

You are going to read about two millionaires. One was very mean, the other very generous

## A tale of two millionaires

### Milton Petrie : The Most Generous Man in the World

Every morning, billionaire Milton Petrie walked from his New York apartment and bought a newspaper from the *ragged* old man on the street corner. One morning the man wasn't there. Petrie learned that he was very ill in the city hospital. Immediately he paid his hospital bill and later, when the man died, paid for his funeral.

The old man was just one of many people that Milton Petrie helped with his money. Whenever he read about personal disasters in his newspaper Petrie sent generous cheques, especially to the families of policemen or firemen injured at work. He also sent cheques to a mother who lost five children in a fire, and a beautiful model, whose face was cut in a knife attack. It cost him millions of dollars, but he still had millions left. He said that he was lucky in business and he wanted to help those less *fortunate* than himself. The nice thing is, the harder I work, the more money I make, and the more people I can help.' Milton Petrie died in 1994, when he was 92. His will was 120 pages long because he left \$150 million to 383 people. His *widow*, Carroll, his fourth and last wife, said his generosity was a result of the poverty of his early years. His family were poor but kindhearted. His father was a Russian immigrant who became a policeman, but he never arrested anyone, he was too kind. He couldn't even give a parking ticket.

### Hetty breen : The richest, Meanest Woman in the World

Henrietta (Hetty) Green was a very spoilt, only child. She was born in Massachusetts, USA, in 1835. Her father was a millionaire businessman. Her mother was often ill, and so from the age of two her father took her with him to work and taught her about stocks and shares. At the age of six she started reading the daily financial newspapers and she opened her own bank account. Her father died when she was 21 and she inherited \$7.5 million. She went to New York and invested on Wall Street. Hetty saved every penny, eating in the cheapest restaurants for 15 cents. She became one of the richest and most hated women in the world. She was called 'The Witch of Wall Street'. At 33 she married Edward Green, a multimillionaire, and had two children, Ned and Sylvia. Hetty's *meanness* was *legendary*. She always argued about prices in shops. She walked to the local grocery store to buy broken cookies (biscuits) which were much cheaper, and to get a free bone for her much-loved dog, Dewey. Once she lost a two-cent stamp and spent the night looking for it. She never bought clothes and always wore the same long, ragged black skirt. Worst of all, when her son Ned fell and injured his knee, she refused to pay for a doctor and spent hours looking for free medical help. In the end Ned's leg was *amputated*. When she died in 1916 she left her children \$100 million (worth \$9.3 billion today). Her daughter built a hospital with her money.

### I. COMPREHENSION (10pts)

#### A. What is the main idea of the text? (1pt)

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.....

#### B. Read the text and answer the following questions (6pts)

1- How did Milton and Hetty become so wealthy?

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2- What was the meanest thing Hetty did?

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3- Why did Milton like making a lot of money?

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.....

4- Who did Hetty marry?

.....  
.....

5- When did they die? How old were they?

Milton:.....

Hetty:.....

6- Who left the most money? Who did they leave it to?

.....  
.....



**C. Read the text again and match the following words to their meanings. (3pts)**

Words	Meanings	Answers
1- Ragged	a- a woman whose husband has died and who has not married again	1.....
2- Fortunate	b- lack of generosity	2.....
3- Widow	c- cut off of the body	3.....
4- Meanness	d- very famous and spoken about	4.....
5- Amputated	e- untidy, dirty and wearing old torn clothes	5.....
6- legendary	f- lucky	6.....

**II. LANGUAGE (10pts)**

**A- Complete the sentences with these verbs. (5pts)**

**save up - pay back- take out - hand over - come to**

- 1- The police asked the man to ..... his wallet and his weapons.
- 2- I bought a computer and a disk and the price only ..... £500!
- 3- Thanks for buying my ticket. I'll ..... you ..... on Friday.
- 4- There is card which you can use to .....money .....of the bank at any time.
- 5- You will have to ..... if you want to buy that expensive car.

**B- Complete these sentences with these words. (5pts)**

**loan – currency – forgery - value - deposit**

- 1- I'll .....£500 in my account this morning.
- 2- She was shocked to learn that the painting she inherited was a.....
- 3- She's trying to get a \$50 000 ..... to start her own business.
- 4- As soon as we landed in England, I headed for the bank so I could exchange my Moroccan.....
- 5- The .....of the pound fell against other European currencies yesterday.

**GRAMMAR (12pts)**

**A- Circle the correct words (4pts)**

- 1) You *can/ mustn't* get some really good bargains in the sales.
- 2) I *didn't have to / was able to* go to work yesterday, so I went shopping.
- 3) Rick *can/ can't* stay calm in difficult situations; he should apply for a job in the emergency services.
- 4) Ambulance drivers learn that they *don't have to / mustn't* move people if they don't know what is wrong with them.

**B- Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs in brackets. (4pts)**

- 1- He ..... (lose) his job last month and since then he .....(be) out of work.
- 2- Pat ..... (to live) in London before he ..... (to move) to Rome.
- 3- Usually, I..... (work) as a secretary at ABT, but this summer I .....(study) French at a language school in Paris. That is why I am in Paris.
- 4- He ..... (work) in a bank when he ..... (meet) his wife.

**C- Circle the correct words (4pts)**

- 1- If you want *an / some* advice on that topic I suggest you go to the local Advice Bureau.
- 2- Money *has / have* always been vital in helping us to achieve our goals.
- 3- Some people *prefer / prefers* to pay for things by cheque.
- 4- The bank manager will give you *some / an* information about getting a loan.

**WRITING (8pts)**

Write a story about a frightening or dangerous experience you have had and which you will never forget.