Zadanie 6. (0–8)

Przeczytaj dwa teksty związane z konfliktami sąsiedzkimi. Wykonaj zadania 6.1.–6.8. zgodnie z poleceniami.

Tekst 1.

A STREET IN PARIS

It's seven in the morning, and I've found myself in Paris on the rue du Coq d'Or. All I can hear is a stream of furious, choking yells from the street. Madame Monce, who kept the little hotel opposite mine, had come out on to the pavement to address a lodger on the third floor. Her bare feet stood firm on the ground, and her grey hair was streaming down. "How many times have I told you not to squash bugs on the wallpaper? Do you think you've bought the hotel, eh? Why can't you throw them out of the window like everyone else?" she shouted. Along the street the continual sound of shouts and yells faded and grew, as windows were flung open on every side and half the street joined in with Madame Monce's discontent. Some were passionate as they sided with the poor lodger and his bug infestation, while others felt her pain and anger.

I'm observing this scene just to convey something of the spirit of the rue du Coq d'Or. Not that quarrels were the only thing that happened there, but still, we seldom got through the morning without at least one outburst of this description. There were the cries of children fighting over the rules of games that nobody understood, and the young teens, who were always met by the judgmental shouts of disapproval from the elderly women hanging out their windows above, conversing across the street with one another

My hotel was called the Hôtel des Trois Moineaux. It was a dark and fragile structure of five floors, divided by wooden partitions into forty rooms. The rooms were small and forever dirty, for there was no maid, and Madame F. had no time to do any sweeping. The walls were as thin as paper, and to hide the cracks they had been covered with layer after layer of pink paper, which had come loose and, consequently, housed innumerable bugs. Near the ceiling long lines of bugs marched all day like columns of soldiers, and at night came down hungry, so that one had to get up every few hours and kill them in massive amounts. Sometimes when the bugs got too bad, one used to burn sulphur and drive them into the next room; whereupon the lodger next door would retort by having his room sulphured, and drive the bugs back. It was a dirty place, but homelike, for Madame F. and her husband were good sorts. The rent of the rooms varied between thirty and fifty francs a week.

There were many eccentric characters in the hotel. Such Parisian hotels were a gathering-place for eccentric people—people who find themselves alone, and many who had given up trying to be normal or decent. There were the Rougiers, for instance, an old couple whose choice of work was quite unusual. They used to sell postcards on the Boulevard St Michel. The curious thing was that the postcards were sold in sealed packets but were actually photographs of chateaux on the Loire; the buyers did not discover this till too late, and of course never complained. The Rougiers earned about a hundred francs a week, and by strict economy managed to be always half starved and half drunk. The filth of their room was such that one could smell it on the floor below. According to Madame F., neither of the Rougiers had taken off their clothes for four years.

Or there was Henri, who worked in the sewers. He was a tall, melancholic man with curly hair, rather romantic-looking in his long, sewer-man's boots. Henri was unique in that he did not speak, except for the purposes of work, literally for days on end. One day, however, he fell in love, but when the girl refused him, he lost his temper and attacked the nearest man and, as a result, was sent to prison for 6 months. Upon being released, the woman in question found herself more in love with him than anyone she had ever seen. And such was life on a street in Paris where those around lived so near to one another.

adapted from: *Down and Out in Paris and London* by George Orwell

W zadaniach 6.1.–6.4. z podanych odpowiedzi wybierz właściwą, zgodną z treścią tekstu. Zakreśl jedną z liter: A, B, C albo D.

6.1. In the first paragraph, we learn that Madame Monce

    A. caused damage to a hotel room.

    B. had problems with the neighbours on her street.

    C. was critical of one of her tenants.

    D. hated every kind of insects.

6.2. While describing the street he's staying on, the writer

    A. complains about the unkindness of some elderly women.

    B. points out the different noises he hears every day.

    C. feels unhappy for the children who are crying.

    D. wishes he could live somewhere else.

6.3. What problem did the writer experience while staying in the hotel?

    A. There were too many insects in his room.

    B. The maid was not good at keeping the rooms clean.

    C. The wallpaper was unattractive.

    D. The neighbour next door put insects in his room.

6.4. Why does the writer describe the Rougiers and Henri in the same paragraph?

    A. To give an example of why he doesn't want to stay at the hotel.

    B. To warn about people who try to cheat others.

    C. To show people who, although poor, may still be in love.

    D. To highlight the diversity of characters living on one street.

Tekst 2.

ARGUMENTS WITH NEIGHBOURS OVER TRIVIAL ISSUES

In a fit of rage, I did something that is most unlike me and went on social media to vent my frustration about living under "Monsterfoot." The noise got so loud that I stormed upstairs to stop what I thought was going to be a lively dance class, only to discover a courteous man, his precious little 2-year-old and a hardwood floor without any rugs. My neighbours and I managed to reach an understanding, eventually becoming quite friendly, but I'm obviously not alone when it comes to neighbourly conflicts. According to a study about neighbours, more than a third of those asked admitted to finding themselves in heated rows with neighbours, and a quarter of those rows are ongoing. Why is this? Most commonly, people fall out over things such as parking, noisy pets, noise in general and rubbish. It also explains why over 40 percent of those who were polled will go out of their way to avoid any kind of contact with their neighbours. Even if there is no disagreement, these are some of the reasons people gave for crossing the street in an effort to avoid a friendly 'hello' from those living next door: being too busy, thinking their neighbours are a little eccentric, or thinking that they can be too inquisitive. Why is it so difficult for people to love their neighbour? Scott Wilson, a clinical psychologist, claims that whenever there is a random variety of people unrelated to one another, there's a much higher chance of a conflict to occur. "Neighbourly conflict is in most cases motivated by bitterness over unresolved arguments," Scott Wilson says. Interestingly, the research has revealed that maintaining little or no contact with your neighbours is connected to decreasing levels of psychological well-being, especially in middle-aged and elderly people. In reality, healthy relationships with your neighbours can make a huge difference in their attitude and general mental health. Wilson goes on to say, "People understand that family and friends are indispensable, but neighbours are likely to be overlooked. You can't force a positive relationship with your neighbours, but we had better not take them for granted, provoke conflicts or judge them, because it's often the case that you will need them to help you out one day when you're unable to help yourself. In other words," he says, "it's a missed opportunity."

Uzupełnij luki w zdaniach 6.5.–6.8. zgodnie z treścią tekstu, tak aby jak najbardziej precyzyjnie oddać jego sens. Luki należy uzupełnić w języku angielskim.

6.5. The writer was surprised to discover .... the neighbour upstairs actually was.

6.6. More than a third of people surveyed say certain issues, such as noise or parking, can lead to
....

6.7. Surveys show that more than 40% of people try not to .... their neighbours often.

6.8. Scott Wilson stresses the importance of neighbours as they .... in the future.