The Lost Property Shelf

C1 Advanced · Places · about 2 min of audio

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Name _____ Date _____

Part 1 — Fill the gaps while you listen

1. By closing time, the pool's _____ shelf had become more revealing than its carefully worded noticeboard.
2. An _____ lifted a child's blue flipper from beneath a towel still warm from the radiator.
3. A paperback lay open to a page swollen by chlorine, its owner _____ unwilling to surrender the story to the water.
4. Near it, a single silver earring rested inside a square of tissue, _____ more carefully than the book.
5. The objects were not valuable, but each had arrived carrying evidence of a hurried _____.
6. One wet sleeve was turned inside out, as though its wearer had escaped the building before the cold _____.
7. When the _____ entered each discovery in the ledger, she recorded its color, not the hour it had been abandoned.
8. That small omission mattered, because hours would have made the shelf a _____, while colors kept it human.
9. Outside, parents called from the _____, and the pool's bright windows slowly went dark above them.
10. By morning, the shelf would be empty, though its brief inventory had described the place more _____ than any sign.

Part 2 — Write every sentence you hear

1. _____

_____

2. _____

_____

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

Answer key

Part 1 — the missing words

1. lost-property 2. attendant 3. apparently 4. protected 5. departure 6. registered 7. attendant 8. timetable 9. pavement 10. accurately

Part 2 — the full transcript

1. By closing time, the pool's lost-property shelf had become more revealing than its carefully worded noticeboard.
2. An attendant lifted a child's blue flipper from beneath a towel still warm from the radiator.
3. A paperback lay open to a page swollen by chlorine, its owner apparently unwilling to surrender the story to the water.
4. Near it, a single silver earring rested inside a square of tissue, protected more carefully than the book.
5. The objects were not valuable, but each had arrived carrying evidence of a hurried departure.
6. One wet sleeve was turned inside out, as though its wearer had escaped the building before the cold registered.
7. When the attendant entered each discovery in the ledger, she recorded its color, not the hour it had been abandoned.
8. That small omission mattered, because hours would have made the shelf a timetable, while colors kept it human.
9. Outside, parents called from the pavement, and the pool's bright windows slowly went dark above them.
10. By morning, the shelf would be empty, though its brief inventory had described the place more accurately than any sign.

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