

THE FREE TICKET

Alison Lumsden lived by herself in a small house. One day she received a letter. When she opened the letter there was a cinema ticket inside. There was also a note in the letter. It said, “*Here is a free ticket to the cinema on Saturday night. Enjoy yourself.*”

However there was no name with the letter. Alison decided to telephone her friends to find out who sent her the present. First of all she called her father.

“Dad, did you send me a cinema ticket?”

“No,” he replied. “Perhaps it was your brother.”

Alison called her brother.

“Andrew, did you send me a cinema ticket?”

“No,” he replied. “Perhaps it was your Roberta.”

Roberta was Alison’s best friend so she rang her.

“Roberta, did you send me a cinema ticket?”

“No,” she replied

Alison phoned all her friends but none of them had sent her the ticket. She decided to phone the manager of the cinema.

“My name is Alison Lumsden. I received a free ticket for your cinema on Saturday night. Did you send it to me?”

“No,” said the manager.

Alison was puzzled. On Saturday night she did not know what to do but then she decided to use the ticket. She put on her coat and went to the cinema. It was a good film and she enjoyed herself. When she got home she was very surprised. There was a note on the front door of her house. It said, “*I’ve taken your TV, your video and jewellery. Now you know who sent you the ticket.*”

to live by oneself – жить отдельно, самостоятельно

a note – записка

a free ticket – бесплатный билет

to enjoy oneself – хорошо провести время

however [haʊ'evə] – однако

to find out – обнаружить

to reply [rɪ'plaɪ] – отвечать

none of – ни один из...

to be puzzled – быть озадаченным

to be surprised – удивиться

jewellery ['dʒu:əlɪ] – драгоценности

Answer the questions about the text

1. Did Alison live in her parents’ house?
2. What did she find in the letter she received?
3. What did the note in the letter said?
4. Was the note signed or anonymous? [ən'ɒnɪməs]?
5. Who did Alison telephone to find out who had sent her a letter?
6. Had any of her friends sent her the letter?
7. Had the manager of the cinema sent Alison the letter?
8. Did Alison decide to stay at home or to go to the cinema?
Why
9. Did she enjoy the film?
10. Why was she very surprised when she got home?
11. Who had sent her the free ticket?

Talking points

- How often do you go to the cinema?
- What films do you prefer to watch (thrillers, horror films, science fiction films, historical films, love stories, cartoons, etc)?
- What names of famous actors and actresses do you know?
- What was the last film you saw?
- Did any famous stars take part in the film?
- Did you like the film? Why? Why not?
- Are tickets to the cinema expensive?
- Have you ever got a free ticket for the film? How did it happen?
- What can save your home from burglars?
- Which kinds of entertainment you like best? (the cinema, the heater, concerts, discos, watching TV and videos, nightclubs, jazz clubs, computer games, sports events, etc)? Why?