

The Human Computer and the Cat Chauffeur

Summarize this story in one sentence.



1. Where do all three of these men work?
2. What do they do?
3. What languages does Oleg speak?
4. Why is his nickname the Human Computer?
5. Why does he carry a calendar around in his cab?
6. What years does the calendar span?

7. What date did the male passenger give?

8. What was Oleg's answer?

9. How much did Oleg get paid by those passengers?

10. Why do you think they did this?

11. In the second story, why did the lady run back to her apartment?

12. What did she put in the back seat?

13. What instructions did she give the driver?

14. Why do you think he didn't just wait instead of driving around the block?

15. How many people tried to jump into his cab?

16. Why did they change their mind

17. Why did the driver call the cat stupid?

18. Does Jerry have any regrets about his choice of work?

19. What is Jerry's philosophy about work?

20. Why do you think Jerry calls doing things the way they should be done "old fashioned?"

21. What dates and days of the week are mentioned at the end of the story?

Conversation and Writing Questions

- 1. What stories do you know from your work colleagues?***
- 2. Have you ever been to New York City or any other big city?
What was it like?***
- 3. Do you have any special skills?***
- 4. Do you have a nickname? How did you get it?***
- 5. Do you think there are such things as high status and low status jobs? Which jobs are in each category?***
- 6. What do you think of Jerry's philosophy of work?***