

LISTENING ACTIVITY

1/3



THE RAILWAY CHILDREN

1  Listen to the audio and complete the text. Choose the right word in the basket below.

- village • platform • names • sign • stories • enough • idea • celebrated • worried • watching

The children liked 1 the big noisy trains go by.

They knew the times of some trains and they gave them 2

..... They called the 9.15 train 'the green dragon'.

Every morning they sat on the fence and waited for 'the green dragon'.

'Let's wave at the train,' said Phyllis. 'It can take our love to father in London.'

When the train went by, they waved at it. They made a friend on the 9.15 train—a nice old gentleman with white hair and glasses. When he saw the children waving, he waved at them.

Mother was always working at her desk. She wrote 3 and sold some of them to a publisher to make some money. She often read them to the children. She was very happy when the stories were published and they all 4 with delicious cakes at teatime.

The children often went to the railway station and became friends with the Station Master and Perks. Perks was the porter and he told them exciting stories about the trains.

One morning mother was ill, so Bobbie called Dr Forrest from the 5

'She must stay in bed near a warm fire, and eat good food like milk, meat, eggs and fruit, because she's weak,' he said.

The children were 6 'We don't have 7 money to buy meat, eggs and fruit,' said Bobbie. 'How can mummy get well?'

'Who can help us?' asked Phyllis.

'Perhaps the nice old gentleman on 'the green dragon' can help us,' said Peter.

'Yes, that's a good 8, Peter,' said Bobbie. They sat down and made plans.

The next morning the people on the 9.15 train saw a big 9 on the fence: **LOOK OUT AT THE STATION**

When the train arrived at the station many people looked out of the window. The old gentleman looked out too. Phyllis was on the 10 with a letter in her hand. She quickly gave it to the old gentleman. The letter said:

To Mr, we don't know your name,

Mother is ill. The doctor says we must give her good food to eat, but we don't have any money. Father is away and we don't know his address. Can you help us please? We can pay you back later. Thank you.

Roberta, Peter and Phyllis

Under their names they wrote a list of all the things they wanted for their mother.

That evening Perks came to their house with a big box. Inside there was a lot of good food and a letter:

Dear children,

here is the food for your mother. I'm happy to help you.

Your friend, R.P.

(from Chapter Two – The Green Dragon)



LISTENING ACTIVITY

2/3



2 Choose the correct answer – a, b or c.

1. Where did the children wait for 'the green dragon' to pass by?

- a. on the platform at the railway station
- b. at the window of their home
- c. on the fence.

2. What did the children's mother do at her desk?

- a. She wrote stories.
- b. She read books.
- c. She wrote letters to her husband.

3. Where did Dr Forrest come from?

- a. London
- b. a small city
- c. the village

4. Who gave the letter to the old gentleman on the train?

- a. Roberta
- b. Phyllis
- c. Peter

5. What did the old gentleman send the children?

- a. a big box with toys and books
- b. a big box with good food
- c. some money

