ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Reading Comprehension Passage 36 MCQ Test With Answers – A STREET ACCIDENT

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1	D	2	B	3	A	4	C	5	E

Explanations

1. What is the main point of the passage?
✓ D) People who are willing to help often hold back until someone else makes the first move.
The last paragraph gives the point: nobody was unkind; they were **waiting for permission**, and one person acting was enough to start everyone. The option about children being **kinder** is tempting, but the writer says the girl simply had not learned the adults' habit of waiting.

2. According to the passage, what made the bicycle fall over?
✓ B) Its front wheel slipped on a wet drain cover.
The first paragraph says the **front wheel slid on a metal drain cover** on a wet road. The **van** appears only later, when its driver finds the road already blocked by the fruit.

3. The van driver climbed out of his cab "a little sheepishly". What does this suggest about him?
✓ A) He was somewhat embarrassed about having sounded his horn.
Sheepishly means in an embarrassed way. He had sounded his horn impatiently, and then a small child shamed everyone into helping. He could not be **blamed for the accident**, because it happened before he arrived at the blocked road.

4. In the third paragraph, the girl works with "grave concentration". Here, "grave" is closest in meaning to
✓ C) serious
Here **grave** describes a serious, earnest manner: she treats the job as something that plainly has to be done. It can mean **dangerous** in phrases such as "a grave risk", but that sense does not fit a child picking up oranges.

5. Which of the following best describes the writer's attitude towards the people at the crossing, including himself or herself?
✓ E) gently critical but understanding
The writer smiles at everyone's failure to act, **I should like to report that I behaved better**, yet insists that **none of us had been unkind**. That is mild criticism with sympathy, not **admiration**: nobody had done anything admirable until the girl began.

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