

Listening & Reading
ANSWER SHEET

ID NUMBER

173

Item #					
1	(A)	B			
2	A	(B)			
3	A	(B)			
4	(A)	B			
5	A	(B)			
6	A	(B)			
7	(A)	B			
8	(A)	B			
9	A	(B)			
10	(A)	B			
11	A	(B)	C		
12	(A)	B	C		
13	A	B	(C)		
14	A	B	(C)		
15	A	(B)	C		
16	A	(B)	C	D	
17	A	B	C	(D)	
18	(A)	B	C	D	
19	A	B	C	(D)	
20	A	(B)	C	D	
21	A	B	(C)	D	
22	A	B	(C)	D	
23	A	B	(C)	D	
24	A	B	C	(D)	
25	A	B	C	(B)	
26	A	(B)	C	D	E
27	A	B	C	(B)	E
28	(A)	B	C	D	E
29	A	B	C	D	(E)
30	A	B	(C)	D	E
31	A	(B)	C	D	
32	A	B	(C)	D	
33	(A)	B	C	D	
34	A	B	C	(D)	
35	A	(B)	C	D	
36	Long				
37	excessive				
38	maintaining				
39	addressing				
40	lot				

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Writing

ANSWER SHEET 1

ID number

1	7	3			
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16

Task 1. The science fiction writer, Frederic Brown, is credited to write the shortest story in the world in 1948, which he called "Knock". The story was this: "The last man on Earth sat alone in a room. There was a knock on the door." The story paved the way to a new fashion of writing very short stories. This idea appealed to Steve Moss, a New Times editor. He started a short story competition in 1987 called "55 Fiction", which runs annually to this day. To be accepted, each story has to have no more than 55 words, at least one character, a setting, and, of course, some conflict with a resolution.

A product of this competition ended up being a collection of the best stories called "The World's Shortest Stories of Love and Death", which was published in 1999 and on which I will focus in this review. I have included a few samples from the book to give you a taste of it. As you can see, most of the stories look like they are written in the form of a poem, as each paragraph is only a sentence long. Nevertheless, they touch on a huge variety of subjects. Some of them, like R. Bast's "Higher Education" and H.A. Torres' "In the Garden" are very light and humorous, while others, like A.E. Hunt's "Gratitude" and R. Tompkins' "The Search" are much more descriptive and possess a more serious tone. But all of them contain elements of satire. They address society's current issues through the creation of a comical situation.

Writing

ANSWER SHEET 2

ID number

1 7 3

Personally, I think that this collection really is a needle in a haystack. Every single story managed to grab my attention and I especially enjoyed their plot twist endings. Moreover, they gave me so much food for thought ~~that~~ that I ~~definitely~~ definitely started reflecting more on my life after reading this book.

To wrap things up, I would suggest everybody to not be put off by the length of these stories, because each of them is incredibly meaningful and can entertain a reader no less than a full-length novel. And if you would like to read some more examples before making³⁰² your purchase, ~~for~~ a good place to look these stories up would be the New Times online database.

317 words

Task 2. The last man ~~is~~ on Earth sat alone in a room. There was a lock on the door."

2