“L” is for Lawless

Sue Grafton

A Before Reading

1 How much do you know about the United States of America?
   a What is the capital city of the USA?
   b Which is the largest state in the USA?
   c How many states are there?
   d What is Thanksgiving and when do Americans celebrate it?
   e What is the FBI?

2 Match the American English words and expressions with the British English ones with the same meanings.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>American English</th>
<th>British English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>closet</td>
<td>boot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cop</td>
<td>car park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>elevator</td>
<td>cupboard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>freeway</td>
<td>holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gas</td>
<td>lift</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>guy</td>
<td>man</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>parking lot</td>
<td>motorway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rest room</td>
<td>petrol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>trunk</td>
<td>police officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vacation</td>
<td>toilet</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3 Look at the map of the USA and mark these places on the map.
Columbus
Dallas
Little Rock
Nashville
Palm Beach

4 You have won a two-week holiday to California. Plan your trip and think about:
• Where you are going to visit – cities, beaches, the desert, mountains ...
• What you are going to do – sightseeing, cultural or sports activities, star-spotting, shopping ...
• How you are going to get around – car, campervan, Greyhound buses ...
• Where you are going to stay – in a cabin, motel, hotel, campervan, apartment, B & B, on a ranch ...

This page has been downloaded from www.macmillanenglish.com. It is photocopiable, but all copies must be complete pages. © Macmillan Publishers Limited 2013.
B While Reading

5 Complete the information about the characters in the story. Write ‘don’t know’ if the information is not in the story.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Character</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
<th>Home</th>
<th>Family</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kinsey Millhone</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henry Pitts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rosie</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Pitts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Character</td>
<td>Age</td>
<td>Occupation</td>
<td>Home</td>
<td>Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>-----</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>--------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnny Lee</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bucky Lee</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Babe Lee</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chester Lee</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Age:</td>
<td>Occupation:</td>
<td>Home:</td>
<td>Family:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>---------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ray Rawson</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laura Huckaby</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gilbert Hays</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helen Rawson</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Who is Laura Huckaby and what does she want?

She had a ticket to Palm Springs, but got off the plane in 11 ________________.
She booked a hotel room in a 12 ________________ name.
She wasn’t really 13 ________________, she was just hiding money under her dress.
She had 14 ________________ on her legs.
She gave Kinsey a very 15 ________________ five-dollar bill.
She knew Ray because he is her 16 ________________.

**Solutions:** She was trying to get away from her violent boyfriend 17 ________________ / She was trying to get all the 18 ________________ for herself.

There was $8000 hidden in 19 ________________ apartment.

Johnny sent $500 a month to 20 ________________, Ray’s mother, for 40 years.
He kept 21 ________________ a month himself for 40 years.
He sent a 22 ________________ to Ray’s mother with a biblical clue to where the rest of the money was hidden.
The clue took them to Twelve Fountains 23 ________________ and the Pelissaro monument.
The Lawless family mausoleum was in the 24 ________________ section of the cemetery in area 25 ________________.
They dug the unmarked 26 ________________ -covered gravestones.

**Solution:** There was no 27 ________________ there / They found a lot of money which 28 ________________, his daughter and his mother took.

### C After Reading

8 Imagine you are Kinsey Millhone. You are at Rosie and William’s wedding and you are telling the story of what happened to you since you left Santa Teresa. Remember to include these points:

- Following the man in the Stetson hat leaving Johnny Lee’s apartment
- Your flight to Dallas
- What happened at the hotel: the Desert Castle
- Your escape to Louisville and visit to Helen Rawson’s house
- The final adventure in the cemetery
6 Here is a list of some of the things Kinsey has in her bag when she takes the plane to Palm Springs. Can you unscramble the words to identify what they are?

- ripasni ___________ aspirin
- hasc ___________
- mocb ___________
- dricte racd ___________
- finek ___________
- kipslict ___________
- neps ___________
- lusgsnases ___________
- shootbuthr ___________
- ntpansurde ___________

7 Help private investigator Kinsey Millhone solve the “Lawless” case by completing her notes.

**Was Johnny Lee a fighter pilot during WWII?**

Johnny's air force 1 ___________ and unit were unknown.

He had no 2 ___________ pension.

He didn't like to talk about the 3 ___________.

VAO - 4 ___________ Administration Office had no record of him.

Randolph Air Force Base in 5 ___________ had no records of a fighter pilot named John Lee.

The National Personnel Records 6 ___________ in St Louis had no records of him.

There were no records of him at the Pentagon, 7 ___________.

He couldn't have served with the American Volunteer Group in 8 ___________ because the dates were wrong.

**Solutions:** He was a 9 ___________ agent working for the Japanese. / He was in 10 ___________.

---

This page has been downloaded from www.macmillanenglish.com. It is photocopiable, but all copies must be complete pages. © Macmillan Publishers Limited 2013.
Good detective stories start with clues that don’t seem to make any sense. Think of three clues to a real or invented story and answer your classmates’ ‘yes/no’ questions to find out what the story is.

Example: car bicycle police

Was somebody driving a car? Yes, they were. / No, they weren’t.

Did the police stop them? Yes, they did. / No, they didn’t.