

系所別: 產業經濟研究所 甲組 科目:

英文

乙組

Read the following story and answer the questions:

THERE WERE A COUPLE in their late thirties, and they looked unmistakably married. They sat on the banquette opposite us in a little narrow restaurant having dinner. The man had a round, self-satisfied face, with glasses on it; the woman was fadingly pretty, in a big hat. There was nothing conspicuous about them, nothing particularly noticeable, until the end of their meal, when it suddenly became obvious that this was an Occasion--in fact, the husband's birthday, and the wife had planned a little surprise for him.

It arrived, in the form of a small but glossy birthday cake, with one pink candle burning in the center. The headwaiter brought it in and placed it before the husband, and meanwhile the violin-and-piano orchestra played "Happy Birthday to You" and the wife beamed with shy pride over her little surprise, and such few people as there were in the restaurant tried to help out with a pattering of applause. It became clear at once that help was needed, because the husband was not pleased. Instead he was hotly embarrassed, and indignant at his wife for embarrassing him.

You looked at him and you saw this and you thought, "Oh, now, don't be like that!" But he was like that, and as soon as the little cake had been deposited on the table, and the orchestra had finished the birthday piece, and the general attention had shifted from the man and the woman, I saw him say something to her under his breath—some punishing thing, quick and curt and unkind. I couldn't bear to look at the woman then, so I stared at my plate and waited for quite a long time. Not long enough, though. She was still crying when I finally glanced over there again. Crying quietly and heartbrokenly and hopelessly, all to herself, under the gay big brim of her best hat.

- I. Select the best explanation of the underlined phrases (60%)
- they looked unmistakably married: a) You couldn't tell whether they were married. b) They had been married for a long time. c) Their marriage was unfortunate. d) Their marriage was blessed.
 - The man had a round, self-satisfied face: He looked a) reserved b) disgusted c) confident d) dissatisfied.
 - the woman was fadingly pretty: a) She was still pretty but probably would not be soon. b) She should not be pretty but actually was. c) She did not try to cover her beauty. d) She did not want her beauty to shine.
 - nothing conspicuous about them: a) They seemed to be rich. b) They seemed to be cheap. c) They seemed to be ordinary. d) They didn't seem to be unhappy.
 - It arrived: a) The husband's birthday came. b) The moment to celebrate the husband's birthday came. c) The surprise the wife had prepared came. d) The headwaiter came.
 - the wife beamed with shy pride: a) The wife didn't want to but still showed she was proud of what she did. b) The Wife was angry because the surprise was too little for her pride. c) The wife was happy and proud of her shyness. d) The wife hated herself for being so shy and arrogant.
 - such few people as there were in the restaurant tried to help out with a pattering of applause: a) There were too few customers to help create a sense of celebration with their applause. b) In a small restaurant like that the few customers were more than enough to help create a sense of celebration with their applause. c) Though there were only a few customers they eagerly helped create a sense of celebration with their applause. d) A few customers helped to put other customers' applause into patterns to create a sense of celebration.
 - he was hotly embarrassed, and indignant at his wife: a) He scolded his wife. b) He was angry at his wife. c) He was dictating his wife. d) He gave his wife a sickening look.
 - the general attention had shifted from the man and the woman: a) In general people took turn to look at the man and the woman. b) The customers' main interest turned from the orchestra to the man and the woman. c) The man and the woman stopped paying attention to the orchestra. d) Most customers stopped paying attention to the man and the woman.
 - under his breath: a) breathlessly b) in a low voice c) with his lips d) without voice.

注意：背面有試題

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II. Translate the following two sentences into Chinese (25%)

1. It became clear at once that help was needed, because the husband was not pleased. Instead he was hotly embarrassed. (15%)
2. Crying quietly and heartbrokenly and hopelessly, all to herself, under the gay big brim of her best hat. (10%)

III. Answer the following questions in Chinese. (15%)

1. What did the wife expect to happen that did not happen?
2. Why did the husband react the way he did?
3. What might be the reason for the wife to act the way she did after her husband's reaction?

