Nottingham   | Picked up lorry       |
|         | 10.15 |              | Met Carl and Eddie    |
|         | 14.00 | Laon         |                       |
|         | 19.00 | Limas        | Stopped for the night |
| Tuesday | 09.00 | E15 Motorway |                       |
|         |       | Le Boulou    | Lunch                 |

6. Sharon compares learning to reverse a lorry to *trying to thread a needle with gloves on*.

Why is this a good way to describe what it is like to reverse a lorry?

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7. Give **two** ways the text on pages 4 and 5 is written like a diary.

1. 

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2. 

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8. What is the purpose of the text on page 3?

Tick **one**

to persuade you to become a lorry driver

☐

to explain why travelling is so important

☐

to give you background information

☐

to give you instructions about driving a lorry

☐

9. What evidence is there in the diary that Sharon wants to do her job carefully and safely?

Find **two** things.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_



10. What do you think Sharon enjoys about her life as a lorry driver?

Use the text to help you explain.

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# Making Inferences

**Directions:** Read each passage and then respond to the questions. Each question will ask you to make a logical inference based on textual details. **Explain your answer by referencing the text.**

Ryan was looking forward to sleeping over at his friend Robert's house. Though they had been classmates for a while, the two had only recently become good friends. Ryan packed up his sleeping bag, a pillow, and a few of his favorite toys and games, and then his mom dropped him off at Robert's. Robert met Ryan on the porch and the two did their secret handshake and started playing right away. First they played pirates in Robert's tree fort. Next they played ninjas in the driveway. Then it started getting dark and they went inside of Robert's house. As soon as they walked in the house, Ryan's eyes starting getting red and itchy. He saw a big orange cat sitting on the couch. Then he started sneezing uncontrollably. "I'm sorry, Robert. It's been a lot of fun, but I have to call my mom."

1. Why do Ryan's eyes get red and itchy when he walks into Robert's house?

How do you know this?

2. Why does Ryan want to call his mother?

How do you know this?

"William, don't forget your towel!" Mom shouted as she applied sunblock on the baby. William threw the folding chairs in the back of the minivan and shouted through the garage door, "OK Mom!" He then ran up and grabbed his towel. "Georgie!" William shouted. There was no response. Mom packed the baby up into the car seat. "William, can you help me with his umbrella?" William ran down the stairs, almost tripping over a chew toy, and then he helped his mother load the large umbrella in the minivan. "Mom, I can't find Georgie," William said. His mother shrugged and replied, "That's OK, William. He probably shouldn't come with us anyway."

3. Where are Mom and William going?

How do you know this?

4. Who is Georgie?

How do you know this?



As the teacher brought the class back from the washroom, he noticed that Alvin and Elijah were nowhere to be seen. He asked the class, "Has anyone seen Alvin or Elijah?" Most of the students confirmed that they had not seen them, except for Rodney, who remained silent while tapping his foot on the floor anxiously. The teacher noticed this. "Rodney, do you happen to know where your best buddies Alvin and Elijah went?" Rodney looked away and said, "Nah, I haven't seen them." The teacher notified the office of the missing students. An announcement was made over the PA system and a few minutes later, Alvin and Elijah returned to class. Both of them were very sweaty and Elijah was carrying a basketball. "Sorry we took so long. We had to use the bathroom," said Elijah. "Yeah," chimed in Alvin, "it took longer than we thought."

5. What were Alvin and Elijah doing while they were gone?

How do you know this?

6. Why was Rodney acting so strangely?

How do you know this?

7. Will the teacher believe Alvin and Elijah's story?

How do you know this?

Tony walked out of the shopping mall with his arms full of bags and the sun shining on him. As he approached his car, he started awkwardly feeling around his pockets with his arm full of bags. He did not find what he was looking for so he transferred the bags on one arm to the other arm, which already had bags. Tony had a lot of bags on one arm. He still couldn't find what he was looking for. Now he dropped the bags and plunged both hands desperately into all of the pockets on his jeans. With a look of despair, Tony ran to his car. He tried to open the door, but it was locked. Then he saw something on the passenger seat of the car. He stopped looking and pulled his phone out of his pocket.

8. Why does Tony get so frantic?

How do you know this?

9. What does Tony see on the passenger seat?

How do you know this?

10. Why is Tony getting on the phone?

How do you know this?