A1

NUMBER 7 · BONUS STORY

健太へのプレゼント

Saturday morning, the day of the festival. Yui wants a present for Kenta and has 500 yen. In her little toy shop, Mrs Kimura tells her about another festival, eighteen years ago.

ANSWER KEY

L1) WHAT WOULD KENTA SAY?: 1c, 2a, 3c, 4d

Translation

It is Saturday, the day of the festival. You and Yui are in Mrs Kimura's little toy shop.

■ Mrs Kimura, I'm looking for a present for Kenta. He's playing on the square tonight.

○ For Kenta? How lovely! What would you like, then?

■ I don't know. He already has everything. And I've only got 500 yen.

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▲ Isn't Kenta scared before a concert?

■ Kenta? Not at all! He's never scared.

○ Really? Have you two seen the old photo yet?

■ Grandma has that photo too! Kenta at ten. What a terrible haircut!

▲ He lived at number seven as a child, didn't he?

○ Yes, with his parents. In your flat.

Eighteen years ago, Kenta played the trumpet outside number seven every day.

○ My shop used to be next to number seven. I heard everything.

■ And? Did he play well?

○ At the start? No! It was very loud, and there were lots of mistakes.

○ But every day he got a little better.

Then the day of the town festival came. For the first time, Kenta was on the stage with the town wind band.

○ So many people on the square! And little Kenta was very scared.

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■ Kenta was scared? Really?

○ Yes. He played. But very quietly. Nobody was listening.

Then it rained. Lots of people went home.

○ Only one woman stayed. She sat on the bench in front of the stage, with an umbrella.

■ That was Grandma, wasn't it?

○ Yes. And Mrs Satō called out: 'Kenta, keep playing! Now play just for me!'

▲ And? Did he keep playing?

○ Yes. Loudly now, and very beautifully. People came back to the square, and we all listened.

That evening Kenta's parents came home from work. They had a new trumpet with them.

■ A new trumpet! And the little old one?

○ Mrs Satō kept it. I think she still has it.

■ Mrs Kimura, how much is that umbrella?

○ 500 yen. But why? It's sunny today!

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■ It's not for Kenta. It's for me!

■ Tonight I'm sitting right at the front. Even in the rain!

○ Yui, that's the best present of all.

○ I'm coming tonight too.

Yui runs to the square. The stage for tonight is already up.

Kenta is already sitting on the stage, with his trumpet. He is very tired.

■ Kenta! What are you doing here? You always sleep in the mornings!

● I didn't sleep last night. I was too scared.

■ You were scared eighteen years ago too, weren't you? Mrs Kimura told me everything.

● Oh no! The photo too?

■ Yes. But look! I bought this today.

● An umbrella? For me?

■ No, it's mine. I'll be right at the front. Like Grandma at your first concert.

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● Then tonight will be fine.

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