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La leçon se déroule en anglais. Elle est suivie d'un entretien en français.

SUBJECT:

" (37) *A woman entered from stage left.
Another woman entered from stage right.
#The woman / √The FIRST woman / √The SECOND woman was carrying a basket of flowers.*

(38) *A woman entered from stage left.
Another woman entered from stage right.
She was carrying a basket of flowers, while #The woman / √The FIRST woman / #The SECOND woman led a goat.*

[...] We see in (37) that we cannot felicitously use the definite description *the woman*, apparently because it does not refer uniquely in the scene in question – there are two salient women, two corresponding discourse referents. [...] (38) shows that the pronoun *she*, while even less contentful than *the woman*, may be felicitously used, but it can apparently only refer to the second woman [...]. The difference in (38) seems to be that a pronoun takes as its antecedent the *most* salient entity in the context at the time of its utterance which is of a sort compatible with the pronoun's features. But a definite description does not take relative salience of potential antecedents into account in this way."

Craige Roberts, 'Pronouns and Definites'. In Marga Reimer & Anne Bezuidenhout, eds. *Descriptions and Beyond*. Oxford: OUP, 2004, p. 516.

Discuss.

Candidates will use relevant excerpts from the following corpus to address the above topic.

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Excerpt 1

The lone women came up and stood beside her.

"I felt that something was going to happen," the woman said. "I felt it back there, when we were stopped. I didn't want us to start up again. I thought something was going to happen."

The other woman had come to stand behind them.

"It won't be anything," she said. "Maybe a branch across the tracks."

"They have that thing that goes ahead of the train," the first woman told her. "It goes on purpose to catch things like a branch across the tracks."

"Maybe it had just fallen."

Both women spoke with the same North of England accent and without the politeness of strangers or acquaintances. Now that Juliet got a good look at them, she saw that they were probably sisters.

Alice Munro, 'Chance', *New Yorker*, 2004

Excerpt 2

A woman said she was standing outside of Hal's Liquor Store on the 4600 block of Memorial Drive, at around 2:30 p.m. on March 7, when she was nearly tricked out of \$120. A man approached her and asked her how to get to a certain hotel, where he said he was supposed to go while waiting to collect \$30,000 in insurance money owed to him because of the death of a family member. The woman told him she didn't know where the hotel was. A second woman approached and said she knew of the place, but that it had burned down. The first woman directed the man to another inn, but then he said he wanted to give her his handkerchief full of money to hold for him. He wanted her to put some of her own money in the handkerchief, he said, because he'd trust her to hold it more tightly if her money was inside. The woman put \$120 into the handkerchief. The second woman offered to give the man a ride to the inn, and they drove away.

Atlanta Journal Constitution, 02/04/1998

Excerpt 3

"Whose soul is it?"

"It's a woman from Donburi, Thailand, who lived about three hundred years ago. She kept her husband under control through sorcery until he got a monk to capture her soul in a bottle and cork it."

"That must be quite a bottle."

"Oh, yeah, it's beautiful, deep green, Thai writing on it."

I imagined something like ideograms on an elaborate Heineken bottle.

"The monk advised him to throw the bottle in the Chao Phraya River, but he couldn't bring himself to do it."

"He kept it?"

"No, he sold it," Bob said. "This kind of trade is nothing new."

Tim Sullivan, 'Under Glass', *Fantasy & Science Fiction*, 2011

Excerpt 4

The day before Tietjen Fischer was supposed to move to San Francisco, she got a call asking if she could style Sandra Bernhard for a photo shoot. She put her plans on hold and coaxed the comedian into some clothing, including one of Fischer's own T-shirts. Bernhard liked Fischer's rocker style so much that she asked her to do some personal shopping for her. Fischer loaded her up with T-shirts and cords, but when she performed her one-woman show at the Warfield, she wore the shirt off Fischer's back once again.

Now, nearly three years later, Fischer, 29, says she doesn't miss the craziness of her native New York.

San Francisco Chronicle 20/07/2003

Excerpt 5

RUNNING FOR OFFICE

With her husband limited to two terms in the White House, Mrs. Clinton decided she would seek the U.S. Senate seat from New York held by Daniel Patrick Moynihan. He was retiring after four terms. Despite early problems, and charges of carpet bagging, Clinton beat popular Republican Rick Lazio by a surprisingly wide margin: 55 percent to 43 percent.

'Hillary Clinton Biography', <http://www.biography.com>, 2013

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Excerpt 6

Passing through transitions without a guide, he thought ruefully, I'm probably racking up room charges of astronomical proportions. The next transition felt vaguely Arabic. He ran into a fellow in a rush going through the door in the opposite direction. "Sorry, my fault," said Dorian at the same time the other man said the same thing. He only had a moment to notice the fellow was wearing the same kind of pants and shirt he wore before they had dashed their separate ways.

James van Pelt, 'The Inn at Mount Eiser', *Analog Science Fiction & Fact*, 2005

Excerpt 7

Two days after the barge arrived one of my hired men found something. The fool didn't even keep quiet about it, as I reminded all of them each morning before they set out. He started jumping up and down and shouting.

James L. Cambias, 'How Seosiris Lost the Favor of the King', *Analog Science Fiction & Fact*, 2010

Excerpt 8

The story takes Jeff all night to tell, and lasts 40 minutes into the film. Then we're back in the present again, at the gates of Sterling's lodge. Ann drives away and Jeff walks up the drive to square with his past. In the lodge, not really to his surprise, he finds that Kathie is once again with Sterling. This Sterling is a piece of work. Not only has he taken Kathie back after she shot him, he wants to hire Jeff again after he betrayed him. This time he needs him to deal with Leonard Eels, an accountant in San Francisco who keeps Sterling's books and is blackmailing him with threats involving the IRS.

Chicago Sun-Times, 18/07/2004

Excerpt 9

Mr. Duffy has been deployed as an attack dog against Carl P. Paladino, the Republican nominee for governor. He has derided Mr. Paladino for "living in a glass house and swinging baseball bats," and at one point he suggested he was lying about his personal finances.

New York Times, 29/01/2010

Excerpt 10

In excusing the jury, Jackson departed from the usual tradition of judges' praising a panel's work, and he suggested he was not pleased with all of them.

Washington Post, 11/08/1990

Excerpt 11

Perhaps the most revealing story was that when Mario, as a boy, asked his father, a blue-collar punch-press operator, why he was so sure he was right over some issue, the father replied: "I have a pure heart. It tells me what's right and what's wrong."

San Francisco Chronicle, 20/11/1996

Excerpt 12

The Shock of the New was a success around the world; the book was revised and republished in 1991. But, when Moorehead took Hughes under his wing and gave him shelter for a couple of months at his house in Porto Ercole, Tuscany, he also advised him that if he wanted to find a big subject for a book, he ought to consider convicts.

The Guardian, 07/08/2012

Excerpt 13

After that he opened up his notebook, pen in hand, and waited.
And waited. And waited...

After nearly 5 full minutes (a nerve racking 5 minutes to be sure), the CFO finally began to speak. "That's a great question and I'm going to have to think carefully about that. In fact, no one has ever asked me that before..."

The CFO then went on to give his thoughts about this, and, after they were done, he thanked Spike and promised to follow up with more information – which he did. After a few weeks, the CFO then followed up again and bought from Spike and his company. He said of the interaction: "The two questions you asked me were the best two questions I've ever been asked."

Mike Brooks, 'Two Questions to Close a Sale', <http://www.salesopedia.com>, 2012