

BRaille READING PASSAGE: WORKSHOP 17

Shortforms Set 1

Dear Margaret

Dear Margaret,

I really liked the note you wrote to me yesterday, especially the part about your weekend. I wanted to write back to you after work today to respond to your questions. I'm starting this message in the morning but will finish it tonight. Your weekend sounds like you had a lot of fun. You said you went to the movies with your son. That is a fantastic way to spend time with him. How old is he again? I thought he was 25, but I think he is probably older than that by now, isn't he? Boy, I remember when he was just a small boy and you said that he drove you bonkers with all that energy he had. I'm glad you feel differently today. Did you tell him about your doctor's appointment that is coming up? If you didn't tell him, maybe your weekly phone call to him might include that information. He does care about you, you know.

(I'm off to work now. I'll write more after I get home. I only work a half day today.)

(Back from work. I said I'd finish writing once I got home.) What a treat to have paid someone to clean your entire house! Maybe I'll be treated to a cleaning service for my birthday tomorrow. (Carla did tell you it was my birthday tomorrow, didn't she?) How was your service? I think you said that they weren't too expensive. About what is the average tip? This is all new to me, but I'd love to have the house cleaned after months of being too busy to clean it.

You said you went to the antique show this past weekend. How fun! It usually costs about \$5.00 to get into the shows around here. What does it cost for you? Does it cost less after a certain time of day? I can usually get a discount if I enter the show after 2:00 p.m. Once again, I am trying to save money wherever I can. (smile)

Your note said that you were worried about your paid vacation time, but I am not sure why. Is your employer reducing

your PTO? I hope not! My employer is all about giving us awesome benefits. Paid vacation and sick time is something I never have to worry about again. After all, a happy employee is a loyal employee—at least my dad used to say that.

Let's see, let me tell you about what is happening this week in my life. As I said, tomorrow is my birthday! Today I am going to get my hair trimmed after work. I just got paid yesterday, so I had a bit of mad money to spend. I'll run some errands today since I only worked for half the day. Once again, I need to drop off my dry cleaning and go to the post office. It seems like I go to the same places just about every week. Carla and I will go out to dinner tonight to celebrate my birthday. After dinner, we may journey to the coffee shop for some dessert. Tonight is supposed to be perfect weather for outdoor dining. I have a feeling tonight is going to be a late night.

Tomorrow I will see my kids and grandkids. Mary Jane, my oldest, is having a party for my birthday tomorrow night. She didn't think I paid any attention to her plans, but I did, and I am very excited for what she has planned. She said that she is making my favorite cake—red velvet. YUM! Tomorrow during the day, I plan on working on my knitting for my brother. I am making a sweater for him for his birthday, which is just a week after mine. I will get caught up on my bills too. I thought they were all paid, but I have two more to send out.

Oh my! Once again, I can see that I have rambled on. I'll let you go for now. Write soon and tell me all about that play you said you were going to see. I can't wait to hear all about it.

All my best,

Iris

[illegible]

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The image displays a 10x10 grid of 100 small square icons. Each icon is a square containing a unique pattern of black dots on a white background. These patterns represent a 100-point Braille-like system, where each icon corresponds to a specific character or symbol. The dots are arranged in a way that mimics the structure of Braille, with varying numbers of dots per icon, though not all icons necessarily use the same number of dots. The overall layout is a clean, organized array of these 100 distinct symbols.

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