ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Reading Comprehension Passage 15 MCQ Test With Answers – A DISASTROUS DAY AT THE GABLES

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1	**C**	2	**D**	3	**A**	4	**A**	5	**B**										

Explanations

1. ***Aunt Harriet used to think that Bessie was***
✓ C) the best servant she could ever find.
Paragraph 1 says Aunt Harriet **could not find words to praise** Bessie's industry and efficiency, so she believed Bessie was **the best servant she could ever find**. Not **acting the role of the perfect servant**: that is the narrator's view, because Aunt Harriet did not know Bessie was only acting until she found out about her weakness.

2. ***We understand that Aunt Harriet***
✓ D) is a little too naive.
For three years Aunt Harriet trusted Bessie completely and never noticed her drinking. She only **reluctantly** realised Bessie was drunk after the pudding accident, although the guests saw it at once. This shows she is **a little too naive** (too ready to trust people). Not **completely trustworthy**: the passage is about her trusting others, not about others trusting her.

3. ***The guests***
✓ A) had tried not to show that they were aware of the situation.
Paragraph 2 says the guests knew Bessie was drunk **from the moment Bessie has opened the door**, and they **have had a difficult time trying to conceal their amusement**. So they tried not to show they were aware of the situation. Not **reluctantly came to the conclusion**: that describes Aunt Harriet, not the guests.

4. ***We may conclude from the passage that Aunt Harriet***
✓ A) is rather well-off and probably a widow.
Aunt Harriet has a country cottage, a whole **domestic staff** and a **wine cellar**, so she must be **well-off** (rich). No husband is mentioned anywhere in the story, so she is **probably a widow**. Not **knows a lot about human nature**: she was fooled by Bessie for three years.

5. ***A suitable title for the passage, by way of irony, might have been:***
✓ B) The Ideal Servant
Irony means saying the opposite of what is really true. Bessie seemed to be **the ideal servant** (the last paragraph calls her **her ideal servant**), but she was secretly drinking the wine and ruined the dinner. So the title **The Ideal Servant** would be ironic. Not **A Drunken Girl**: this describes Bessie directly, so there is no irony in it.

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