

## Practice Exercise 15

A huge red transport truck stood in front of the little roadside restaurant. The vertical exhaust pipe muttered softly, and an almost invisible haze of steel blue smoke hovered over its end. It was a new truck, shining red, and in twelve-inch letters on its sides was the legend OKLAHOMA CITY TRANSPORT COMPANY. Its double tires were new, and a brass padlock stood straight out from the hasp on the big black doors.

Inside the screened restaurant a radio played quiet dance music, turned low the way it is when no one is listening. A small outlet fan turned silently in its circular hole over the entrance, and flies buzzed excitedly about the doors and windows, butting the screens. Inside, one man, the truck driver, sat on a stool and rested his elbows on the counter and looked over his coffee at the lean and lonely waitress.

1. The description of the truck suggests that the Oklahoma City Transport Company
  - a. has been in business for several years.
  - b. has a poor reputation.
  - c. does not maintain its equipment well.
  - d. is prospering.
2. From one piece of evidence in the first paragraph the reader can infer that the driver
  - a. always stops at the restaurant.
  - b. enjoys quiet dance music.
  - c. does not intend to stay long.
  - d. is friendly with the waitress.
3. It is fair to infer that the reason for the waitress's loneliness is that
  - a. business is slow.
  - b. she does not trust people.
  - c. most customers dislike her.
  - d. she is new to the restaurant business.
4. Underline the sentence that supports the inference that the scene takes place in summer.