

NAME:

COURSE:

**THE COMPANION**

*'As I looked at them I saw at once what my friend meant. They were two English ladies - the thoroughly nice travelling English that you do find abroad. Their ages, I should say, were round about forty. One was fair and a little - just a little - too plump; the other was dark and a little - again just a little - inclined to scragginess. They were what is called well-preserved, quietly and inconspicuously dressed in well-cut tweeds, and innocent of any kind of make-up. They had that air of quiet assurance which is the birthright of well-bred Englishwomen. There was nothing remarkable about either of them. They were like thousands of their sisters. They would doubtless see what they wished to see, assisted by Baedeker, and be blind to everything else. They would use the English library and attend the English Church in any place they happened to be, and it was quite likely that one or both of them sketched a little. And, as my friend said, nothing exciting or remarkable would ever happen to either of them, though they might quite likely travel half over the world. I looked from them back to our sinuous Spanish woman with her half-closed smouldering eyes and I smiled.'*

*'Poor things,' said Jane Helier with a sigh. 'But I do think it's so silly of people not to make the most of themselves. That woman in Bond Street - Valentine - is really wonderful. Audrey Denman goes to her; and have you seen her in "The Downward Step"? As the schoolgirl in the first act she's really marvellous. And yet Audrey is fifty if she's a day. As a matter of fact I happen to know she's really nearer sixty.'*

**QUESTIONS**

**1. Find in the text words that mean:**

Completely	
Big, fat	
The quality of being very thin	
Sexually attractive	

**1. Answer the following questions according to the story using your own words.**

1. What did Miss Helier do?


2. Was she beautiful?


3. Was Dr Lloyd a retired man? Where did he work?


