

Junior School

Convent of the Sacred Heart School Foundation

Annual Examinations – Sample Paper

English Listening Comprehension

Year 5

Name: Teacher's copy

The Fortune Teller

Maureen stood on the boardwalk and stared at the fortune teller's booth. She'd always thought fortune telling was a little spooky.

"Come on. I want to get my fortune told," Jessica said, pulling Maureen towards the booth.

They walked through the strings of beads hanging in the doorway. It was completely dark inside. The only light came from a single candle in the middle of a round table. A woman wearing a bandanna sat at the table and motioned them over.

"Please, sit. I'm Madam Ursula." She locked her eyes on Maureen. "No need to be frightened.

Sit and we will find out what it is that's scaring you so much."

Maureen's eyes widened. "Um, no. I'm not getting my fortune told."

"I am," Jessica said, plopping down in the seat.



Madam Ursula rose. "Ah, but there's something you need to hear. I can see it already."

She led Maureen to a chair. Maureen's hands shook as she reached up and touched the lucky seashell she wore on a string around her neck.

Madam Ursula sat down and closed her eyes. "You are very superstitious, aren't you?"

"She is!" Jessica confirmed.

Maureen's foot shook. How could this woman know anything about her? Her shoe grazed the leg of the table.

"You're nervous. You think people shouldn't have their fortunes told."

"Wow!" Jessica said. "You're amazing! What else can you see?"

Madam Ursula smiled. "Hmm, I have good news. You will receive a gift from a friend today."

"Ooh! I wonder what it will be," Jessica said.

Maureen relaxed in her chair. She didn't listen as Madam Ursula told Jessica her fortune. She thought about her own fortune. She touched her seashell necklace, feeling the smooth paint of the four-leaf clover on the front of it. Four-leaf clover! That's how Madam Ursula knew she was superstitious.

In her excitement Maureen wagged her foot harder. Madam Ursula jumped. Maureen peered under the table. She hadn't been nervously kicking the table leg. She'd been kicking Madam Ursula. But what about the gift she was supposed to get from a friend?

"That will be ten dollars for the both of you," Madam Ursula said.

"I got it." Jessica put the money on the table.

Madam Ursula winked at Maureen, and Maureen laughed.

"What's so funny?" Jessica asked as they left.

"She knew you dragged me in there, so she figured you'd pay for both of us."

Jessica shrugged. "It was still fun."

"Yeah, it kind of was."



Adapted from – The Fortune Teller – An article by Kelly Hash Way
