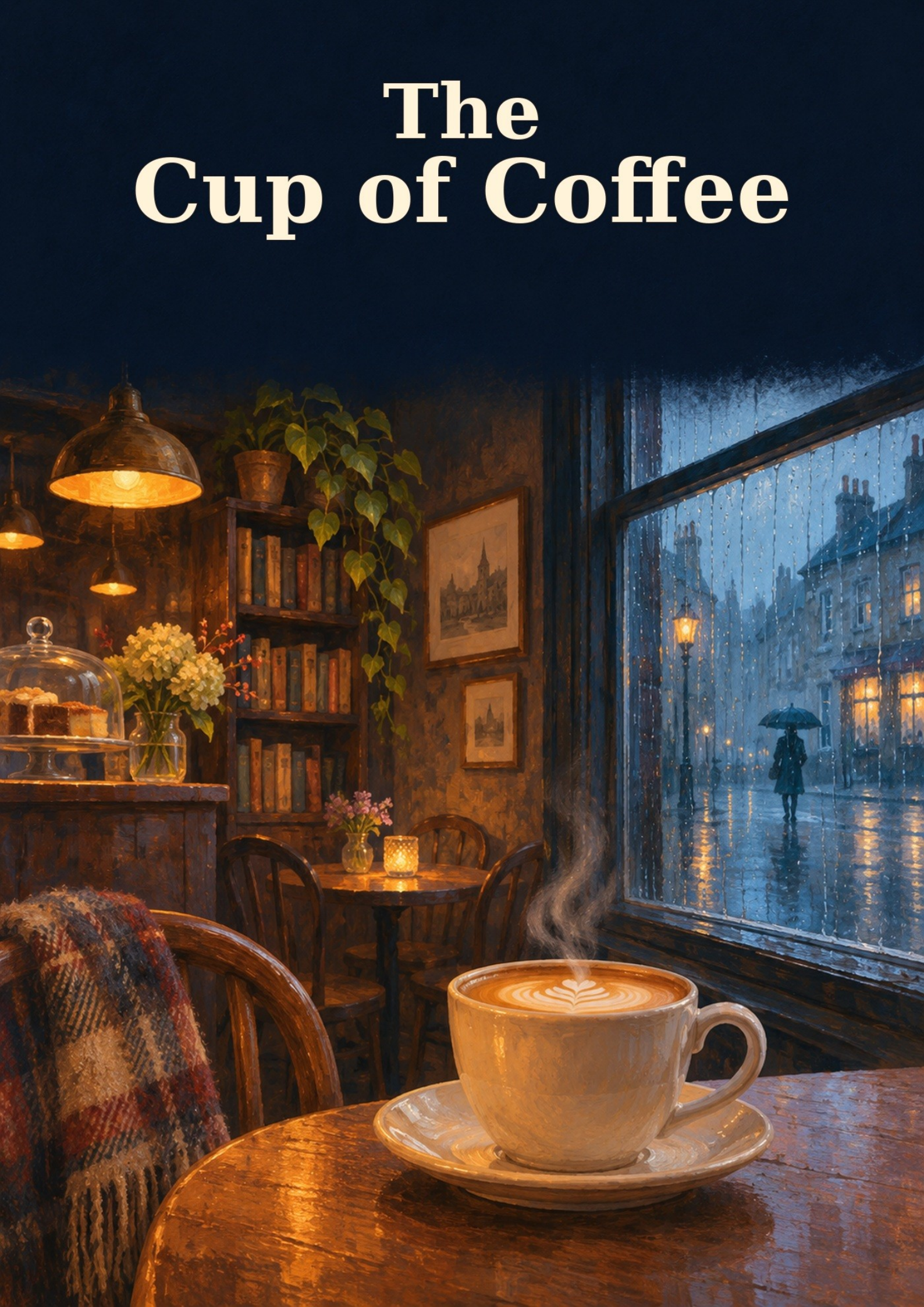
The Cup of Coffee



The Cup of Coffee — Full Lesson Plan

A Fantastic Tales short story and lesson plan from ManWrites.

Read about an awkward moment in a café and practise reading, vocabulary, speaking and writing.

B1–B2 English

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Introductory Questions

1. What can you see on the cover? What kind of story do you expect?

2. Where do you go when you want to spend a little time on your own?

3. What makes a café a pleasant place to sit?

4. What would you order in a café? Would you drink it there or take it away?

5. When do you usually check the price of something you want to buy?

6. What can make it awkward to ask for help in public?

7. How can you tell when someone is in a hurry?

8. What might you notice if you sat by a window and watched people outside?

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The Cup of Coffee

Joe had three pounds and twenty pence in his pocket.

He had eaten earlier in the day. He wasn't particularly hungry.

But the idea of going home did not appeal to him. He could barely call the tiny room where he lived home.

It was not much bigger than a wardrobe. A single bed stood in the corner, with just enough space for him to shuffle along beside it before collapsing onto the mattress after a long day.

Going home meant being alone with his thoughts. Sometimes he didn't want that.

He wanted noise. The sounds of people speaking. Anything to stop him thinking too much about his own life.

His neighbours were a couple with a young baby. They lived in a room not much bigger than his own.

Their arguments kept him awake. Then came the long silences afterwards, when he lay looking at the ceiling, waiting for them to start again.

Joe took the coins out of his pocket and looked down at them in his palm.

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He could go home and try to sleep. Get some rest before another day running around town doing odd jobs.

Or he could go into the coffee shop in front of him. Have a nice hot coffee. Sit by the window and watch people walking past.

Get lost in the little stories taking place outside.

He closed his fingers around the coins and went in.

A young woman was busy behind the counter, making coffee for a customer waiting at the other end.

She caught Joe’s eye.

“Be right with you.”

“No hurry,” he said.

The machine hissed and whirred. Joe breathed in the smell of freshly ground coffee.

At home, he had instant coffee. One of the cheap supermarket brands. He always screwed the lid on tightly to make what little flavour it had last longer.

He liked it with milk, but sometimes he ran out and had to drink it black.

It was too bitter then. He drank it anyway.

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Here, there were real coffee beans, hot milk and proper cups. There were lights above the tables and quiet music playing somewhere.

Nobody had left washing hanging over the back of a chair. Nobody was arguing through the wall.

“What can I get you?”

Joe looked up.

The young woman stood in front of him. She looked tired, but she gave him a small smile.

“Um, yes. Can I get a cup of coffee?”

“Of course. What sort would you like? An Americano? A cappuccino? A latte?”

It had been so long since he had been inside a coffee shop that he had forgotten about all the choices.

He remembered having an Americano once. Too strong for his taste. And a cappuccino had all that frothy milk.

“A latte, please.”

“Certainly. Drinking in?”

“Yes, please.”

She took a cup from a shelf and turned towards the machine.

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Joe moved along the counter, keeping the coins in his hand.

At the far end of the shop, he spotted a little table beside the window. One chair. Nobody sitting there.

Perfect.

He could sit there for an hour, perhaps. Take his time with the coffee.

Then he noticed the blackboard above the woman’s head.

Cappuccino. Americano. Latte.

And beside each one, the price.

A latte was three pounds fifty.

Joe looked down at his hand.

A two-pound coin. A pound coin. A twenty-pence piece.

He counted them again.

Then he put his free hand into his other trouser pocket.

Nothing.

He tried his coat pockets, although he knew what was in them. His keys. A folded receipt. An old tissue.

No coins.

He looked towards the woman. She was fitting something into the coffee machine.

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“Excuse me —”

The machine started with a loud rush of noise.

At the same moment, the door opened behind him.

A man in a dark suit came in, speaking into his phone. He walked straight to the counter.

“Americano,” he said loudly. “To go.”

The woman glanced over her shoulder.

“I’ll be with you in a moment, sir.”

The man continued talking into his phone.

Joe opened his mouth again, but the woman had turned away to get the milk.

He should tell her now.

Sorry. I haven’t got enough.

That was all he had to say.

But she was already holding a metal jug beneath the steam wand. The milk hissed, and Joe watched it rise inside the jug.

Thirty pence.

He felt in his pocket one last time.

The man finished his call and looked at his watch. Then he looked at Joe.

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Joe turned towards the window.

Outside, a woman was trying to open an umbrella. A gust of wind blew it inside out.

He watched her struggle with it until he heard the cup touch the counter.

“There you are,” the young woman said.

The latte stood on a saucer in front of him. A little silver spoon rested beside it.

“That’s three fifty, please.”

Joe looked at the coffee.

Then he opened his hand.

“I’m sorry,” he said. “I thought…”

His voice came out quieter than he’d meant it to.

He placed the coins on the counter.

“I’ve only got three twenty.”

The woman looked at the money, then back at him.

“That’s all right,” she began. “Don’t worry —”

The man beside him gave a long sigh.

“Oh, for goodness’ sake.”

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He reached into his pocket, took out a pound coin and dropped it onto the counter. It rolled against Joe's pound coin and fell flat.

"There. Can I get my Americano now?"

Joe felt the heat rise into his face.

The woman looked at the man.

"I'm just finishing with this gentleman."

Her voice was quiet, but she waited until the man looked away before gathering up the coins.

Joe stood with his hands hanging at his sides.

He had wanted a coffee. That was all. He had wanted to sit somewhere warm for a little while.

The woman put seventy pence in change on the counter in front of the man.

Then she turned back to Joe.

"Would you like some sugar?"

"No, thank you."

"The spoon's there if you need it."

She gave him a small smile, then went to make the Americano.

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Joe looked at the man.

“Thank you,” he said.

The man glanced at him impatiently, then raised his phone to his ear.

“Yes, it’s me again. No, I’m still waiting.”

Joe picked up the cup and saucer.

For a moment, he stood there. He could ask for a paper cup.

Take the coffee outside and drink it on the way home.

The door was only a few steps away.

Then he looked towards the window.

The little table was still empty.

Joe carried his coffee over and sat down.

He kept his coat on. His hands were trembling slightly, so he rested them on his knees until they became still.

At the counter, the man took his Americano and left without looking in Joe’s direction.

The woman wiped the counter. When she glanced across the room, Joe gave her a small nod.

She smiled and went back to work.

Joe lifted his cup.

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The coffee was hot. He took a careful sip and felt the warmth spread through him.

Outside, the woman had fixed her umbrella. She hurried away beneath it, stepping around the puddles.

Joe settled back in his chair.

He didn’t have to go home yet.

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Reading Comprehension Questions

1. How much money does Joe have at the start?

2. How does the size of Joe’s room limit the way he moves around?

3. Why does Joe sometimes want to hear people speaking?

4. What keeps Joe awake at home?

5. What does Joe have to do the next day?

6. What does Joe want to do by the café window?

7. Why does Joe screw the lid on his instant coffee tightly?

8. What does Joe do when he runs out of milk at home?

9. Why has Joe forgotten about the different coffee choices?

10. What does Joe remember about the taste of an Americano?

11. What does Joe order to drink in the café?

12. What does Joe find at the far end of the shop?

13. Where does Joe see the price of the latte?

14. How much is Joe short after he counts his three coins?

15. What is in Joe’s coat pockets?

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16. What noise interrupts Joe’s attempt to get the woman’s attention?

17. What does the man in the dark suit order?

18. What is the woman doing when Joe thinks he should tell her he is short of money?

19. What happens to the umbrella outside?

20. What is on the saucer beside Joe’s cup?

21. How does the woman initially respond when Joe says how much he has?

22. What does the man say and do that suggests he wants to hurry things along?

23. What does the woman say to the man before she gathers up the coins?

24. How much change does she put in front of the man?

25. What does Joe consider doing before he looks towards the window?

26. What does Joe do until his hands stop trembling?

27. How does Joe acknowledge the woman when she looks across the room?

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28. How does Joe feel physically when he first sips the coffee?

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The Cup of Coffee — Story and Reading Comprehension Questions

Section 1

Joe had three pounds and twenty pence in his pocket.

He had eaten earlier in the day. He wasn't particularly hungry.

But the idea of going home did not appeal to him. He could barely call the tiny room where he lived home.

It was not much bigger than a wardrobe. A single bed stood in the corner, with just enough space for him to shuffle along beside it before collapsing onto the mattress after a long day.

Going home meant being alone with his thoughts. Sometimes he didn't want that.

He wanted noise. The sounds of people speaking. Anything to stop him thinking too much about his own life.

His neighbours were a couple with a young baby. They lived in a room not much bigger than his own.

Their arguments kept him awake. Then came the long silences afterwards, when he lay looking at the ceiling, waiting for them to start again.

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Reading Comprehension Questions

1. How much money does Joe have at the start?

2. How does the size of Joe's room limit the way he moves around?

3. Why does Joe sometimes want to hear people speaking?

4. What keeps Joe awake at home?

Section 2

Joe took the coins out of his pocket and looked down at them in his palm.

He could go home and try to sleep. Get some rest before another day running around town doing odd jobs.

Or he could go into the coffee shop in front of him. Have a nice hot coffee. Sit by the window and watch people walking past.

Get lost in the little stories taking place outside.

He closed his fingers around the coins and went in.

A young woman was busy behind the counter, making coffee for a customer waiting at the other end.

She caught Joe's eye.

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“Be right with you.”

“No hurry,” he said.

The machine hissed and whirred. Joe breathed in the smell of freshly ground coffee.

At home, he had instant coffee. One of the cheap supermarket brands. He always screwed the lid on tightly to make what little flavour it had last longer.

He liked it with milk, but sometimes he ran out and had to drink it black.

It was too bitter then. He drank it anyway.

Here, there were real coffee beans, hot milk and proper cups.

There were lights above the tables and quiet music playing somewhere.

Nobody had left washing hanging over the back of a chair.

Nobody was arguing through the wall.

Reading Comprehension Questions

5. What does Joe have to do the next day?

6. What does Joe want to do by the café window?

7. Why does Joe screw the lid on his instant coffee tightly?

8. What does Joe do when he runs out of milk at home?

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Section 3

“What can I get you?”

Joe looked up.

The young woman stood in front of him. She looked tired, but she gave him a small smile.

“Um, yes. Can I get a cup of coffee?”

“Of course. What sort would you like? An Americano? A cappuccino? A latte?”

It had been so long since he had been inside a coffee shop that he had forgotten about all the choices.

He remembered having an Americano once. Too strong for his taste. And a cappuccino had all that frothy milk.

“A latte, please.”

“Certainly. Drinking in?”

“Yes, please.”

She took a cup from a shelf and turned towards the machine.

Joe moved along the counter, keeping the coins in his hand.

At the far end of the shop, he spotted a little table beside the window. One chair. Nobody sitting there.

Perfect.

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He could sit there for an hour, perhaps. Take his time with the coffee.

Reading Comprehension Questions

9. Why has Joe forgotten about the different coffee choices?

10. What does Joe remember about the taste of an Americano?

11. What does Joe order to drink in the café?

12. What does Joe find at the far end of the shop?

Section 4

Then he noticed the blackboard above the woman's head.

Cappuccino. Americano. Latte.

And beside each one, the price.

A latte was three pounds fifty.

Joe looked down at his hand.

A two-pound coin. A pound coin. A twenty-pence piece.

He counted them again.

Then he put his free hand into his other trouser pocket.

Nothing.

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He tried his coat pockets, although he knew what was in them. His keys. A folded receipt. An old tissue.

No coins.

Reading Comprehension Questions

13. Where does Joe see the price of the latte?

14. How much is Joe short after he counts his three coins?

15. What is in Joe's coat pockets?

Section 5

He looked towards the woman. She was fitting something into the coffee machine.

"Excuse me —"

The machine started with a loud rush of noise.

At the same moment, the door opened behind him.

A man in a dark suit came in, speaking into his phone. He walked straight to the counter.

"Americano," he said loudly. "To go."

The woman glanced over her shoulder.

"I'll be with you in a moment, sir."

The man continued talking into his phone.

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Joe opened his mouth again, but the woman had turned away to get the milk.

He should tell her now.

Sorry. I haven't got enough.

That was all he had to say.

But she was already holding a metal jug beneath the steam wand. The milk hissed, and Joe watched it rise inside the jug.

Thirty pence.

He felt in his pocket one last time.

The man finished his call and looked at his watch. Then he looked at Joe.

Joe turned towards the window.

Outside, a woman was trying to open an umbrella. A gust of wind blew it inside out.

He watched her struggle with it until he heard the cup touch the counter.

Reading Comprehension Questions

16. What noise interrupts Joe's attempt to get the woman's attention?

17. What does the man in the dark suit order?

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18. What is the woman doing when Joe thinks he should tell her he is short of money?

19. What happens to the umbrella outside?

Section 6

“There you are,” the young woman said.

The latte stood on a saucer in front of him. A little silver spoon rested beside it.

“That’s three fifty, please.”

Joe looked at the coffee.

Then he opened his hand.

“I’m sorry,” he said. “I thought…”

His voice came out quieter than he’d meant it to.

He placed the coins on the counter.

“I’ve only got three twenty.”

The woman looked at the money, then back at him.

“That’s all right,” she began. “Don’t worry —”

The man beside him gave a long sigh.

“Oh, for goodness’ sake.”

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He reached into his pocket, took out a pound coin and dropped it onto the counter. It rolled against Joe's pound coin and fell flat.

"There. Can I get my Americano now?"

Joe felt the heat rise into his face.

Reading Comprehension Questions

20. What is on the saucer beside Joe's cup?

21. How does the woman initially respond when Joe says how much he has?

22. What does the man say and do that suggests he wants to hurry things along?

Section 7

The woman looked at the man.

"I'm just finishing with this gentleman."

Her voice was quiet, but she waited until the man looked away before gathering up the coins.

Joe stood with his hands hanging at his sides.

He had wanted a coffee. That was all. He had wanted to sit somewhere warm for a little while.

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The woman put seventy pence in change on the counter in front of the man.

Then she turned back to Joe.

“Would you like some sugar?”

“No, thank you.”

“The spoon’s there if you need it.”

She gave him a small smile, then went to make the Americano.

Joe looked at the man.

“Thank you,” he said.

The man glanced at him impatiently, then raised his phone to his ear.

“Yes, it’s me again. No, I’m still waiting.”

Joe picked up the cup and saucer.

For a moment, he stood there. He could ask for a paper cup.

Take the coffee outside and drink it on the way home.

The door was only a few steps away.

Then he looked towards the window.

The little table was still empty.

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Reading Comprehension Questions

23. What does the woman say to the man before she gathers up the coins?

24. How much change does she put in front of the man?

25. What does Joe consider doing before he looks towards the window?

Section 8

Joe carried his coffee over and sat down.

He kept his coat on. His hands were trembling slightly, so he rested them on his knees until they became still.

At the counter, the man took his Americano and left without looking in Joe’s direction.

The woman wiped the counter. When she glanced across the room, Joe gave her a small nod.

She smiled and went back to work.

Joe lifted his cup.

The coffee was hot. He took a careful sip and felt the warmth spread through him.

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Outside, the woman had fixed her umbrella. She hurried away beneath it, stepping around the puddles.

Joe settled back in his chair.

He didn’t have to go home yet.

Reading Comprehension Questions

26. What does Joe do until his hands stop trembling?

27. How does Joe acknowledge the woman when she looks across the room?

28. How does Joe feel physically when he first sips the coffee?

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Essential Vocabulary

Find these words and phrases in the story.

appeal to	barely	wardrobe
shuffle	collapse	mattress
alone with his thoughts	neighbours	argument
keep someone awake	ceiling	palm
odd jobs	take place	counter
catch someone’s eye	hiss	whirr
freshly ground	instant coffee	screw the lid on
flavour	run out	drink it black
bitter	proper	frothy
drinking in	spot	take your time
blackboard	receipt	tissue
rush of noise	glance	steam wand
gust	inside out	struggle
saucer	sigh	for goodness’ sake
change	tremble	settle back

Essential Vocabulary — Instructions

Look at the words and phrases in the table above. Find them in the story and try to understand their meanings from the context.

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Use a dictionary to check any words you do not know. Write a definition for each word or phrase, then write your own example sentence to show how it can be used.

Examples

shuffle — *to walk with small steps, lifting your feet very little.*

He shuffled across the kitchen in his slippers.

gust — *a sudden strong movement of wind.*

A gust of wind slammed the door shut.

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Vocabulary Practice Exercise

Match each word or phrase (1–15) with its meaning (a–o).

Vocabulary word	Scrambled definition
1. wardrobe	a. crushed a short time ago
2. shuffle	b. an angry disagreement
3. argument	c. a sudden strong movement of wind
4. ceiling	d. covered with small bubbles
5. palm	e. a tall cupboard for clothes
6. odd jobs	f. shake slightly
7. counter	g. a record of a payment
8. freshly ground	h. a long surface where customers are served
9. flavour	i. a small plate that goes under a cup
10. frothy	j. the inside surface of your hand
11. receipt	k. walk with small steps
12. glance	l. small pieces of work of various kinds
13. gust	m. look quickly
14. saucer	n. the taste of a food or drink
15. tremble	o. the inside surface above you in a room

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True or False

Decide whether each statement is true or false. Rewrite the false statements to make them true.

1. Joe has already eaten that day.

2. Joe has plenty of space to walk around his bed.

3. Joe usually drinks his instant coffee black when he has milk.

4. Joe orders a latte to drink in the café.

5. Joe finds an extra coin in his coat.

6. The man in the suit asks for an Americano to take away.

7. The man puts down a twenty-pence coin.

8. The woman asks Joe if he wants sugar.

9. Joe takes his latte home in a paper cup.

10. The man leaves without looking towards Joe.

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What is the Correct Synonym?

A synonym is a word or phrase with a similar meaning. Match each item in bold with a word or phrase from the box. Use each answer once.

Word Box: *noticed, could only just, shaking, a sudden blast, seem attractive to, made himself comfortable, taste, have difficulty with, looked quickly, small tasks*

1. going home did not **appeal to** Joe → _____
2. could **barely** call the room home → _____
3. **odd jobs** → _____
4. the **flavour** of the coffee → _____
5. **spotted** a little table → _____
6. she **glanced** over her shoulder → _____
7. a **gust** of wind → _____
8. **struggle with** the umbrella → _____
9. his hands were **trembling** → _____
10. Joe **settled back** in his chair → _____

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What is the Correct Antonym?

An antonym is a word or phrase with an opposite meaning.

Match each item in bold with a word or phrase from the box.

Use each answer once.

Word Box: *louder, loosely, occupied, moving, sweet, patiently, large, unfolded, loud, expensive*

1. a **tiny** room → _____

2. a **cheap** supermarket brand → _____

3. he screwed the lid on **tightly** → _____

4. a **bitter** taste → _____

5. **quiet** music → _____

6. an **empty** table → _____

7. a **folded** receipt → _____

8. his voice came out **quieter** than he'd meant it to → _____

9. he glanced at him **impatiently** → _____

10. his hands became **still** → _____

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Words and Meanings

Match each expression (1–10) with its meaning (a–j).

1. appeal to
2. barely
3. mattress
4. keep someone awake
5. take place
6. hiss
7. whirr
8. run out
9. steam wand
10. for goodness’ sake

a. make a long sound like ‘sss’
b. the tube on a coffee machine that releases steam to heat milk
c. prevent someone from falling asleep
d. use all of something so there is none left
e. only just
f. an expression used here to show annoyance
g. seem attractive or enjoyable to someone
h. the padded part of a bed you lie on
i. make a continuous low sound like a machine turning
j. happen

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Gap Fill Exercise

Complete each sentence with one word from the box. Use each answer once. There are two extra words.

Word Box • saucer / change / wardrobe / palm / mattress / flavour / silence / gust / receipt / tissue / counter / blackboard

1. We put the _____ on the bed frame.
2. Keep your _____ as proof of payment.
3. A sudden _____ of wind blew a chair over.
4. I paid £10 for a £9 meal and got £1 in _____.
5. The ice cream had a strong vanilla _____.
6. We paid at the café _____.
7. She blew her nose with a paper _____.
8. Put the cup on its _____.
9. She held the key flat in her _____.
10. After the last note, there was complete _____.

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Discussion Questions

Discuss in pairs or small groups. Give reasons and refer to the story where you can.

1. Why do you think Joe wants to hear other people talking?

2. Which detail best shows how Joe feels about his room?

3. How do the sounds at home and in the café affect Joe differently?

4. What does a proper cup of coffee mean to Joe in this story?

5. Why might Joe have ordered before looking at the price?

6. What would you have said when you realised you were thirty pence short?

7. How does the noise of the coffee machine affect what happens?

8. Why do you think Joe watches the woman with the umbrella?

9. Why does a small amount of money matter so much in this scene?

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10. What do the man’s words and actions tell us about his reasons for helping?

11. Can a person do something helpful and still embarrass someone? How?

12. What does the woman behind the counter do to make Joe feel respected?

13. How could she have handled the situation if the man had stayed silent?

14. Why might Joe thank the man even though he feels embarrassed?

15. What does Joe risk losing if he takes the coffee home instead?

16. What do Joe’s trembling hands tell you about his feelings?

17. Why might Joe give the woman a nod instead of speaking to her?

18. What difference does the final line make to how you understand the story?

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19. Where can people spend time around others in your area without spending much money?

20. What small act of consideration can make a public place feel welcoming?

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Role Play

A customer discovers they are short of money after ordering a drink. Work in groups of three. Act out the conversation and find a way to settle the bill.

Customer

Explain what happened and say what you would like to do.

Café worker

Offer a practical solution and keep the conversation calm.

Waiting customer

Explain why you are in a hurry. Decide whether and how to help.

Swap roles and try a different solution. Afterwards, compare how the customer felt in the two versions.

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Debate

A café should let a customer pay later if they are only a little short of money.

Divide into two groups. One group supports the statement and the other opposes it. Prepare two reasons and a reply to a point the other group might make.

Give each side one minute to open. Take turns responding. Finish by voting and explaining which argument influenced you.

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Writing

Write 150–200 words from the café worker’s point of view after her shift. Describe what she saw at the counter, what she was trying to do and what she noticed after Joe sat down.

Use the first person and the past tense. Keep the events consistent with the story. Include one detail she could see or hear and one thought of her own.

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Reading Comprehension Questions — Answers

Section 1

1. Joe has three pounds and twenty pence.
2. There is only enough room for Joe to shuffle along beside his bed.
3. He wants the sound of people speaking to stop him thinking too much about his own life.
4. His neighbours' arguments keep him awake.

Section 2

5. Joe has to go around town doing odd jobs.
6. Joe wants to sit by the window and watch people walking past.
7. Joe wants what little flavour the coffee has to last longer.
8. Joe drinks his coffee black when he runs out of milk.

Section 3

9. Joe has forgotten about the choices because he has not been in a coffee shop for a long time.
10. Joe remembers that an Americano was too strong for his taste.
11. Joe orders a latte to drink in the café.

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12. Joe finds an empty table with one chair beside the window.

Section 4

13. Joe sees the price on the blackboard above the woman's head.
14. Joe is thirty pence short.
15. Joe has his keys, a folded receipt and an old tissue in his coat pockets.

Section 5

16. The coffee machine starts with a loud rush of noise.
17. The man orders an Americano to take away.
18. She is holding a metal jug beneath the steam wand to prepare the milk.
19. A gust of wind blows the umbrella inside out.

Section 6

20. A little silver spoon is on the saucer beside the cup.
21. She tells Joe it is all right and starts to tell him not to worry.
22. The man sighs, drops a pound coin on the counter and asks if he can get his Americano now.

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Section 7

23. She says she is just finishing with Joe, whom she calls ‘this gentleman’.
24. She puts seventy pence in change in front of the man.
25. Joe considers asking for a paper cup and drinking his coffee on the way home.

Section 8

26. Joe rests his hands on his knees until they stop trembling.
27. Joe gives her a small nod.
28. Joe feels the warmth spread through him.

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True or False — Answers

1. T — Joe has already eaten that day.
2. F — Joe has only enough space to shuffle along beside his bed.
3. F — Joe likes his instant coffee with milk and drinks it black when he runs out of milk.
4. T — Joe orders a latte to drink in the café.
5. F — Joe finds no coins in his coat pockets.
6. T — The man in the suit asks for an Americano to take away.
7. F — The man puts down a pound coin.
8. T — The woman asks Joe if he wants sugar.
9. F — Joe drinks his latte at the window table in the café.
10. T — The man leaves without looking towards Joe.

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What is the Correct Synonym? — Answers

1. seem attractive to
2. could only just
3. small tasks
4. taste
5. noticed
6. looked quickly
7. a sudden blast
8. have difficulty with
9. shaking
10. made himself comfortable

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What is the Correct Antonym? — Answers

1. large
2. expensive
3. loosely
4. sweet
5. loud
6. occupied
7. unfolded
8. louder
9. patiently
10. moving

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Words and Meanings — Answers

1. g — **appeal to** — seem attractive or enjoyable to someone
2. e — **barely** — only just
3. h — **mattress** — the padded part of a bed you lie on
4. c — **keep someone awake** — prevent someone from falling asleep
5. j — **take place** — happen
6. a — **hiss** — make a long sound like ‘sss’
7. i — **whirr** — make a continuous low sound like a machine turning
8. d — **run out** — use all of something so there is none left
9. b — **steam wand** — the tube on a coffee machine that releases steam to heat milk
10. f — **for goodness’ sake** — an expression used here to show annoyance

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Gap Fill Exercise — Answers

1. mattress
2. receipt
3. gust
4. change
5. flavour
6. counter
7. tissue
8. saucer
9. palm
10. silence

Unused words: wardrobe, blackboard.

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Vocabulary Practice Exercise — Answers

1. e — **wardrobe** — a tall cupboard for clothes
2. k — **shuffle** — walk with small steps
3. b — **argument** — an angry disagreement
4. o — **ceiling** — the inside surface above you in a room
5. j — **palm** — the inside surface of your hand
6. l — **odd jobs** — small pieces of work of various kinds
7. h — **counter** — a long surface where customers are served
8. a — **freshly ground** — crushed a short time ago
9. n — **flavour** — the taste of a food or drink
10. d — **frothy** — covered with small bubbles
11. g — **receipt** — a record of a payment
12. m — **glance** — look quickly
13. c — **gust** — a sudden strong movement of wind
14. i — **saucer** — a small plate that goes under a cup
15. f — **tremble** — shake slightly

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