**Control reading**

**LOST IN THE POST**

Ainsley, a post-office sorter, turned the envelope over and over in his hands. The letter was addressed to his wife and had an Australian stamp. Ainsley knew that the sender was Dicky Soames, his wife’s cousin. It was the second letter Ainsley received after Dicky’s departure. The first letter had come six months before, he did not read it and threw it into the fire without reading .He didn’t want Adela to be disturbed by Dicky’s letters, so he explained it to himself.. No man ever had less reason for jealousy than Ainsley. His wife was frank as the day, a splendid housekeeper, a very good mother to their two children. He knew that Dicky Soames had been fond of Adela. But Adela married Arthur and Dicky Soames went to Melbourn to join his and Adela’s uncle . Arthur and Adela were quite happy, but Arthur still continued hating Dicky though there was no reason for it. He was afraid that some day Dicky would return and take Adela from him. Ainsley did not take the letter when he was at work as his fellow-workers could see him do it. So when the working hours were over he went out of the post-office together with his fellow workers, then he returned to take the letter addressed to his wife. As the door of the post-office was locked, he had to get in through a window. When he was getting out of the window the postmaster saw him. He got angry and dismissed Ainsley. So another man was hired and Ainsley became unemployed. Their life became hard; they had to borrow money from their friends. Several months had passed. One afternoon when Ainsley came home he found that his wife was giving tea to a round-faced man. He saw the familiar face of Dicky Soames. They appeared to be having a good time. “So he had turned up,” Ainsley thought to himself. Dicky Soames said he was delighted to see Ainsley. “I have missed all of you so much,” he added with a friendly smile. “You see, I ‘m here because I have some business to discuss with your wife.” Adela looked at her husband. “Uncle Tom has died,” she explained “and Dicky has come into money”. “Congratulation,” said Ainsley, “you are lucky.” Adela turned to Dicky. “Tell Arthur the rest,” she said quietly. Dicky for some reason seemed to be uncomfortable. Then he said, “Uncle Tom left Adela 5,000.” “But that is marvelous!” Arthur said. “You don’t know what that means to us. How kind of uncle Tom to have thought of us.” “Well, you see,” Dicky said, “ when Uncle Tom got paralyzed he began to get funny. He was very angry with Adela that she had never answered the two letters I wrote to her for him. You know how particular old people are about such things. Then he changed his will and left Adela’s part to hospitals. Shortly before his death I spoke to him again saying that the will needed to be rewritten, but he said he was too weak to be troubled with such matters, and he didn’t want the will to be changed”. Ainsley turned pale. “So those two letters were worth reading after all,” he thought to himself. For some time everybody kept silence. Then Dicky Soames broke the silence, “It’s strange about those two letters. I’ve often wondered why you didn’t answer them?” Adela got up, came up to her husband and said, taking him by the ice-cold hand. “The letters were evidently lost in the post.” At that moment Ansley realized that she knew everything.

1. **Multiple Choice Questions:**
2. **The main character of the passage Arthur was**… .
3. a prosperous businessman
4. a happy worker
5. a victim of un employment
6. successful in life
7. **Arthur and Adela were**… .
8. affectionate
9. unhappy
10. disappointed
11. interesting
12. **Arthur hated Dicky because… .**
13. Dicky was an unpleasant person
14. Dicky was Adela’s cousin
15. Arthur had lost his job
16. Arthur was jealous
17. **Arthur didn’t give the letters to his wife because… .**
18. he didn’t want Adela to be disturbed
19. he didn’t want to remind her about Dicky
20. he didn’t want to know anything about him
21. he wanted to forget him
22. **Dicky came to their place**… .
23. to visit them
24. to see Adela
25. on business
26. occasionally
27. **Dicky brought…** .
28. some news
29. a very pleasant news
30. a very unpleasant news
31. five thousand dollars
32. **Having heard the news Arthur was first… .**
33. very happy
34. astonished
35. disappointed
36. offended
37. **Uncle Tom had left Adela five thousand dollars and then changed his mind because…** .
38. he didn’t like Adela
39. Adela didn’t like uncle Tom
40. Adela needed no money
41. She hadn’t written him
42. **Dicky tried to convince Uncle Tom to change his will once more but the uncle didn’t agree** **because…** .
43. he was very weak to change something
44. he was angry with Adela
45. he was angry with Arthur
46. he had no time
47. **Arthur’s face was as white as paper because… .**
48. He realized that Adela knew everything
49. He was angry with uncle Tom
50. He was angry with Dicky
51. He was angry with Adela

**II. Answer the questions**:

1. What kind of news has Dicky brought to Adela?
2. Is great love worth to be jealous or not and why?