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The Rent Man

Someone is knocking on Amanda's door. Amanda is home, but she does not answer. It is the man who owns the house where she lives. His name is Mr. Campbell. Amanda calls him the Rent Man. He has come by to get the rent money Amanda owes, but Amanda does not have the money to pay him. That's because Amanda lost her job at the auto factory three and a half weeks ago.

"I worked there for 15 years," Amanda thinks to herself. She is bitter. "But it took them just one day to take my job away."

Amanda has no idea when she will find another job. She looks for work most every day.

She looks for work at a restaurant. "You have never worked at a restaurant," the owner tells her. "Unfortunately, we are looking for someone with experience."

She looks for work at the bookstore. "We don't have any jobs right now," the clerk tells Amanda.

She looks for work at the grocery store. "I will call you to let you know," the manager says. Amanda is worried. She is running out of money quickly.

There is another loud knock at the door. Amanda sits quietly in her kitchen, hoping the Rent Man will go away soon.

1) According to the passage, when did Amanda lose her job?

- A. ten days ago
- B. two weeks ago
- C. two and a half weeks ago
- D. three and a half weeks ago

2) In paragraph 2, we learn that Amanda is bitter. This means she feels

- A. disappointed and angry
- B. confident and happy
- C. hungry and tired
- D. quiet and alone





3) According to the passage, where does Amanda look for a new job?

- I. a restaurant
- II. a bookstore
- III. a grocery store
 - A. I only
 - B. I and II only
 - C. II and III only
 - D. I, II, and III

4) Based on information in the passage, we can understand that Amanda MIGHT get

- A. the restaurant job
- B. the bookstore job
- C. the grocery store job
- D. none of the jobs

5) It could have been helpful for Amanda to tell Mr. Campbell that

- A. she will call the police if he knocks again
- B. he had better stop knocking on her door
- C. she recently lost her job at the factory
- D. she will have the rent for him tomorrow
- 6) What would it be reasonable for Mr. Campbell to do next?
- I. break the door down
- II. come back another day
- III. call Amanda on the phone
 - A. I only
 - B. I and II only
 - C. II and III only
 - D. I, II, and III

7) What is the tone (mood, emotion) of this passage? How do you know? Support your answer with evidence from the passage.

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